



April 30, 2018

Via Email:

Honourable Louis Sebert
Minister of Lands
Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2L9

Dear Minister Sebert:

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision, GNWT Tłıchǫ All Season Road Project, EA 1617-01, March 29, 2018 (the "Report")

We represent the Government of the Northwest Territories ("GNWT") in its role as proponent (hereafter, the "Proponent") of the Project. We are writing to you as the Minister with delegated authority to distribute decisions made under section 130 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (the "Act"), and on behalf of the other responsible ministers with jurisdiction pertaining to the proposed Tłıchǫ All Season Road Project (the "Project").

We have reviewed the above-referenced Report from the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Review Board") and commend the Review Board for its considered review and recommendation to proceed, subject to the imposition of the measures set out in the Report. While we are supportive of the intent of the recommended measures in the Report, we would like to note that we have concern with the timing implications associated with Measures 6-1, 6-2 and 6-3. These measures may restrict the opening of the road until such time as a temporary no hunting corridor, caribou range plans and habitat offset plans are in place; however, completion of these plans are outside of the control of the Proponent and the greater GNWT as these plans are part of a co-management system. We also note concern with the non-industry standard buffer of 2500 meters, rather than the more typical 500 meter buffer, in Measure 6-3 as it could result in costs greatly exceeding those that were estimated for the Project, and may therefore render the Project unaffordable. Outside of these timing and cost considerations, the Proponent is pleased with the Report and respectfully defers to the expertise of responsible ministers.

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We look forward to a positive decision on the Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision on the Tłı̨chǫ All Season Road project and look forward to continuing to work closely with communities, government and regulators during the permitting process.

Sincerely,

Michael Conway
Regional Superintendent
North Slave Region
Department of Infrastructure

C. Grand Chief George Mackenzie
Tłı̨chǫ Government

The Honourable Carolyn Bennett
Minister of Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs

The Honourable James Gordon Carr
Minister of Natural Resources Canada

Honourable Robert C. McLeod
Minister of Environment and Natural Resources

Mr. Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Executive Director
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board