



June 19, 2024

Note to File

To all parties:

Re: Education and Outreach – Délı̄ne Got'ı̄ne Government

On the morning of June 11th, 2024, Alan Ehrlich, Manager of Environmental Impact Assessment, met in person with the Délı̄ne Got'ı̄ne Government (DGG) in Deline, NT, to present an introduction to the environmental assessment process, at the request of DGG.

The meeting was attended by DGG leadership, staff and consultants. It included:

- ʔek'wahtı̄dá (Chief),
- Délı̄ne K'aowədó Kə (Main Council),
- Délı̄ne ʔq̄hda K'áowə Kə (Elders Council)
- Dene Gha Gok'ə Réhkw'ı̄ (Beneficiaries Board)
- Délı̄ne Renewable Resources Council
- Biosphere Council

Discussion topics included:

- Introduction to the Review Board's origins, members and mandate
- environmental assessment process steps
- how to participate in an EA
- current Mackenzie Valley Highway EA workplan
- Q + A about EA generally

In the evening, Alan gave a summary of the Review Board's role and the EA process to several community members and DGG, and answered questions about the process.

For more information or questions about engagement, please contact Donna Schear, Community Engagement Specialist at 867-766-7059 (dschear@reviewboard.ca).

Attachments

- "Environmental Impact Assessment in the Mackenzie Valley- Overview Presentation"



Environmental Impact Assessment in the Mackenzie Valley

An Overview Presentation

Deline

June 11, 2024

Alan Ehrlich

Manger of Environmental Impact Assessment



Principles of NWT Resource Management

CO-MANAGEMENT




INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED



Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Boards

Preliminary Screening & Permitting/ Licensing Boards

-  Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
-  Gwich'in Land and Water Board
-  Sahtu Land and Water Board
-  Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board

Environmental Assessment & Impact Reviews

 Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Impact Review Panels



Screening and the EIA System

Three levels of EIA:

1. Screening
- 2. Environmental Assessment**
3. Review Panels



The Might test

- Decides if project **might** have
 - a significant adverse **impact** on the environment
 - be a cause of public **concern**
- If **no**, project gets permits
- If **yes**, Review Board does EA
- might ≠ likely



General factors

- Development **scale**
- Development **location**
- Nature of **activity**



Not the test



What is the Review Board?

Mackenzie Valley
Review Board



- a **co-management** tribunal
- **independent**
- **fair**
- made of **equal** numbers of members nominated by:
 - **Indigenous** land claim organizations
 - **federal/territorial** governments



Review Board members



TYPES OF PROJECTS

Environmental assesment looks at projects like roads, mines, hydro, and pipelines.



Environmental Assessment (EA) is:

- a process for making decisions about a project
- is the project likely to have a significant adverse impact on the land and the people?



Tłıchó highway



Ekati mine

Why do we do EIA?

- It is wise to **consider what *could* happen** before building major projects
- Better to **anticipate and avoid problems** than to react and cure
- Review Board must do EA when it receives referrals from preliminary screeners or others



Mackenzie Valley Review Board Impact Assessment Process

Requirements of the Land
Claims and the MVRMA



The EA recommends:

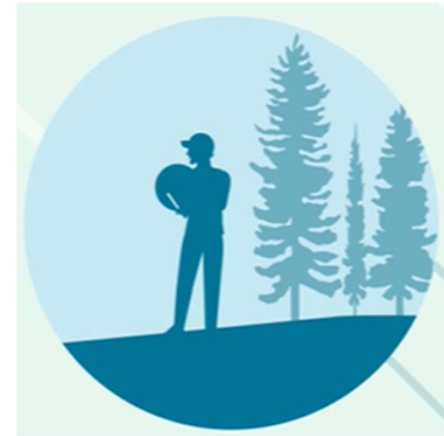
- **Approve** the project
- Approve the project **with measures to change and improve it**
- **Reject** the project
- Do EIR- Review **Panel**



Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

114 creates the Environmental Assessment process...

(c) to ensure that the
concerns of Aboriginal people
and the general **public**
are taken into account...



Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

115 (1) says the Review Board must consider...

(a) the **protection** of the **environment**
from the **significant** adverse **impacts**
of proposed **developments**;



Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

115 (1) says the Review Board must consider...

(b) the **protection** of the
social, cultural and **economic well-being**
of **residents and communities**
in the Mackenzie Valley



Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

115 (1) says the Review Board must consider...

(c) the **importance of conservation** to
the **well-being** and **way of life**
of the **Aboriginal peoples** of Canada...
who use an area of the Mackenzie Valley.



