



October 4, 2024

Ms. Jaclyn Mersereau  
Environment and Regulatory Technical Lead  
Imperial Oil Resources N.W.T Ltd.  
505 Quarry Park Blvd SE  
Calgary Alberta  
T2C5N1

Via email: [jaclyn.mersereau@esso.ca](mailto:jaclyn.mersereau@esso.ca)

Dear Ms. Jaclyn Mersereau,

## **RE: Norman Wells Operations – Imperial Oil Resources (NWT) Ltd**

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The Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated has referred the Norman Wells Operations water licence renewal application (S24L1-005) and the application for Variance of Operations Authorization (1210-001) to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) for an environmental assessment, using their authority under subsection 126(2) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (the Act).<sup>1,2</sup> Their reasons for referral are described in the referenced letters.

The Review Board must conduct an environmental assessment of a proposal for a development that is referred to it by the Sahtu First Nation.<sup>3</sup>

The Review Board has determined that water licence renewal application S24L1-005 and Operations Authorization 1210-001 are part of the same development, as defined in section 111 of the Act.<sup>4</sup> Both referrals, therefore, will be considered in a single environmental

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<sup>1</sup> [Sept 30, 2024, SSI letter to SLWB, referral to EA](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Sept 30, 2024, SSI letter to CER, referral to EA](#)

<sup>3</sup> As required by subsection 126(2) of the Act.

<sup>4</sup> Subsection 111(1) of the Act defines a development to mean any undertaking, or any part or extension of an undertaking, that is carried out on land or water and includes an acquisition of lands pursuant to the Historic Sites and Monuments Act and measures carried out by a department or agency of government leading to the establishment of a park subject to the Canada National Parks Act or the establishment of a park under a territorial law.



assessment (EA2425-02). The public registry for this environmental assessment is available, at: [Norman Wells Operations - EA2425-02 | Review Board](#).

The Review Board will soon issue a Notice of Proceeding outlining the next steps in this environmental assessment process.

The Review Board will notify Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada about this referral and the need for environmental assessment participant funding through its *Northern Participant Funding Program*. Details on how to apply for funding will be posted to the public registry as soon as they are available.

If you have questions, please contact Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director (867-766-7055 or [mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca](mailto:mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca)).

On behalf of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joanne Deneron".

Joanne Deneron  
Chair

Copy:

Paul Dixon, Executive Director, Sahtu Land and Water Board

Ms. Valerie Gordon, Chair, SLWB

Ramona Sladic, Secretary of the Commission, Canada Energy Regulator

Charles McNeely, Chairperson, Sahtu Secretariat Inc.

Board members, Sahtu Secretariat Inc.

Erin Kelly, Deputy Minister, GNWT Department of Lands

Lisa Dyer, Director General, CanNor- Northern Project Management Office

Kim Pawley, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada