

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Our File: EA0607-002

July 2, 2006

Tamerlane Pine Point Project Distribution List

Re: Notice for an Issues Scoping Session for the Environmental Assessment – Tamerlane Pine Point Project

On July 18, 2006, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the “Review Board”) met to discuss the recent referral of Tamerlane Ventures Inc.’s proposed Pine Point Pilot Project to environmental assessment (EA). To assist the Review Board in the preparation of its *Terms of Reference and Work Plan* (ToR) for the EA, the Review Board has called for staff-facilitated *Issues Scoping Sessions* to be held at the Chief Lamalice Complex in Hay River on August 16 and at the Deninu K’ue Community Hall in Fort Resolution on August 17.

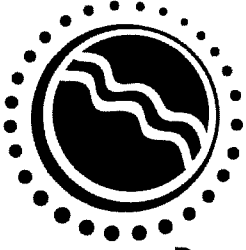
Purpose of Scoping Sessions

The purpose of these scoping sessions is to offer interested parties an opportunity to identify, discuss and focus the key issues, as presented in the company’s *Pine Point Pilot Project – Project Description Report*, that should be further considered in the Review Board’s ToR. The Review Board intends to review the results of the scoping session, as compiled by Review Board staff. The Review Board will then determine which issues the focus should be on during the EA process. A draft ToR for the EA will be issued shortly thereafter and interested parties will have another opportunity to comment before they are finalized.

Preparation of Interested Parties

In preparation for the scoping session, the Review Board suggests that interested parties carefully examine Tamerlane’s *Project Description Report* in order to compile issues, identify information gaps and offer constructive suggestions. If you do not have a copy of the *Project Description Report*, the Review Board office can provide electronic copies of the *Project Description Report* on request. The Review Board requests that interested parties attempt to answer the following questions through their examination of the report:

- What issues, in the opinion of the interested parties, are crucial to this environmental assessment? Please identify whether impact assessment gaps occur – either through lack of consideration or inadequate analysis - in Tamerlane’s analysis of Potential Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures (as described in sections 5.0, 6.0 and 7.0 of the *Project Description Report*).
- Are there issues that may be of secondary importance, or which could be more suitably addressed at a regulatory permitting stage?
- Does Tamerlane’s Project Description (section 2.0 of the *Project Description Report*) provide sufficient information regarding the proposed development components/activities and support activities to conduct the environment assessment? If no, then what additional specific information is required to carry out the EA?



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- Does Tamerlane's Environmental Overview (Section 4.0 of *Project Description Report*) provide sufficient information regarding the receiving environment to accurately assess the Development's potential impacts on the environment? If no, then what specific information is required to carry out the EA?
- Are there any other significant areas in the *Project Description Report* that the parties believe to be omitted or under-examined, which could play a crucial role in the EA?

Scoping Sessions Format

The Review Board proposes the following procedure for the Scoping Sessions (see attached agendas).

Following introductions and Review Board instructions on process, the scoping sessions will start with Tamerlane representatives giving a brief overview of the proposed Development. After the presentation, the scoping sessions will be divided according to the following environmental component categories:

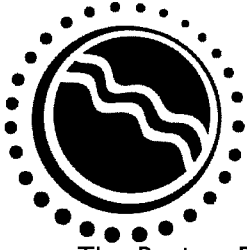
1. Waters (Quality and Quantity issues)
2. Wildlife
3. Lands and Vegetation
4. Any other biophysical environmental components (e.g., Aquatic habitat, air quality)
5. Socio-Economics (including traditional harvesting)
6. Cultural/Heritage Resources
7. Any other Issues (interested parties to identify)

Tamerlane representatives will be invited to briefly present the parts of the Development that they have identified as potentially impacting each of the above topics. Tamerlane representatives will also be asked to describe, in general terms, the baseline work that has been, or will be done in order to predict the environmental impacts. Following each of the presentations, all attendees will have an opportunity to state concerns, identify information gaps and ask questions.

Timing Considerations

There will be two sessions. The afternoon session will run from 1:30 pm until 5:00 pm and the evening session will run from 6:00 pm onwards. It is unlikely that we will be able to address all of the topics in each session. Therefore, the Review Board is suggesting that socio-economic and cultural components be considered in the evening sessions, so that a maximum number of interested people can be present. The first part of the evening session will be set aside for discussion of biophysical impacts (see attached agendas).

