

NOTE TO FILE

April 3, 2008

Review Board staff members, Patrick Duxbury, Alan Ehrlich and Jessica Simpson met with representatives of Dezé Energy Corporation, Louie Azzolini (EA and regulatory consultant) and Damian Panayi (wildlife biologist – Golder Associates) at the offices of the Review Board. The meeting started around 1:40 pm.

The following topics were discussed:

Final Terms of Reference

A brief discussion was held concerning how the Review Board considered the comments received from Dezé, as well as other interested groups, in finalizing the Terms of Reference. As a matter of clarification of the ToR, Damian asked whether all bird species present in the development area would require a detailed assessment. Staff responded in saying that Dezé would be required to assess the impacts to birds to a level that is reasonable and appropriate for the environmental assessment. It was also noted that the same was true for examinations of the physical environment.

Temporary Winter Road

Louie mentioned that the NWT Power Corp had expressed a possible interest in using the existing Ft. Smith to Twin Gorges winter road alignment to carry out some work at the Twin Gorges site (not related to the Expansion Project). He noted that the road had been previously permitted under a land use permit. Louie wanted to know how the Power Corp might carry out these activities in light of the fact that use of the winter road is considered part of the scope of the EA for Deze's Taltson Expansion Project. Review Board staff committed to speaking to legal counsel regarding the matter and then to providing a response and/or direction to Dezé Energy.

Discussion of Dezé's recommendations for EA process improvements

Louie requested to know if there had been any responses to the suggestions that Dezé had proposed in its submissions (on draft the ToR and work plan) regarding improvements to the EA process. I responded that the Board had been largely of the opinion that most of the suggestions would require action on part of the MVLWB, and that as such, the MVLWB would be the key agency to speak to. Louie also reiterated his interest in having staff at both boards work closely together because, in his opinion, it would be very helpful to facilitate the transition from assessment to licensing. He wanted to know if staff and consultants could be shared between boards while, at the same time, maintaining the integrity of their respective decision-making processes.

MVEIRB's use of expert advisors

Dr. Anne Gunn's role in the EA was discussed. Alan noted that it has not yet been decided whether she will act as an external expert, or if she would serve as an advisor to

the Review Board. Louie noted that her knowledge and experience would be very useful to Deze's work on caribou as a form of "peer review". MVEIRB staff stated that the Board will have to discuss Dr. Gunn's role in the assessment the near future. Information regarding MVEIRB's intentions regarding consultants will be forthcoming in the upcoming weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:40 pm

Patrick Duxbury
Environmental Assessment Officer
MVEIRB