

December 8, 2003

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Box 938
5102 – 50 Avenue
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2N7

Attention: Vern Christensen, Executive Director

Dear Sir:

**Re: Paramount Cameron Hills Extension EA 03-005
Request for Ruling**

Reference is made to the December 2, 2003 letter addressed to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board and signed by Alan Landry, Councilor and Oil and Gas Advisor for Ka'a'Gee Tu First Nation. We take strong exception to a number of statements made in this letter.

To assist the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (“MVEIRB”) in its deliberation on this matter, please note that my interaction with Mr. Burlingame has been as follows:

1. I received a telephone call from Joe Acorn on or about October 29, 2003 at which time I confirmed that I would be attending meetings in Yellowknife on October 30 & 31, 2003 along with several members of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (“CAPP”) Northern Executive Policy Group. All meetings were being arranged by CAPP and might involve separate meetings with the GNWT, regulators such as the National Energy Board, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and, possibly a breakfast meeting with Mr. Burlingame.
2. I participated in meetings with the CAPP President and Northern Executive Policy Group members on October 30 and 31 as follows:

October 30; Chamber of Commerce luncheon; a multi-regulator meeting; followed by a cocktail reception. Mr. Burlingame was present at the reception and at one point I joined a group that he was in conversation with. When the other participants moved on, Mr. Burlingame immediately indicated to me before any further discussion took place, that it would be inappropriate to discuss business since Paramount's Cameron Hills project was currently in environmental

assessment. I acknowledged this fact and our discussion focused on recreational activities.

October 31; I participated in a breakfast meeting with the CAPP President and Northern Executive Policy Group members and Mr. Burlingame. Paramount's Cameron Hills environmental assessment was not on the agenda of the meeting. A meeting with several representatives of Government of the Northwest Territories followed.

3. Joe Acorn telephoned me on November 3, 2003 inquiring if Mr. Burlingame had his opportunity to complain to industry about all of his troubles. I informed Joe Acorn that CAPP members attended a breakfast meeting with Mr. Burlingame seeking confirmation that the MVEIRB regulatory process timeline was not unduly affected by recent Board changes, in particular the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Project and that Mr. Burlingame confirmed that the MVEIRB was continuing to process applications in a timely manner.

We are aware of the rules governing communication with Board members during the environmental assessment process and did not and would not have or attempted to have, any communication with any Board member that would prejudice that process. We have not compromised Mr. Burlingame's independence and there are no grounds to the allegations raised by Alan Landry. To the contrary, we believe that Mr. Burlingame has acted appropriately and remains impartial.

We are concerned however that Alan Landry and Joe Acorn have attempted to affect a decision, not on the merits, but through creating unfounded allegations of impropriety.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should further clarification be required.

Yours truly,
PARAMOUNT RESOURCES

Shirley Maaskant
Regulatory & Community Affairs Coordinator