

Martin Haefele

From: michael sweeney [mhsweeney@charter.net]
Sent: January 11, 2007 5:18 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; max.finkelstein@pc.gc.ca
Subject: Uranium exploration
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Please add this to the public registry regarding; EA 0607-003,UR-energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

When I was a boy, my Dad used to take me fishing in Wisconsin, and while there he would tell of how it "used to be". In time, we stopped going to Wisconsin because it was over populated, over developed and being used up.

We then went to Minnesota, but soon found that the same sad things that had happened to the Wisconsin wilderness, rapidly happened to Minnesota.

Next we went to Southern Canada, where we found many of the same people, destroying the same things, and the same crowds, roads, over population and over development we had seen in the States.

Now, I am taking my sons to Canada and each year we have to go just a little bit further to find pristine wilderness, a lack of roads, and minimal crowds.

Two years ago we went up to the Thelon and there found true wilderness, wildlife, solitude, and a feeling of this is how the outdoors is supposed to be.

We have now learned that developers are trying to reach the Upper Thelon and mine diamonds and uranium. In doing so, in spite of their many claims of not impacting on the land, they will have roads, cities, smoke stacks, pollution and all the mess that comes with people and their development.

With this exploration one of the last frontiers will disappear. And Sir, when that happens, where will my sons, and perhaps yours, go for the "way it used to be". Even more importantly, where will their children and their children's children go. They will be able to read about it, or look at pictures or even view movies or CD's but that lifestyle, that wilderness will be lost to them forever.

Your beautiful country will then be a poorer place.

Michael H. Sweeney
111 Dixon Drive
Four Seasons, Missouri
65049
home;573-365-5646
cell; 573-216-1153

Martin Haefele

From: matt@matt-green.com
Sent: January 11, 2007 5:02 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Dear Mr. Haefele,

I am writing a letter to you concerning the up coming meeting on January 16 & 17. I should first state who I am and why I am writing this letter. I am not a green peace crazy person. I am however a conscience minded individual that understand the importance of environmental policy and also the correct and proper thing to do.

I am a nature and wildlife photographer and I guide people and teach them about the environment and about our last wild places. I also have worked with several species on wildlife and extensively with North America black bears; raising 5 for educational and zoological purposes. I also have worked with Kodiaks, brown and Himalayan bears. But I am a college educated individual with a business degree, I have worked for some of the top political people of our time. I spent several years working directly for President Bush and also Vice President Cheney and I am currently working for Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Governor Schwarzenegger is taking a stand in California and addressing environmental issues that are facing us today. I think that you and your colleagues need to take a stand too and do the right thing. I understand the "opportunity" that Uravan and UR Energy see here in the Thelon. But they along with you need to look at the bigger picture.

The Thelon Basin as with the National Wildlife Refuge and the Serengeti is a biological and culturally rich wilderness. This wilderness is an extremely unique and significant biosphere: it is a major migratory route for caribou of the Beverly barrenground herd, as well as a winter grazing area and major northbound route used by the large bunches of pregnant caribou cows en-route to the calving grounds to the North in the early spring. You might not care about some caribou way far north, but what you should care about it what happens when they are gone and how can one feel that they have destroyed what was given to us, just for a product that produces a highly toxic by produce.

The Beverly herd's current route is the last of the great caribou routes that remain obstacle free from human interference. The importance of this is compounded by the decimation now occurring with the nearby and associated herds including the Bathurst herd: a current major problem in the NWT due possibly to global warming, and possibly due to the interruption of obstacle-free migratory routes by the new diamond mines, winter roads and exploration camps to the Northwest.

You see Martin, this is not just species specific when you cause damage to know species there is a chain reaction, and this is an eco-system where one change will effect all species. Because of the significance of the Beverly caribou route through the upper Thelon region, the area is also a highly-significant den cycle area for wild tundra wolves that stop here to dig dens and rear pups while following the caribou north. The significance of wolf den activity here is also in part due to the high concentrate of sand-base glacial eskers in the area, making for perfect den conditions for wolves, fox and marmot. Tree growth in the eskers and along the Thelon basin slope is unusual for an area so far past the continuous tree-line, and provides roost for a significant count and variety of birds-of-prey and a significant variety of shorebirds.

By building facilities and exploring (damaging) the land you will in effect be killing done of the top predators in North America. When you remove a top predator from an eco-system, that has severe consequences on the entire system and that system may not function.

So on January 16 & 17 I hope you listen to what I have said and that you look to Governor Schwarzenegger and do what he is doing and take a stand for the environment. There is more out there of significance than the "opportunity" or real damage these companies can do to Canada's pristine land and what it is known for. Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake. I appreciate your time and please feel to contact me.

Sincerely,

Matt Green

Photographer
Matt Green, Inc.
www.matt-green.com

Martin Haefele

From: Adele Curtis [adelecurtisphotography@shaw.ca]
Sent: January 11, 2007 5:32 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: Tundra Tom; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: Upper Thelon
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

"Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake".

Having had the rare privilege of visiting the Upper Thelon twice, I cannot say strongly enough how valuable this space is for itself and the benefit of all the living things therein. For humanity, wilderness needs to be even if no people ever visit.

We know this.

Please take this opportunity to acknowledge and participate in the saving of one of the last places of true wilderness.

Many thanks.

Adele Curtis
757 Monterey Avenue
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
V8S 4V1
250-592-0063
adelecurtisphotography@shaw.ca
www.adelecurtisphotography.com

Martin Haefele

From: Aaron Kammer [aakamm@yahoo.com]
Sent: January 11, 2007 6:20 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: uranium exploration at Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake

Tell them to leave the Thelon area alone. Tell them I said so and as the owner of a manufacturing business, I will never buying any products, services, or doing any business with either Uravan or UR Energy because of this. The Thelon area is to be left alone. Tell them to go exploit some place that's already been trashed and leave the Thelon be.

Aaron Kammer
owner
TAC Enterprises

Access over 1 million songs - [Yahoo! Music Unlimited](#).

Martin Haefele

From: Dennis [denroy@mts.net]
Sent: January 11, 2007 6:33 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: [SUSPECTED SPAM] Upper Thelon
Importance: Low
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

"Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake"

Dear Sir,

It has come to my attention that the Upper Thelon region is facing mineral development that could seriously impact one of the most spectacular wilderness frontiers left in the world. As a wildlife photographer it has been my privilege to spend considerable time in the North documenting the life cycle of the increasingly threatened polar bear in my book "Wapusk: White Bear of the North".

It has also been my privilege to spend several weeks in the Upper Thelon area and I can only say that the region has a breath-taking beauty that can only be truly appreciated while it remains the serene wilderness it has been for millennia. Few people are able to visit the region which is what makes it at once so valuable and so vulnerable.

Some of the photos I took near Whitefish Lake remain some of the most cherished in my extensive collection, and the majestic beauty has remained a part of me ever since. You can see some of my photos, taken over a mere two week span that can hardly do the region justice, at: <http://www.thelon.com/fast.htm>.