Everyone is invited to highlight during the session any potential impacts they feel may arise from this proposed development. There will be time for open discussion of any issues that have not been considered by the developer in each session. Because we have limited time, however, the Review Board asks that people focus their energies on those adverse environmental impacts most likely to occur as a result of this development.



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The Review Board wants to promote an open and positive dialogue so that it can obtain the best possible information from the scoping sessions in order to develop its ToR. If you have concerns/comments about the structure of these scoping sessions, please contact MVEIRB staff (see below).

Scoping Session Logistics

The scoping sessions will be open to all interested persons and parties who intend to participate in the EA. The scoping session will be facilitated by Review Board staff; Review Board members will not be present.

While meeting notes will be taken by Review Board staff, the Review Board *strongly suggests* that parties wishing to participate in the environmental assessment submit written comments about their specific areas of concern at the scoping session, or shortly thereafter. This will assist in the ToR development process, which will result in a Draft ToR in early September.

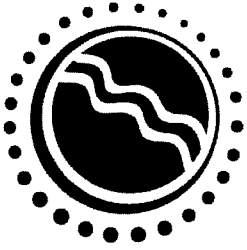
Feel free to comment on this proposed scoping session process. Any response to this correspondence should be directed to myself by phone at (867)-766-7052, by fax at (867) 766-7074 or by email at amacdonald@mveirb.nt.ca.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alistair MacDonald', written over a white background.

Alistair MacDonald

Environmental Assessment Officer



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Issues Scoping Sessions for the Environmental Assessment of Tamerlane Ventures Inc's Pine Point Pilot Project

Date – Wednesday, August 16, 2006

Location – Chief Lamallice Complex, Hay River Reserve

Session 1: 1pm-5pm

- 1:15 – Meet and greet
- 1:30 – Opening comments by MVEIRB staff, explaining purpose of scoping sessions and agenda
- 1:45 – Presentation by Tamerlane representatives – Overview of the Pine Point Pilot Project

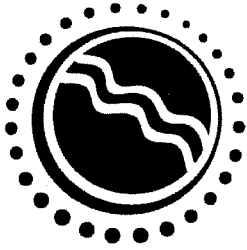
*DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS ON VALUED COMPONENTS. Note: Discussion on each valued component (**identified in bold below**) will start with a brief statement by Tamerlane representatives, who will identify the approach the company has taken to address that element of the environmental assessment. This may include how the environmental component may be potentially impacted by the development, the baseline data that has been collected in support of the impact prediction, suggested mitigation efforts and proposed future work. Parties in attendance will then be offered an opportunity to state concerns, identify information gaps and ask questions.*

- 2:20 – Discussion on **Waters** component
- 3:15 – Health Break
- 3:30 – Discussion on the **Wildlife** component
- 4:00 – Discussion on the **Lands and Vegetation** component
- 4:15 – Open discussion of any other biophysical issues related to Tamerlane assessment
- 4:50 – Summary comments on Session 1 by MVEIRB staff

Supper Break: 5pm-6pm

Session 2: 6pm-onwards

- 6:00 – Meet and greet
- 6:15 – Opening comments by MVEIRB staff, explaining purpose of scoping sessions and agenda
- 6:30 – Presentation by Tamerlane representatives – Overview of the Pine Point Pilot Project, including potential effects on biophysical environment
- 7:20 – Open discussion of biophysical issues related to this environmental assessment
- 8:15 – Health Break
- 8:30 – Discussion on **Socio-Economic (including Traditional Harvesting)** components
- 9:15 – Discussion on the **Cultural/Heritage Resources** component
- 9:45 – Open discussion on any other issues related to Tamerlane environmental assessment
- 10:00? – Closing comments by MVEIRB Staff and Next Steps



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Issues Scoping Sessions for the Environmental Assessment of Tamerlane Ventures Inc's Pine Point Pilot Project

Date – Thursday, August 17, 2006

Location – Deninu K'ue Community Hall, Fort Resolution

Session 1: 1pm-5pm

- 1:15 – Meet and greet
- 1:30 – Opening comments by MVEIRB staff, explaining purpose of scoping sessions and agenda
- 1:45 – Presentation by Tamerlane representatives – Overview of the Pine Point Pilot Project

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