



Government of
Northwest Territories

Karen Hamre
Alternatives North
C/O BOX 444
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N3
karen@avens.ca

January 30, 2024

VIA EMAIL

Dear Karen Hamre:

The Government of the Northwest Territories' views on Public Participation in a Regional Study under Part 5.2 of MVRMA

Thank you for your letter of December 6, 2023, expressing Alternative North's concerns regarding public participation in the development and design of the Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (RSEA) of the Slave Geological Province (SGP) pursuant to Section 5.2 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)*. I am responding on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT).

Under the MVRMA, regional studies are a federal responsibility, and work on the RSEA in the SGP is being led by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC). CIRNAC is currently in the pre-study phase of the RSEA which involves engagement with the GNWT, the Government of Nunavut, and Indigenous governments and Indigenous organizations on the terms of reference and potential governance structure for the RSEA. The GNWT is participating actively in this engagement.

The GNWT continues to communicate to CIRNAC that the GNWT expects the RSEA to include opportunities for meaningful Indigenous and public participation, supported by federal participant funding. Similarly, any GNWT positions taken on the development, design, and conduct of the RSEA will be informed by the views of all parties and stakeholders, as well as the GNWT's legal obligations, mandate items and priorities.

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The GNWT looks forward to hearing the views and perspectives of the public as the study commences. If you have additional questions about GNWT participation in the RSEA, please contact Nathen Richea, Assistant Deputy Minister, Regulatory Assessment and Authorizations, Department, Department of Environment and Climate Change at (867) 767-9234 ext. 53110 or [Nathen Richea@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Nathen.Richea@gov.nt.ca) and/or Lorraine Seale, Director, Impact Assessment and Security Management, at (867) 767-9180 ext. 24020 or [Lorraine Seale@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Lorraine.Seale@gov.nt.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Macdonald", with some overlapping lines and a horizontal flourish.

Jay Macdonald
Minister
Environment and Climate Change

c: Distribution List

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