I ask you to think long and hard about the potential desecration that mining and road construction would have in an area that is so fragile. As far as I'm concerned, the region should be declared a national treasure and held up for the world to see as one of the truly magnificent natural regions of the world. We cannot afford to underestimate its importance. Not every significance can be measured by the number of tourist dollars or development profits: some areas are simply so delicate, so beautiful, and so soul-stirring that they deserve to be left to the wildlife that depends on them, and to the few adventurous souls who choose to live or travel there in harmony with the region.

Respectfully and fearfully,

Dennis Fast
Box 151
Kleefeld, MB
ROA 0V0

204-377-4455

Martin Haefele

From: musbou [musbou@yahoo.com]
Sent: January 11, 2007 7:12 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: [SUSPECTED SPAM]
Importance: Low
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

"Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake".

Dear Mr. Haefele,

I had the great privilege to canoe the Thelon several years ago, and it was a most extraordinary trip. While it only lasted 2 weeks, we felt that we were part of the tundra. Some may feel that it is just a vast flat land with nothing to offer, but they are wrong. It is the vastness that makes it so unique on this planet. To even think of one shovel touching this precious ground makes me shudder. You should be treasuring it as part of Canada's heritage, and keep it safe for generations to come. The place drips with history. Take a walk and you can feel what it was like for the natives trying to survive in this land. There are tent rings and fire pits where they camped and waited for the migrating animals, never knowing if this time the caribou will cross miles from them.

I am asking you to keep this land pristine and untainted. Keep the Thelon and the area free forever from any form of development. You owe that to Canada and to the world.

Thank you,
Barrett Girard
3170 N. Sheridan
Chicago, Illinois 60657
USA

Everyone is raving about [the all-new Yahoo! Mail beta](#).

Martin Haefele

From: Tonya Fehr [Tonya.Fehr@microsoft.com]
Sent: January 11, 2007 7:20 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: [SUSPECTED SPAM] Attention: Martin Haefele, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Importance: Low
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

January 11, 2007

Attention: Martin Haefele, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake".

In 2003, I was privileged to take a sabbatical anywhere in the world. To me, the choice was easy; I went on a canoe trip on the Upper Thelon. I knew that it would be a life changing experience, but in retrospect I had no idea how much I would be changed. When I heard that the Upper Thelon was in serious trouble, I found the journal that I kept on that trip. As I sit here reading what I wrote on my last day on the Thelon River, I am moved to tears thinking about what development would do to this part of the world.

From my journal...July 26, 2003:

There is so much to see and do here, I feel like my journey is just beginning. Unlike other places in the world that I have visited, only here do I feel both truly insignificant and greatly magnified. An Inuit chipping station, caribou tracks in the sand, arctic lichen and flowers growing amidst the rocks – these things are not marked on any map, but rather always available around every bend in the river. There is no sense of time. All of the tracks in the sand lead us to wonder about the life that they stand for - life that is inhibited by the desire to live day-to-day. Feast or famine, rain or shine, this life knows no boundaries. It's a freedom that is fought for only by living. For the creatures here, the worries in life are simple, but they are important. Everything is so pure and free. Those who inhabit this place are truly wild and truly free. Man cannot change the Thelon; this is the soul of the world.

One of the best qualities about nature is that it makes us feel both very small and very large at the same time. I never could have imagined how profoundly I would be changed. Life on the Upper Thelon enabled me to understand the tininess and transience of nature. I may be one voice, but having been forever changed by this land, I know that I need to play a part in the grand and glorious song of the Thelon. This song is about something so glorious that man has no right to alter what nature perfected. When I left the Thelon, I left behind a piece of my heart. I vowed to return and to always fight to keep this land wild and free.

With regards,

Tonya Fehr

409 2nd Avenue West
 Lisbon, North Dakota 58054
tfehr@microsoft.com

Martin Haefele

From: John Simmons [jmsimmon@telusplanet.net]
Sent: January 11, 2007 8:01 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com
Subject: Fw: EA0607-003 U-r-Energy
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

----- Original Message -----

From: John Simmons
To: mhaefele@mvveirb.nt.ca
Cc: tudnra@thelon.com
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2007 6:51 PM
Subject: EA0607-003 U-r-Energy

Mr. Haefele,

Please add this to the public registry regarding EA0607-003 Ur- Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

There should be no mining activity, including exploration, in this pristine wilderness area.

John Simmons, Calgary

Martin Haefele

From: Norm Doebel [ndoebel@yahoo.com]
Sent: January 12, 2007 12:13 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: "Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake".

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Martin Haef,

I was dismayed to hear of the proposed development of the Upper Thelon area for minerals and energy. I spent a little less than a month canoeing in the area a few years ago. The wild beauty and creatures of the area offer an uplifting experience to feel whole and in connection with the natural forces that made us who we are. The forces that we molded to and survived in for millions of years. There's enough "development" in this world to make it questionable whether the human race will be able to survive. Nature will survive but with a growing likelihood that we won't have a liveable place in it. Is it not possible to save a few places that are truly unique natural gems. I'd like to visit a wild Upper Thelon again. I hope you will oppose "development projects".

**Sincerely,
Norm Doebel**

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Martin Haefele

From: George Archibald [george@savingcranes.org]
Sent: January 12, 2007 5:08 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Dear Mr. Haefele,

The unique geological, biological and cultural features of the Thelon Game Sanctuary and surrounding environs, should be preserved as a wilderness area for future generations. I am certain conservationists worldwide join me in expressing our serious concerns about the imminent threat from uranium and diamond mining.

Sincerely yours,

**George W. Archibald
Co-founder and Senior Conservationist
International Crane Foundation
E11376 Shady Lane Road
Baraboo, Wisconsin, 53913
United States of America.**

**Tel: 608-356-3454
Fax: 608-356-9465
E-mail: george@savingcranes.org or
confidential at savingcranes@aol.com**

Assistant to George Archibald.

**Julie Zajicek
same address as George.**

**Tel: 608-356-9462 ext. 156
Fax: 608-356-9465
E-mail: Julie@savingcranes.org**

**To read about the recent expeditions of George Archibald, go to
www.savingcranes.org/about/whats_new/travel_journals.cfm**

Martin Haefele

From: Nestor Lewyckyj [Nestor_Lewyckyj@RailtechComposites.com]
Sent: January 12, 2007 6:16 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Martin Haefele,

I was astounded to hear that there is serious consideration being given to give mining rights to a company in the Upper Thelon watershed. Having myself personally visited this region, please see my site on this at <http://www.lewyckyj.com/Nestor%20Rostyslaw%20Lewyckyj/Thelon%20River%202004.htm> in 2004, it became perfectly and instantly clear to me what an absolute gem the entire Thelon sanctuary is. Any development within the Sanctuary, or in any tributary areas that affect the Thelon river and the Sanctuary, is complete and utter madness, driven by greed and ignorance. This is particularly poignant when we finally have realized that we are indeed, perhaps irrevocably, changing the planet (for the worse). The consensus is so unanimous, and so overwhelming, that to seriously deny this is lunacy. Canada's north, with special regions like the Thelon Sanctuary, need to be treated for the prized possessions that they are. They are worth, and will be worth, far more in human and monetary terms in the near future as pristine tributes to what the planet used to be like, than any development can justify. We owe this not only to our children and grandchildren, but as a contrite admission of our past environmental failures that have brought us to this point today.

