

Tłįchǫ All-Season Road EA1617-01 Government of Northwest Territories

Executive Summary

Summary of NRCan's review

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) conducted a technical review to assess the completeness and technical merit of the information presented in the Government of Northwest Territories Tł_ichǫ All Season Road (TSAR) Project Description Report under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)*.

Explosives

The developer has indicated that the project will require magazines for the storage of explosives. The developer has also confirmed that a licence issued under the *Explosives Act* and regulations will be required and that explosives storage will be included in an Explosives Management Plan. If the project is approved, the developer or an explosives supplier will be expected to provide more details on explosives storage in a licence application during the regulatory phase.

Permafrost

NRCan reviewed the Project Description Report (PDR) and PDR Appendices to ensure impacts on permafrost from the TASR were considered and mitigation measures were presented for the project design to ensure the integrity of the road infrastructure and minimize environmental impacts. Potential environmental impacts associated with the TASR include expanded land areas disturbed by the project and impacts on the ground thermal regime. NRCan has provided six recommendations for the Developer to include in the detailed design.

The approach taken by the Developer with respect to the road design and impact assessment including the level of baseline data collection, terrain mapping and terrain sensitivity analysis appears to be reasonable for the preliminary design stage.