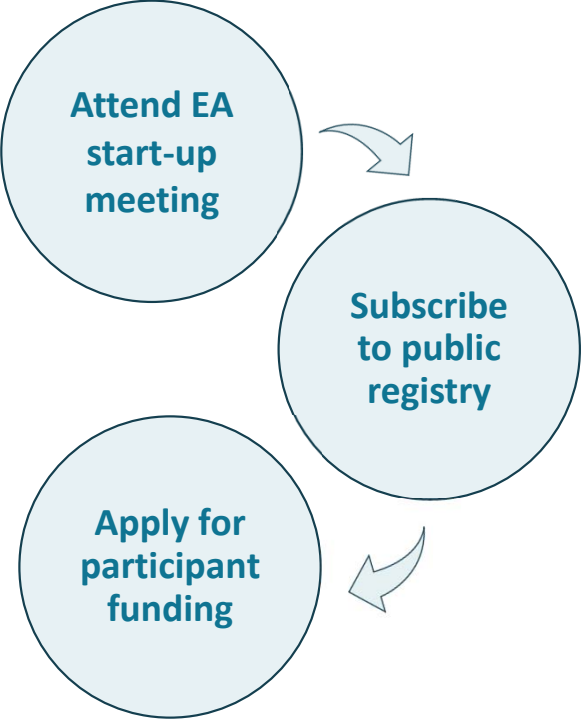
Legal Requirements

- The Review Board must:
 - consider **public concerns**
 - make decisions **based on the evidence**
 - be **fair, timely** and **transparent**





How you can participate



Scoping and Terms of Reference (ToR)



To identify and prioritize issues

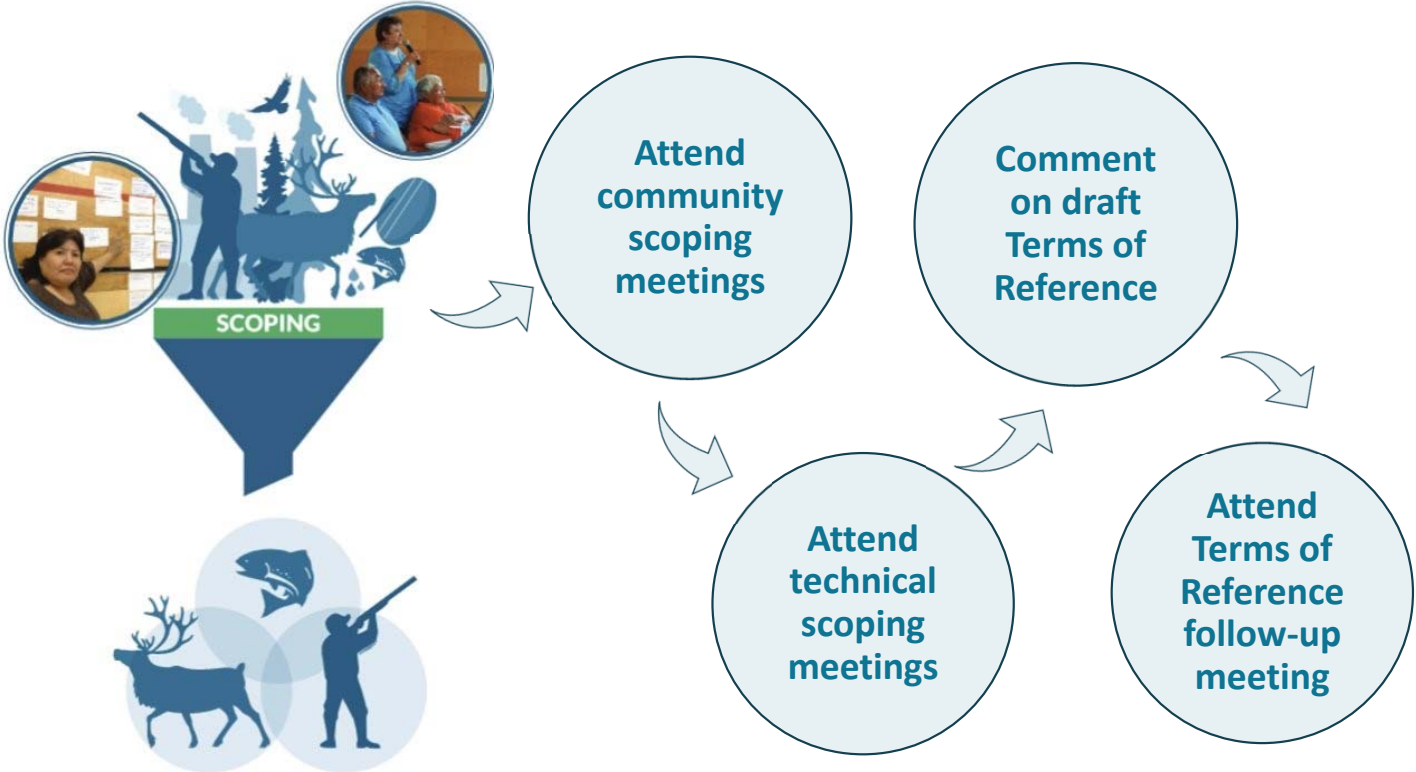
- Community scoping
- Technical scoping

- Issue Board's draft + final *Terms of Reference*
- Prioritized issues
 1. Key Lines of Inquiry
 2. Subjects of Note