I urge you, and all of your colleagues, to take this matter very, very seriously. You need to properly evaluate and appreciate what the Thelon Sanctuary is, and what it represents. It needs to be protected at all costs. Individuals like Tom Faess are extremely well versed in the language of the Thelon Sanctuary and are giants in their struggle to maintain its beauty, and indeed, its value.

I can be reached on my cell number at any time to discuss this further.

But I am starting to raise this issue with all of my colleagues to make sure that they are aware of the looming dangers.

Best regards,

Nestor R. Lewyckyj, P. Eng.
Vice President
Railtech Ltd.
Montreal, Quebec

Work: (514) 457-4760
Fax: (514) 457-7101
Cell: (514) 594-2721

Web Site 1: www.Lam-Cel.com
Web Site 2: www.RailtechComposites.com
Web Site 3: www.Skyfold.com

January 12, 2007

**Attn: Martin Haefele
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Yellowknife, NT**

Please include this letter to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

It is dismaying that the upper Thelon Basin, a biologically and culturally-rich wilderness valley 'oasis' located deep in the Barrenlands near the Nunavut boundary of the Northwest Territories is now under the gun with the 'discovery' of uranium & diamonds potentials, which could only lead to industrial development in an area that virtually nobody without a direct financial stake endorses such activity.

Industry indicators are that the Thelon basin mineral finds may be extremely rich. This is quite apparent since drilling has already been occurring over and over again the same areas over for the past 32+ years.

So why drill more in this ecologically sensitive area when this has already been done over and over again? It is of grave concern to aboriginal groups and conservationists alike that there is a possibility of allowing exploration very possibly leading to development to proceed in this critical wilderness area. Here are some of the reasons why:

Extraordinary Wildlife Area:

The upper Thelon River valley is recognized world-wide as an extremely unique and significant biosphere: it is a major late-summer migratory route for caribou of the Beverly barrenground herd, as well as a caribou winter grazing area and major northbound route used by large 'bunches' of pregnant caribou cows en-route to the calving grounds to the North during the early spring. The Beverly herd migratory range is one of the last of the great caribou routes that remain obstacle-free from human interference. The importance of this is compounded by the decimation now occurring with nearby and associated caribou herds including the Bathurst: a current major problem in the NWT due possibly to over-hunting, global warming, and very likely also due to the interruption of migration routes by the diamond mines, winter roads and exploration camps to the Northwest. Because of the significance of the Beverly caribou route through the upper Thelon region, the area is also a highly-significant den cycle area for wild tundra wolves that stop here to dig dens and rear pups while following the caribou north. The significance of wolf den activity here is also in part due to the unusually high concentrate of sand-base glacial eskers in the area, making for perfect den conditions for wolves, fox and marmot. Tree growth in the eskers and along the Thelon basin slope is unusual for an area so far past the continuous tree-line, and provide roost for a significant number and variety of birds-of-prey and variety of shorebirds.

Extreme Historical, Spiritual & Cultural Significance:

Due to the extraordinary wildlife consistencies, the upper Thelon Basin - and the entire Thelon watershed has important heritage value and spiritual significance for the Chipewyan Dene' and Caribou Inuit peoples - history that dates back for thousands of years. The Dene' of Treaty 8 have repeatedly made claim to the area in relation to that significance, and have repeatedly requested that the upper Thelon

area be included in the protected area strategy of the Interim Lands Withdrawal Agreement. Also see the World Wildlife Funds Submission on the heritage values of the upper Thelon Basin. The Treaty 8 Dene' had also requested that the Upper Thelon be considered for inclusion into the new East Arm National Park Boundary, a request that apparently the Government of Canada has not taken too seriously.

The Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary:

The Upper Thelon as originally included in the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary, whose boundaries were already adjusted once to accommodate mineral exploration in the 1950's. In the 1992, the Thelon Wildlife Management Plan was created, ratified by Nunavut, and passed on to the Government of the NWT for endorsement; and there it has sat for a decade on the back-burner. The new management plan was to include a special management area for the upper Thelon – which has not since been addressed or defined. The Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary lies to the North and immediately downstream of the proposed uranium exploration area – and the negative consequences and impact for the entire watershed downstream through the Sanctuary are obvious should such development occur.

What is The Value of Last Wilderness?

It is doubtful that any other wilderness area in Canada has ever received so much acclamation by visitors as the Thelon. Some of the world leading dignitaries, artists, photographers and film crews have all identified the importance of this area, and it has been repeatedly dubbed by many highly-credible personage as one of Canada's '*Crown Jewels*.'

Wilderness in Canada's Far North is rapidly disappearing at an unprecedented rate with the ongoing discovery and production of diamonds and the roads needed to access those resources. Accordingly, the Thelon Basin and surrounding eastern plains have become the last true wilderness holdout and genuine unaltered ecosystems remaining in on the North American mainland, an likely the entire planet. . For this reason alone, any exploration & development considerations for this unique area should require an unprecedented decision-making process that carefully considers and weigh in the multi-values of last wilderness like never before.

Respectfully,



Tom Faess

Great Canadian Wilderness

Lutsel K'e, NWT

www.thelon.com

Martin Haefele

From: middy tilghman [middytilghman@yahoo.com]
Sent: January 12, 2007 9:17 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: Against Ur-Energy exploration ar Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

I am vehemently against the proposed exploration and subsequent potential mining in the Upper Thelon Basin of the Barrenlands. It is a unique and spectacular place as well as resource for reasons far beyond the potential bounty of mineral deposits. This exceptional space of tundra should be left alone without the scars of mining. Any exploration and mining would permanently scar the land and would begin the breakup of that environment.

Please do not support the exploration and mining of Screech Lake.

Sincerely,
Middy Tilghman

Don't be flakey. [Get Yahoo! Mail for Mobile](#) and [always stay connected](#) to friends.

Martin Haefele

From: MARK SWEENEY [sweenz1@msn.com]
Sent: January 12, 2007 9:34 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Dear Mr. Haefele:

I'm writing in regards to the information I received about developing the Upper Thelon Area. I've had the pleasure of taking a trip there last year. It was one of most incredible trips I've ever taken. The entire NWT is an incredible area of the country. I've taken several trips up there over the years and will do so again. The thought of developing and industrializing this area is almost beyond belief. The companies that want to drill and develop in order to line their own pockets should be politely told to dig elsewhere.

There has to be line drawn somewhere in order to stop a corporate takeover of the last complete wilderness left in North America. The NWT is a gift to all of us and shouldn't be destroyed in order to make money. As a member of the Enviromental Impact Review Board you must do all you can to keep this area free of the industrial world. You don't have to look far to see what the industrial world has done to our enviroment. Don't let them take the NWT as well.

Thank you for your time. Good luck in your endeavors.

MARK SWEENEY
Fisherman, outdoorsman, NWT lover.

Martin Haefele

From: lee@leemannphotography.com
Sent: January 12, 2007 10:43 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: max.finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca; tundra@thelon.com
Subject: Uranium mining - Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

To Whom It May Concern:

I recently heard about the proposed uranium mining on the upper Thelon. I have made four trips to the area and plan to visit again. I'm a professional photographer and have spent almost a year in east Africa. With out any doubt I can say that the Thelon Basin is the equal of the Serengeti Plains. I know of no place on the planet that offers the solitude needed for arctic wildlife to thrive like it does in the Thelon Basin...with the possible exception of ANWAR in Alaska, which is also in danger.

Please consider very carefully what you are doing if you decide to allow the pillaging of the Thelon. It is the last and the best: it cannot be replaced! Money is not everything. Future generations will judge us harshly if we continue to make decisions that cause permanent damage in trade for short-term gain. Pease think of the ramifications of opening this area to development. DON'T DO IT!

Lee Mann
Lee Mann Photography
23350 Bassett Road
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

360-856-0581

Martin Haefele

From: Bob Bowins [bob@redpineoutdoor.com]
Sent: January 12, 2007 10:50 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com
Subject: Thelon River
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

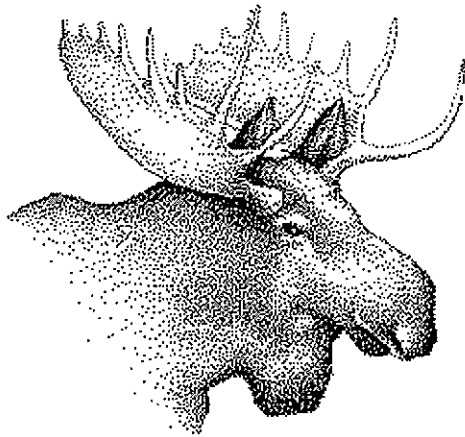
"Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake".

Mr Martin Haefele:

I had the good fortune to travel the Thelon River recently. The Thelon Basin has become the last true wilderness holdout and unaltered ecosystems remaining in on the North American mainland. For this reason alone, any development considerations for this area requires an equally unprecedented decision process that needs to carefully consider and weigh in the values of last wilderness like never before. Please help preserve this unique ecosystem by not allowing mining activity on the Thelon watershed.

Sincerely

Bob Bowins



Rebecca L. Grambo
P.O. Box 910
113 - 7th Avenue North
Warman, Saskatchewan
Canada S0K 4S0

Phone: (306) 931-8523
Fax: (306) 249-4798
Email: r.grambo@sasktel.net

January 12, 2007

To: Martin Haefele, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board.

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

Dear Sir,

I am a wildlife photographer and the author of more than 25 natural history and science books for adults and children. Thanks to the research I do for my writing, I am very aware of the changes already underway in Canada's North due to mining development and climate change. I have travelled repeatedly near the area of this proposed exploration and know first-hand the incredible biological, historical, and cultural richness of this area and also its fragility. I also know of the importance of the area to the native peoples who have repeatedly requested that it be protected.

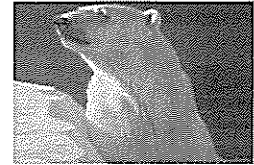
The upper Thelon River basin is a world-class treasure and deserves protection—not exploitation. This is a major migratory route for caribou and therefore also a vital habitat for the arctic wolves that prey upon them. In view of dramatically declining caribou populations across the arctic and increased stress on all arctic and sub-arctic areas due to climate change, I find it extremely distressing that the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board and the Government of the Northwest Territories would be considering opening this critical area to disturbance.

You are custodians of a precious resource at a time when there is great pressure to damage it, perhaps irreparably, for short-term gain. I hope that you will act as guardians of the future and give this remarkable place the respect and care it deserves.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca L. Grambo

A sight to cherish...



*These magical creatures may soon be gone...forever!
Can we just let it happened?*

Friday, January 12, 2007

To: **Martin Haefele**

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Email mhaefele@mveirb.nt.ca.

Subject: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake

Dear Mr. Haefele,

I became aware of a possible drilling license that will surely upset the natural balance at the Upper Thelon Basin that would leave the wilderness and its wildlife in irrevocable disarray. I hope that this message would reach you prior to the public hearing in Lutsel K'e and I would like you to add this message to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

Six years ago, my wife and I spent a vacation in the Upper Thelon. Our guide, Tundra Tom, is the reason why we feel part of this magnificent place. Tundra Tom shared with us his love and devotion to the Thelon and it is contagious. The wilderness, the history, the wildlife and the balance of nature must be preserved for generation to come. Your Review Board must not allow this critical region to turn into a commercial nightmare so a few greedy companies will get enormously rich while destroying the last significant refuge of the caribou, wolf, bear, fish and birds of prey.

Drilling for uranium and diamonds would be a catastrophe for the Thelon and its wildlife. Our duty is to learn from past mistakes so we could take every conceivable precaution not to repeat them. I am convince that the first and foremost duty of your board is to protect the natural inhabitation of the region and the hell with the greedy vultures and the corrupted profiteers.

The NWT suffered a black eye a few years back when it allowed the snowmobile gangs to massacre wolves. Don't put your board in a position to give the NWT a permanent black eye.

Sincerely yours,

Aaron Forel,

Brooklyn, NY

Email: aforel@hotmail.com

Martin Haefele

From: le24production [le24@libertysurf.fr]
Sent: January 12, 2007 4:36 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: Public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Dear Mr Martin Haefele

"Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake".

We are French filmmakers (so please excuse our bad english!) and we've filmed the beauties of the Barrenlands in July 2005. Our film is screened and multi-screened on various European T.V. channels («Animaux», «Escales», «NT1», «Planète»), in this moment and for the next months...

The film shows, among others, the beautiful and particular ecosystem of the Barrenlands but also all the rich and incredible life existing thanks to it (muskox, arctic wolves, caribou...). We give you here (unfortunately in French) an abstract of the commentary of the sequence concerning the Barrenlands :

20:03 Vallée de la rivière Thelon, territoire du Nord-Ouest, 63° de latitude Nord, Arctique canadien.

20:14 Je suis au nord du monde, à 450 km de Yellowknife.

20:20 Sur ces immenses étendues de toundra, appelées « Barrenlands » ou terres stériles, un sanctuaire de vie sauvage fut créé dans les années 30 pour protéger les bœufs musqués, alors menacés d'extinction par la chasse.

20:33 Ces magnifiques créatures ont ainsi peu à peu repris possession de leurs territoires et leur population s'est finalement rétablie.

20:43 Ongulés improbables, ils nous ramènent très loin dans le temps, à la dernière glaciation, autant dire la nuit des temps.

20:52 Leur robe qui peut atteindre 60 cm de longueur, rappelle celle des anciens mammoths. Elle se balance joliment dans leur sillage quand ils courent.

21:12 Grâce à cet extraordinaire manteau polaire, les bœufs musqués peuvent supporter des températures extrêmes inférieures à moins 40 °C et des vents violents qui font souvent rage dans le nord canadien en hiver.

21:26 Alors que face au loup, leur seul prédateur en dehors de l'homme, ils déploient une tactique de défense collective en cercle, devant l'homme qui s'approche trop près, ils fuient...

21:45 Grande rencontre avec ce survivant de la préhistoire.

21:53 Contrairement à la toundra du haut arctique où le sol n'est constitué que de tourbe, ici de nombreux eskers se sont formés. Créées lors de la fonte des glaces, ces grandes îles de sable dont le sol n'est pas gelé, permettent aux arbres de prendre racine. « Oasis » protégées, ces forêts miniatures forment un abri de choix pour nombre d'animaux, dont le loup.

22:35 Loup arctique, créature mythique, nature à l'état pur. Être noble et courageux, je n'espérais pas te rencontrer...

23:08 La région de la Thelon est un itinéraire majeur pour la migration des 400 000 caribous de l'une des 5 hardes présentes dans le nord canadien. Mais sur ces terres sans fin, difficile de repérer des animaux, aussi nombreux soient-ils ! L'hydravion est donc utile et indispensable pour survoler la toundra et les localiser.

23:30 Chaque année, en mars ou avril, les caribous quittent leurs aires d'hivernage pour se rendre au nord, où les femelles mettent bas. Les loups n'apprécient pas beaucoup les sols spongieux de la toundra, elles y sont plus tranquilles. Au début de l'été, les femelles et leurs petits commencent doucement leur retour vers leurs quartiers d'hiver.

23:49 C'est alors que de toutes parts, les caribous convergent et se rassemblent pour former d'immenses agrégations. C'est ce voyage de retour qui a lieu vers la fin du mois de juillet que je suis venue filmer. Les groupes qui avancent, de plusieurs dizaines de milliers d'individus, font de cette migration, l'un des plus beaux rassemblements de la planète.

24:12 Les femelles, toujours devant, sont suivies de près par leurs jeunes, encore malhabiles sur leurs pattes de trois semaines. La traversée des lacs et des cours d'eau glacés n'est pas sans risque pour les tout jeunes caribous que le courant peut emporter facilement.

24:35 Les mâles escortent la caravane. Le caribou, comme le renne, son équivalent domestique, est la seule espèce parmi les cervidés dont le mâle, comme la femelle, portent des bois.

24:46 Mais alors que les bois des femelles commencent juste à repousser, ceux des mâles, recouverts du velours nourricier, sont plus beaux que jamais.

24:55 Il faut dire que ce périple précède de peu le moment où ils vont s'accoupler. Ce n'est qu'après le rut, en novembre, que leurs bois, à leur maximum, tomberont.

25:27 Toujours en mouvement, ces grands nomades ont besoin d'espace. Ils parcourent ainsi des milliers de km lors des migrations saisonnières. Pour se rendre d'une aire à l'autre, mais aussi pour échapper aux prédateurs et se débarrasser des moustiques. Véritable plaie, ces derniers sont des milliards à les harceler de la mi-juillet à la fin août. Dans les groupes compacts qu'ils forment pour se protéger de leurs attaques incessantes qui les rendent fous, certains, notamment les faons, se font littéralement piétiner. Les vampires, eux, parviennent à leur pomper jusqu'à un litre de sang par semaine.

26:05 C'est à se demander s'ils ne préféreraient pas la compagnie des prédateurs contre lesquels au moins, ils peuvent lutter.

26:14 À quelques mètres derrière, justement, un loup est là. Il suit le troupeau

géant, attendant le faux-pas, l'égaré.

26:26 Peu de privilégiés ont eu la chance et l'honneur d'observer un loup blanc en liberté. Je sais que ce moment est exceptionnel et précieux.

26:40 Blancheur immaculée, le seigneur du grand nord me captive.

26:45 Pourtant, ma fascination est loin de faire l'unanimité...

26:55 Mais que les caribous se rassurent, l'hiver n'a pas encore aiguisé l'appétit du prédateur. Et il est seul, le loup chasse en meute.

27:10 Bien qu'un loup arctique de grande taille puisse renverser et tuer d'un seul coup de dent un caribou adulte, il préfère ne pas avoir à se frotter aux bois redoutables du cervidé.

27:40 Pourquoi, de tout temps, les hommes ont-ils diabolisé ainsi l'auguste créature, indiscutablement empreinte de génie ? Quelle ingratitude. N'est-ce pas le loup qui un jour devenu chien a tant changé la vie de l'homme ?

28:28 Au moment où je vais quitter cette terre incroyable, l'un des derniers bastions sauvages d'Amérique du Nord, j'éprouve un grand sentiment de liberté. Une liberté qui a pour nom nature, cette force suprême qui ici explose partout, tout le temps.

We wanted to make you read this text just to tell you that if the project of uranium exploration at Screech Lake is confirmed, the damages will be such that never more it will be possible to admire and enjoy a such ecosystem and by filming it to show to foreign people who can't go to see by themselves the world beauties. We don't talk neither about the consequences upon the native people...

We really hope that you will reconsider this project with all the bad consequences it will entail. Our planet is in a serious danger, we have to preserve it. It is really urgent to reverse the tendency, in fifty years' time it will be too late and we will go through agony... Make money won't serve us when all our natural resources will have disappear... Please don't damage the last pieces which are still intact and pristine!

Thank you for your good, sensible, intelligent reflection and understanding...

Respectfully,

Jehanne Fahmy and Didier Lacoste, friends of the Earth

--

le24production

24, CHEMIN LATÉRAL 94140 ALFORTVILLE FRANCE
TÉL. +33 143788741 - +33 680189919 - +33 681116777

Martin Haefele

From: Connie Max and Isaac [connieandmax@downes.net]
Sent: January 13, 2007 7:25 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: thelon@tundra.com; maxandconnie@downes.net
Subject: EA0607-003
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Jan. 13, 2007

487 Edison Ave.
Ottawa, On, K2A 1V1

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

Dear Mr. Haefele,

I am writing in regard to applications to mining exploration permits in the upper Thelon country.

The Thelon River flows through one of the largest and last true wilderness areas left in Canada and the world. For wilderness paddlers, this is the river that is the most popular answer to the question: "If you could do only one more long canoe trip in your life, which river would you choose?"

