

NOTE TO FILE

February 22, 2008

Review Board staff members, Patrick Duxbury and Alistair MacDonald participated in a meeting organized by Louie Azzolini, EA and regulatory consultant for Dezé Energy Corporation, at the offices of the MVLWB. The MVLWB was represented by staff members, Adrian Paradis and Kathleen Graham. The meeting started around 9:00 am.

The meeting had been called to discuss Dezé Energy's interest in possible innovations to the regulatory process run by the MVLWB. Louie expressed interest in knowing how the MVLWB might consider concurrently running some of its regulatory processes during the Review Board's environmental assessment. The process that the NEB has run during the review of the Mackenzie Gas Project was cited as an example where regulators have separately carried out some of their duties during an EIA.

The concept of the MGP's Joint Regulatory Working Group was raised by Louie as something that might be possibly used in the Taltson EA. Adrian noted that this type of arrangement was something that was specific to the MGP and that it would be unlikely resurrected for smaller projects.

Louie suggested a number of possible initiatives that the MVLWB could consider to ensure a more efficient and timely process:

1. That the MVLWB possibly retain the experts that the Review Board itself engages during the EA as a way to help reduce the need for bringing experts up to speed. It was further expressed that it would be ideal if the government Parties could also ensure that the same personal working in the EA process were also directed to participate in the water licensing process.
2. That the MVLWB commence its hearing process during the EA; pause its process until the Report of Environmental Assessment is approved and then conclude its hearing based upon the recommendations that the Review Board has made.
3. That the MVLWB, as well as other regulators, provide the Review Board, if it so requests, with draft measures that could be considered for incorporation into the REA.
4. That the MVLWB consider the possibility of joint hearings with the Review Board.

Adrian noted that there is considerable openness at the MVLWB for making its process more efficient and timely, however the question was how such innovations could be operationalized. He suggested that Dezé Energy Corporation compile and articulate its ideas in a letter to the MVLWB that could then be brought forward for the Board's consideration. I further mentioned that the Review Board is expecting Dezé Energy

Corporation's submission on the draft Work Plan and Terms of Reference to also recommend some of the discussed initiatives.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00am

Patrick Duxbury
Environmental Assessment Officer
MVEIRB