

November 28, 2017

Our File: EA1617-01

## Notice of Proceeding

## Thcho All-season Road, instructions for closing arguments

The public hearing for the Tł<sub>i</sub>chǫ All-season Road took place in Whatì on Oct 15-17, 2017. Parties are now required to provide their closing arguments to the Review Board by December 15, 2017. The developer will provide its closing arguments by January 19, 2018.

This is your **final opportunity** to tell the Review Board your views on impacts that you believe are important, and your recommendations on how to avoid, reduce or otherwise manage the impact. Closing arguments should describe **whether you think the Thcho All-season Road is likely to cause adverse impacts** that are important to you. These impacts may be to the social or economic well being of people, or the environment. You may also provide conclusions about other parties' impact predictions or arguments.

Closing arguments allow parties to:

- 1. update their positions and recommendations based on the discussions at the hearings;
- 2. summarize the parties' views of the impacts and recommendations.

When preparing your closing arguments, focus on what you believe are **important impacts** and on your **recommendations of how to avoid or reduce the impact(s)**. Please do not focus on impacts that, in your view, are likely insignificant, or likely to be sufficiently addressed during the regulatory phase.

When preparing your closing arguments, provide the following details to the extent possible:

- Identify the **subject** (such as adaptive management) **or valued component** (such as a wildlife species) that you believe is likely to be affected by the road, or that should be protected by mitigations to avoid or reduce adverse effects.
- Describe why the subject is important.
- Clearly describe the **specific mechanism** by which the road is likely to affect the valued component (for example, describing the impact pathway). Include a description of the spatial extent, duration, magnitude, frequency, reversibility, and likelihood of the effect.
- Where, in you view, there is insufficient evidence or uncertainty about a potentially important impact, please describe what information is lacking and why it matters.
- Describe **your recommendations** for how you believe the impact can be **reduced or avoided so that the residual effects are acceptable**.
- Your closing argument must be **based on the evidence** that is on the Review Board's public registry for this EA. Please **provide references** to any evidence you use.
- If your submission is more than three pages, please include a **one-page plain language summary**.

You may include **new** <u>arguments</u> about the existing evidence on the public record, but **you must not introduce new** <u>evidence</u>. If you did so this late in the EA process, other parties would not have the fair chance to respond.



Your arguments will be considered by the Review Board when making its determination about the significance of impacts of the project, and whether measures are required to mitigate significant impacts.

<u>Due dates</u> December 15, 2017 – closing submissions from parties January 19, 2018 – closing submission from GNWT January 19, 2018 – closure of the public record

The Review Board contact for this project is:

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