The caribou of the Beverley herd, once some 400,000 strong, migrate along the Thelon twice annually, as they wend their way from their calving grounds on the barrens north of Baker Lake to the boreal forests of the upper Thelon, and back to the calving grounds in spring. This herd has been in decline for the past few years, and further disturbances will increasingly disrupt their migratory patterns. Outside of the wildebeast migrations of eastern Africa, this is the largest remaining overland migration of mammals left in the world.

In addition to caribou, this area is known for the concentration of wolves that use the eskers that crisscross the upper Thelon as denning sites. The boreal forest extends up the Thelon valley far beyond the contiguous tree-line, providing nesting sites for raptors, such as Gyrfalcons, and other birds of prey.

The water of the Thelon is as pristine as any water imaginable. Anything that threatens the water quality of the Thelon should be seriously questioned. The river supplies drinking water for not only for the community of Baker Lake, but also for all the wildlife it supports.

The cultural significance of the Upper Thelon is of utmost importance to the Dene people. Here can be seen the greatest concentration in the north of remains of campsites, communities, travel beacons, hunting blinds – tangible evidence of the presence of a people that dates back thousands of years.

Just downstream from the proposed uranium development area lies the Thelon Game Sanctuary, established by the federal government in 1927. Any negative impacts to the Thelon's water quality, or migratory wildlife, would extend into the sanctuary. Also, as the greater ecosystem of the Thelon country extends outside the current boundaries of the Sanctuary, ecological impacts of development would clearly extend into the Thelon Game Sanctuary.

19/01/2007

But most important of all is the value of wilderness to the identity of Canada as a nation. My son, whose middle name is Thelon, was baptized with Thelon River water. That's how deep this river has worked its way into my heart. As the Dene as a people draw their strength, their sense of identity, from this land, so do all Canadians. The existence of 'wilderness' – large undisturbed tracts of land – is central to the concept of Canada as a nation. We have a heritage of wilderness. Our nation was built on the fur trade, an economic venture that depended on large tracts of undeveloped land, and indigenous peoples who had the knowledge and skills to live with the wilderness. Without the combination of vast wild lands, a partnership with peoples who lived in these lands for millennia, and rivers for transportation, Canada as the nation it is today would not exist. If we, as Canadians, lose sight of the value of wilderness to Canada, then Canada and Canadians will cease to exist. We may be still called Canadians, but we will have lost our identity as a people and a nation.

So, I'm asking you as a wilderness paddler, as a supporter of First nations' self-determination, as someone who has written about and travelled the Thelon, as someone who has tried to be a voice for rivers and wild places, but mostly as a Canadian, to protect this last, vast, great wild area.

Max Finkelstein

Martin Haefele

From: B.Scully [scullyb@vaniercollege.qc.ca]
Sent: January 14, 2007 5:36 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Subject: EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake

Martin Haefele

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Mr. Haefele:

Others have tallied and expressed the reasons better than could I, so I will keep it simple: the area that will be impacted as a consequence of this activity is far more valuable now, in its natural state, than it ever could be as a site of mining exploration, thus leave it as is.

sincerely,
Brian Scully M.Sc.
Aquatic Sciences & Geomatics Educator

Martin Haefele

From: Philip Schubert [philip18@magma.ca]
Sent: January 14, 2007 7:07 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca; philip18@magma.ca
Subject: EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Martin Haefele
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Dear Mr. Haefele,

EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake

I've reviewed the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board staff report in relation to application MV2006C0019. The proposed exploration area (62°40'00" to 62°49'00" N, 104°28'00" to 104°55'00" W) is a cross section 22.5 km by 16.7 km or approximately 375 square kilometers. It is centred exactly on a river system comprising the headwaters of the Thelon.

Even if the damage caused by the exploration stage can be kept within the kinds of limits defined in the application, it will be impossible for a subsequent major mining project to not destroy one of Canada's finest heritage river systems. The Thelon is a treasure in itself and is linked to wildlife and indigenous assets which are priceless.

Thankfully the staff report says that the level of opposition to this proposed project will be a key factor in deciding if even the exploration stage of the project will go ahead. The mining project itself can only be carried out at an unacceptable cost to Canadian treasures. Thus I would like to register my very strong opposition to seeing any aspect of this project proceeding further.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Schubert P.Eng.
1 Colville Court
Kanata, On

19/01/2007

Martin Haefele

From: RLamber666@aol.com
Sent: January 15, 2007 5:51 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: The Upper Thelon
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

I have spent time on the upper Thelon and enjoyed its solitude and the abundance of wildlife--both of which are like no other. To disrupt the migration of the caribou and the life that surrounds that great spectacle is unthinkable. It is an irreplaceable event. Do not allow the destruction of this last great wilderness area due to the taking of its mineral resources.

Rodney Lamberson
6109 Gibson Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
USA

Martin Haefele

From: Patrick Henry [p.henry@chelsea.ca]
Sent: January 15, 2007 6:06 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Subject: EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Mr. Haefele,

The importance of protecting water sources from the inevitable pollution of uranium mining cannot be understated.

The importance of protecting vast tracts of wilderness, unharmed, cannot be understated.

In 100 years, will Canada have a landscape famous the world over? Where travellers pay to come and explore what the 'planet used to be like'? Or, like the other regions of the earth, will they simply read about the area in another 'mining pollution' newspaper article (which describes how taxpayers are left once more to clean up the mess left by a private venture..). Port Radium comes to mind.

Please proceed with caution.

Regards,
Patrick

Patrick Henry
Coordonnateur du projet H₂O Chelsea
H₂O Chelsea project Coordinator
Municipalité de Chelsea - Municipality of Chelsea
100, chemin Old Chelsea
Chelsea, Québec
J9B 1C1

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Télécopieur : (819) 827-2672

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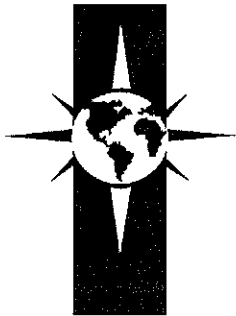
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19/01/2007

Martin Haefele

From: Adventure Andy's Travel Co., LLC. [info@adventureandy.com]
Sent: January 15, 2007 11:38 AM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; Max.Finkelstein@pc.gc.ca; lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca
Subject: Mining around the Thelon
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange



Adventure Andy's Travel Co., LLC.
502 South Love Chapel Road
Stanfield, NC 28163
704.888.6525
info@adventureandy.com
www.adventureandy.com

Re: Mining around the Thelon.

To whom it may concern,

I spent a week out photographing wildlife and learning about this amazing area in 2004. Its come to my attention that companies are looking to expand their grasp of mining into this splendid wilderness area.

I really wish these companies would look at the long-term effects their short-term money making will have on this area.

