

## NOTE TO FILE

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February 7, 2008

Representatives of Dezé Energy Corporation, Dan Grabke and Louie Azzolini visited the MVEIRB office at 1:30pm on Thursday, February 7, 2008 to meet with MVEIRB staff. MVEIRB was represented by Vern Christensen, Martin Haefele, Patrick Duxbury and legal counsel, John Donihee (by phone).

The Dezé Energy representatives wished to discuss some concerns regarding what they viewed as possible “slippage” in the process. Of particular concern are delays that seem to have occurred due to an extended waiting period to complete the scoping session phase. The Dezé representatives stressed that there are significant timeline concerns for their project, especially since the strength of their business case is based on the likelihood of selling electricity to the existing diamond mines. Any delays in the process, which could cost a winter road season, could result in significant losses to potential front end revenues for the project. The Dezé representatives stated that they were hoping to help the Review Board in anyway they could to keep the EA process move along in a timely manner.

The possibility of holding a scoping session in Lutselk’e, was discussed. MVEIRB staff noted that there would be no further delays incurred for the release of draft terms of reference and work plan even if MVEIRB was unable to arrange for a scoping session with the community. It was however noted, and hoped, that it might be possible to hold a scoping session in Lutselk’e during the comment period for the ToR; the comment period will be two to three weeks long.

The discussion then focused upon some possible modifications to the standard EA process, which the Dezé Energy representatives believe might help to make things more efficient and expedient. Louie discussed his interest in exploring how it might be possible for the Mackenzie Land and Water Board to run some of its regulatory process concurrently with the environmental assessment, such as has similarly occurred with the Mackenzie Gas Project review. It was noted that there hasn’t been much experience in doing this with EAs under the MVRMA, nor is there much in the way of guidance from the legislation. The possibility of joint hearings, at least on topics of interest to both the Review Board and the MVLWB, such as impacts to water, was also explored. MVEIRB staff suggested that the Dezé Energy Corporation representatives meet with the Chair and Executive Director of the MVLWB to discuss their ideas.

The focus of the meeting then turned to the concept of Dezé Energy Corporation sponsoring a weeklong technical session immediately after the DAR has been found in conformity. It was noted that MVEIRB staff could participate in such proceedings, but that agreements between parties would have to be mutually recognized in writing and then placed in the public registry in order for potential issues to be taken off the table by

the Board. Louie hoped that an early technical session would reduce the large quantity of paperwork that has been the experience of the MGP review and Snap Lake.

The possibility of releasing draft measures and draft Reports of Environmental Assessment was then discussed. Martin stated that it would be unlikely that the Review Board would release a draft REA before approval. However, it could be possible that the Review Board would ask for comments, via an IR process, from regulators on the acceptability and/or likely effectiveness of a possible measure. It was stated that this approach had been explored in the recently REA for Consolidated Goldwin Ventures.

MVEIRB staff recommended to the Dezé Energy representatives that their suggestion on the EA process be submitted in writing during the comment period for the ToR and work plan, in order that they be considered by the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:10.

Patrick Duxbury  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
MVEIRB