

Karen Hamre
Alternatives North
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Dear Karen Hamre:

Thank you for your letter of December 6, 2023 regarding the Slave Geological Province Regional Study pursuant to Section 5.2 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA), addressed to both the Government of the Northwest Territories and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.

The Regional Study, as requested by the Tłı̨ch̨ Government, is intended to provide a clearer understanding of the impacts (both positive and negative) that different development scenarios could have on the region, including the potential economic, socio-cultural, and environmental impacts. The study has not yet begun; the Government of Canada is currently working with Indigenous and territorial governments on the governance structure of the study. Once this work is complete, a committee will be established to lead the study as per section 144.32 of the MVRMA.

As you noted, the key principles of the study include collaboration, transparency, and inclusivity as well as respecting the diversity of interests and knowledge that need to be considered. Once the study has commenced, a work plan will detail the opportunities for all interested parties to contribute to and participate in the study. We would encourage Alternatives North and, equally, other non-governmental organizations to bring their perspectives and experiences to the table; such contributions are valued, as they can only strengthen the study.

If you have additional questions about the regional study, please contact Rebecca Chouinard, Director of Resource Policy and Programs, at rebecca.chouinard@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Georgina Lloyd, Assistant Deputy Minister
Northern Affairs Organization
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

c.c.: Grand Chief Jackson Lafferty
Chief Ernest Betsina
Chief Fred Sangris
Chief James Marlowe
Robert Greenley
The Honourable Jay Macdonald