This is one of the last true pieces of wilderness on the continent of North America and should be left that way. This land is not meant for a few people to abuse for personal gain.

As an eco-tourism operator, I have been trying to promote this amazing land for with a minimal impact on it. I feel if more people especially the government of the NWT would do this, you would see that the wilderness there could be very economically viable as well as long lasting.

One thing to keep in mind, once the wilderness is gone, its gone. It will become useless to anybody except the few who walk away with pockets full of cash. This would be an incredible shame and a crime.

Regards,

Andy Kammer
Adventure Andy's Travel Company, LLC.
Director

Martin Haefele

From: Hellman Canoes [hellman@netidea.com]
Sent: January 15, 2007 1:45 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Subject: propsoed uranium mine at Screech Lake
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Attention Martin Haefele

I am writing to voice my opinion to uranium exploration at Screech lake. A Uranium mine poses a potential risk to the Thelon reserve. This is one of the earths greatest treasures. There are very few areas on the earth that are as wild and beautiful as this area. Anything that compromises the pristine beauty or the wildlife in this area should not be allowed. I have canoed many rivers in the Artic and I know what a treasure the wild areas are in the Artic. Please do not sacrifice the precious wilderness for something as horrible as another unneed , unwanted Uranium minw.

Thanks for your attention
Bob Hellman

To: Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Re: EA Ur Energy - Screech Lake (2006) - EA0607-003 [2006]

Paddling the upper Thelon river, as it ribbons from Double Barrel Lake to Eyeberry Lake, drifts you into another world where wind and water rule the senses, where an animal's gaze can hold you motionless, where it is so silent you can hear the land is alive. I have had the good fortune to make this journey twice and to have had the Thelon emblazoned on my memory as an icon of the north and of Canadian wilderness.

Last August, camped on the shores of the Thelon near D'Aoust Esker with a group of paddlers from all over Canada, I was jolted back into the world of machines and "progress" when a helicopter buzzed our camp and landed. In short order, we became aware of Ur Energy's exploration camp that was just out of sight of our camp. The next day they brought in a Twin Otter load of people, including elders from Lutsel K'e, to tour the area in what was no doubt an expensive sales pitch.

I believe that I speak for my travelling companions when I say that we were rather "jarred" by the air traffic in the area and the thought of this beautiful place one day possibly being the site of a mine. Of course, we too, heard the UR Energy pitch which included an explanation of the minimal environmental impact cause by drilling a few holes in the ground, but one would have to be completely daft not realize that the only reason to drill a few holes in the ground is in hopes that uranium is found so that it can be mined. It would be shortsighted and negligent to evaluate this application on the basis of only the exploration program. Any process that sets out to evaluate "environmental impact" must take into account the long-range impacts that may result from action taken in the near future. I am concerned that approval of this application would open the door to a multitude of other uranium exploration companies that have claims in the area and that there is the potential of devastating cumulative effects on the Beverly caribou herd and the Thelon in general.

Though for a time a canoeing party can enjoy the wilderness experience in a way that strives to "leave no trace," we recognize that all of us are, of course, consumers of energy in our regular lives and, of course, we do leave a trace. This fact, however, still leaves us as a society responsible for choosing what types of energy production we engage in and choosing what impacts we are willing to accept. I understand that the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has raised a concern about the cultural significance of this area and have stated their desire to expand protection in the upper Thelon basin. I support this direction and believe that approval of this application would compromise their rights.

I am also concerned about the fact that the Management Plan for the Thelon Game Sanctuary calls for Special Management Areas to be created, one of which is in the upper Thelon region, and that this hasn't happened yet because the Government of the NWT has not ratified the management plan.

I would like to agree with David Pelly's observation that "apart from a few people (Ur Energy) making money, this proposal does little to serve Canada." The historical, cultural, ecological, and archaeological significance of the upper Thelon is not worth risking. I have worked as a guide for Nahanni River Adventures for seven seasons and know that when you mention the word "Thelon" it immediately conjures an image of vast, untouched wilderness for most canoeists and wilderness enthusiasts in this country. This area has strong tourism potential and is a major draw bringing visitor's to the NWT; this reputation will be dramatically tarnished if exploration and mining are allowed to go ahead. This wilderness area is important not only to the Aboriginal people of the area, but also to the people of Canada and the world. True wilderness areas are

surely a sign of a country's and a people's wealth. Wilderness is one of the hallmarks of the Canadian identity as is evidenced in our country's literature. Though many people may not have the opportunity to visit the Thelon, that fact that it exists as healthy ecosystem, as a habitat for the animals of the great tundra is of great scientific and psychological value to all. We can afford to save places like these and not squander them for a quick buck to be spread amongst a few people. I hope that this place will remain a part of the heritage of all Canadians for generations to come.

Thank you for considering my concerns. Please include the following poem, written three years ago when I first visited D'Aoust Esker on the Thelon.

Sincerely,

Melanie Siebert

D'AOUST ESKER

N 62° 44.017'
W 104° 44.718'

The clouds hurtled over my head and I was on the ground. On the ground
and aching for more. The heart that can see from horizon to horizon is
the good life. The heart, a den, marked
by wolf smell and prickly saxifrage,
dark opening in the esker's
muscle flank. And the view –
the view from horizon to horizon, clouds muskox-skulled and bossing in,
the heart stomaching all this sky, light ramming
thunderheads in the west, and in the east, soundless, shadowless, sweeps of virga, rain
that falls but never pelts the ground. Bending
like the slender stalks of all that bow,
the heart, blown to the ground.

Martin Haefele

From: Kristin Jefferies [kristinjefferies@sympatico.ca]
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:09 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: lutselke_wle@yahoo.ca; tundra@thelon.com
Subject: Thelon - Proposed uranium exploration
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Dear Martin Haefele
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

I am writing with regards to the **EA 0607-003, UR-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake**. I'd like to express my real concern over this proposal and urge you to carefully consider the possible negative repercussions of such action!

I am a wilderness paddler, outdoor educator, environmentalist, mother and Canadian. I am passionate about the value of wilderness in all those capacities. The existence of large undisturbed tracts of land is central to the concept of Canada as a nation. We have a heritage of wilderness.

The Thelon River is also home to the Dene people who have been disturbed enough by development and pollution in the north.

As you know, The Thelon River is one of the last true wilderness rivers in Canada. The caribou of the Beverley herd migrate across the Thelon and any uranium mining could seriously threaten their habitat and thus population. The water of the Thelon is as pristine as any water imaginable. Anything that threatens the water quality of the Thelon should be seriously questioned. The river supplies drinking water for not only for the community of Baker Lake, but also for all the wildlife it supports.

I do hope you will add my voice to those opposed to the uranium mining exploration on the Thelon! It is my wish that we could consider it valuable in non-commercial or monetary ways and perhaps be a model for the rest of the world!

Thanks for your consideration!

