



October 6, 2008

Office of the Premier
Government of the Northwest Territories
PO Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT
Canada X1A 2L9

Dear Premier Floyd Roland:

I just viewed the premiere of **TU BETA TS'ENA "Water is Life"**, a film production of the Akaitcho Territory Dene First Nation. This documentary confirms my concerns that there must be an immediate halt to new tar sands development and extensive study of the cumulative impacts of current oil and gas development prior to further exploitation.

We need to know the cumulative effects to assess the impact of this industrial development on the water, land, animals and people who live downstream from the tar sands in the Northwest Territories and northern Alberta. I am shocked to learn how little consultation there has been with people living downstream. Responsible development is a matter of justice. I urge you to protect the health, culture, environment and economy of the Northwest Territories by joining the growing call for a halt to new tar sands development and adequate study of the cumulative effects of development to date. Your constituents deserve no less.

I look forward to hearing what you are doing to protect this important ecosystem and the people who live here.

Sincerely,



Glen Abernethy
MLA, Great Slave

