



Transport Canada    Transports Canada

Environmental Affairs – Programs  
P.O. Box 8550  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 344 Edmonton Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 0P6

Your File            Votre référence  
EA0809-003  
Our file              Notre référence  
20033-09-NT

February 20, 2009

Paul Mercredi  
Environmental Assessment Assistant  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
200 Scotia Centre  
Box 938, 5102-50th Ave  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Paul Mercredi:

**Re: Draft Terms of Reference and Draft Workplan - Tyhee NWT Corp. Yellowknife Gold Project (2008) - EA0809-003 – Transport Canada Review and Comments**

Transport Canada (TC) appreciates the opportunity to participate in the review of the Draft Terms of Reference and Draft Work Plan for the **Tyhee NWT Corp. Yellowknife Gold Project (2008) - EA0809-003 [2008]** as requested by you in your January 30, 2009 posting. TC is responsible for transportation policies and programs that promote a safe transportation system, ensuring that they work effectively and in an integrated manner.

Our review consisted of the following documents:

- *Draft Terms of Reference for EA Tyhee NWT Corp. Yellowknife Gold Project*
- *Draft Workplan for EA of Tyhee NWT Corp. Yellowknife Gold Project*

Transport Canada has conducted a cursory review of the project documents in accordance with our departmental mandate. Based upon this initial review, TC offers the following comments for your consideration:

Transport Canada would require a detailed description of all stream crossings of the winter and all-weather roads. The crossings should be identified on appropriate scaled drawings showing their location, type of proposed or existing crossing. An assessment should be provided of each crossing and the potential environmental impacts on navigational safety identified.

The proponent should include a complete description of all drainage control structures and any associated facilities to be constructed or upgraded.

The proponent should make application to the Navigable Waters Protection Office, Transport Canada to obtain regulatory approval for **all works** on, in, near, over, or under a water body under the Navigable Waters Protection Act.

The proponent should include a complete description of the existing or proposed airstrip and its associated facilities current and proposed use. The description should include the dimensions and drawings showing the airstrip facilities and their dimensions (runway, taxiway & apron). They should identify if the airstrip is equipped with lighting facilities for nighttime operations. Drainage flow patterns should also be shown on the drawings.

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Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Environmental Assessment (EA)

Section 6. A. Description of the Existing Environment and Baseline Conditions Assessment

- The proponent should provide the current recreational, commercial and traditional navigational use of affected water bodies. Potential impacts and impediments should be identified to determine and assess the potential impact to navigational safety.

Section 6. B. Development Description

- All works on, in, near, over or under, including any crossings of a water body should be identified and assessed for the potential impacts on navigational use and safety.

Section 6. K. Assessment of the Human Environment

- Identify all affected water bodies and their use for navigational purposes. This should include the current recreational, commercial and traditional navigational use of the water bodies. The associated impacts from the project works should be identified.

Draft work plan for the Environmental Impact Review (EIR)

Transport Canada has no comments on the Work plan.

Transport Canada would like to thank-you for the opportunity to comment on the subject Draft Terms of Reference and would hope that you would incorporate our comments and requirements. Should you have any questions on the information we've provided, please contact the undersigned. Should you have any questions pertaining to these comments, please contact Christopher Aguirre via email at [christopher.aguirre@tc.gc.ca](mailto:christopher.aguirre@tc.gc.ca) or by telephone at (204) 984-2615.

Regards,



Christopher Aguirre  
TC Environmental Officer

Cc : Doug Soloway - Superintendent Environmental Assessment Management Program (North)  
Sophia Garrick – TC Environmental Officer  
James Neary – TC Environmental Officer