Kristin Jefferies
11 Ch. Burnett
Chelsea, QC
J9B 2G9

To: Martin Haefele
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Re: Proposed Uranium Exploration at Screech Lake
EA 0607-003, UR-Energy

From: Tim Dyer info@whitesquall.com
(705) 342-5324 RR #1 Nobel, Ontario P0G 1G0

Date: January 16/07

Dear Mr. Haefele

I am writing to voice my concern about the proposed uranium exploration in the upper Thelon watershed. Any industrial activity in this untouched and world class wilderness would be a travesty.

The Thelon is a wild treasure that is part of our Canadian heritage. It is critical that we preserve this last tract of true wilderness for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Tim Dyer info@whitesquall.com
(705) 342-5324 RR #1 Nobel, Ontario P0G 1G0

Martin Haefele

From: Nancy Gibson [ngibson@mn.rr.com]
Sent: January 17, 2007 1:26 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: lutselke_wle@yahoo.com; max.finkelstein@pc.sc.ca; tundra@thelon.com
Subject: uranium and diamond exploration
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Martin Haefele- Please add this to the public registry regarding EA 0607-003 Ur-Energy proposal for uranium drilling at Screech Lake

I linger between madness and sadness at the announcement of the diamond and uranium exploration in the Thelon. I have visited this area annually for the past decade along with 15 paying customers that want to explore this rich and vast wilderness. Each customer leaves with an aura of wonderment at Canada's vision to save such places. Our plane trips fly over existing diamond mines that have devoured unique eskers, poisoned waters and left scars that the tundra may never survive.

Tourism is sustainable and leaves barely a footprint in the Tundra. Mining is done with little concern for the local environmental impact. Yet, mark my words, clean up will be the work of the government after these mines have raped the landscape.

In this weekend's edition of The Wall Street Journal, a front page story on the Gem War sites the De Beers company having to admit that 250 tons of ore are mined and processed to produce a single carat diamond. Diamond mines are on the defense after the Hollywood production of "Blood Diamond" but better yet, a new lab-produced diamond called Gemesis (not cubic zirconia) is following in the footsteps of cultured pearls that are now widely accepted without the former environmental degradation of killing mollusks. The Wall Street Journal states that "as the diamond gemesis business develops and people become more aware of these cultured diamonds, the public will demand them." That business would be a better investment.

Please, take these comments to heart. We are to leave the world a better place than we found it. This is one of a very few special places left in this world. I know, I have traveled to 75 countries around the globe. Leave this space as it was intended for wildlife, clean water, crisp air and a landscaped that is unmatched.

Nancy Gibson

Martin Haefele

From: Marilyn Bates [marich@sonic.net]
Sent: January 17, 2007 1:56 PM
To: Martin Haefele
Cc: tundra@thelon.com; "lutselke wle"@yahoo.ca
Subject: preserving upper Thelon Basin

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Attention: Martin Haefele, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

We are repeat visitors to the Canadian North as well as to other parts of Canada where wilderness remains and wildlife is abundant. We were, therefore, greatly distressed to learn that one of the most magnificent wild areas of the Northwest Territories, the upper Thelon Basin is threatened by the possible introduction of mining. Mining, road-building, and even exploratory activities related to mining are incompatible with the wilderness experience and a threat to migrating caribou and other animals that depend on them. While increasing numbers of tourists around the world are seeking to travel to truly wild areas, the number of such places is decreasing. By maintaining the integrity of the upper Thelon Basin, you will not only avoid a threat to the local wildlife and to water quality, but the Northwest Territories would retain a tourist destination for generations into the future. According to Statistics Canada, in 2002, the tourist industry in Canada employed over 1,600,000 people, while forestry, fishing, mining, and oil and gas production combined employed only 330,100 Canadians in 2006. At a time when tourism has been decreasing in Canada, it makes more sense to cherish and publicize the wild areas of Canada than to destroy them. We urge you to prevent all mining activities in the upper Thelon Basin and to move instead to permanently preserve this area as wilderness.

Richard and Marilyn Bates
PO Box 2188
Guerneville, CA 95446
USA

Jérôme DUBOIS
Les Tours Canada Nature Inc
Challes-Les-Eaux
France

Please add this to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake

Challes-les-eaux, January 19th, 07

I was lucky enough to travel by canoe the Thelon River three times in 1976, 1988 and 1998 and I can testify of the particular level of protection that this unique place of wilderness kept over the times.

This one of the only territory in the world where I could find such an unspoiled nature and where the Muskoxes feed right near your tent!

I am a trekking guide and I use to travel all over the world. What I can see is that Northern Canada will be soon the last untouched part of the planet especially regarding the barrenland. I could check that even in Siberia and Kamchatka the boreal environment will be soon destroyed.

The Thelon is of exceptional value as it got a special protection for many years now. Canada, the country which is now on the way to refuse Tokyo protocol would be guilty in front of the next generations of citizen if it is decided to break such a protection. I entreat the government's managers to give up to plan drilling in the upper Thelon valley. It is of extreme consequence to stop this project because of the sensibility of the barrenland. The wilderness destroyed in the North won't recover. It is urgent to think about that and not so urgent to drill!

As I am French, please would you like to accept my bad English.

*Best regards,
Jérôme DUBOIS*

KAREN E. AMBROGI



January 23, 2007

To: Mr. Martin Haefele
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

From: Karen and James Ambrogi
Concerned Friends of the Upper Thelon Basin and Wildlife Sanctuary

Re: **EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake**

Please add this letter to the public registry regarding: EA 0607-003, Ur-Energy proposed uranium exploration at Screech Lake.

I write this letter as one of many visitors to the Thelon Basin to be on the record as a voice of dissent regarding the proposed exploration recently submitted and under review by your board. Neither my husband nor I are persons of any acclaim or notoriety. We are North Americans, we are your neighbors, we work hard, we care about the environment, and the legacy we are creating for future generations. We seek the wild and uncultivated lands of the Thelon to hear the deep, vast Silence, to hear thunder and discover it is the rumble of Musk Ox singing, to see thousands of years marked in the migration tracks of frozen tundra, to drink the unpolluted waters of great northern lakes. Sir, our souls are bound in this land – this remnant of wildness, silence, purity and creation – land that remains free of the domination of man; where stone, plant and animal have equal value. The challenges of global warming and the disturbances of development encroaching on the Thelon boundaries are in evidence now. We implore you and your board to carefully consider the repercussions of these development proposals. Consider alternatives that may be more difficult to implement but generate revenue in a life affirming way. Consider the models of countries that have been successful in preserving rain forest lands. On this continent the Thelon wilderness is an unrivaled refuge and sanctuary. No amount of diamonds or uranium will ever equal or surpass the value of this land intact and undisturbed. Will the generations after us have the Thelon to experience for themselves or will it be a memory relegated to film, pictures and documentaries?

Sincerely,
Karen Ambrogi

cc: James Ambrogi, Tom Faess, Max Finklestein