How you can participate



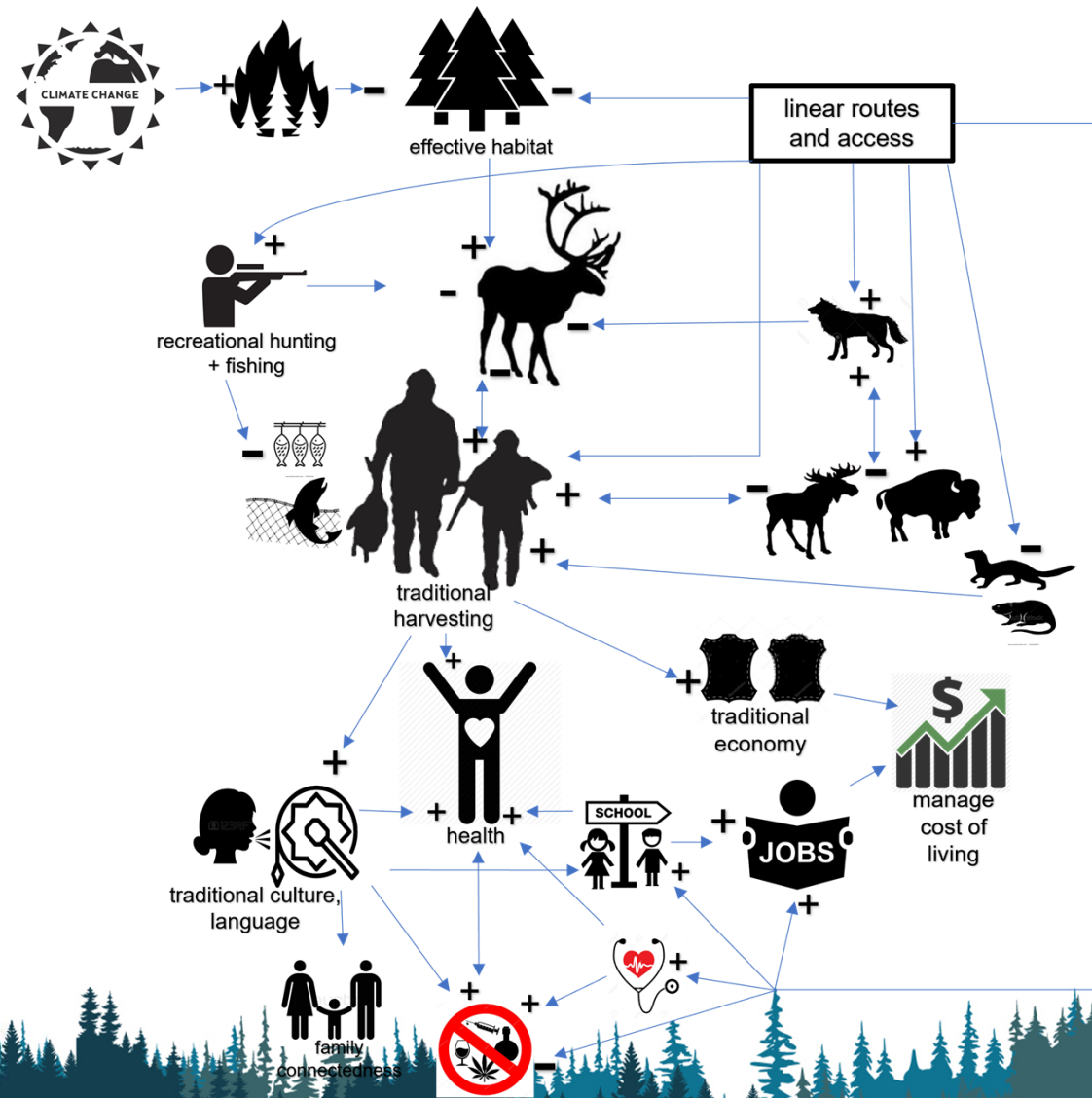
Developer's Assessment Report (DAR)

- Gives details on:
 - Project
 - Alternatives
 - Setting
 - **Predicted impacts**
 - Mitigations - to avoid impacts



Analysis

1. **Conformity check:** Is there all the information asked for?
2. **Analysis:** Is the information good enough? How can we mitigate impacts?
 - Information requests
 - Community sessions
 - Technical sessions



Community sessions and technical sessions



Technical analysis

- **parties provide their views** and evidence
- **focuses on unclear issues**
- uses in-house expertise and specialist advisors
- includes **Traditional Knowledge**
- considers public concern
- **parties reach their own conclusions** on impacts, significance, recommended measures



Start-up

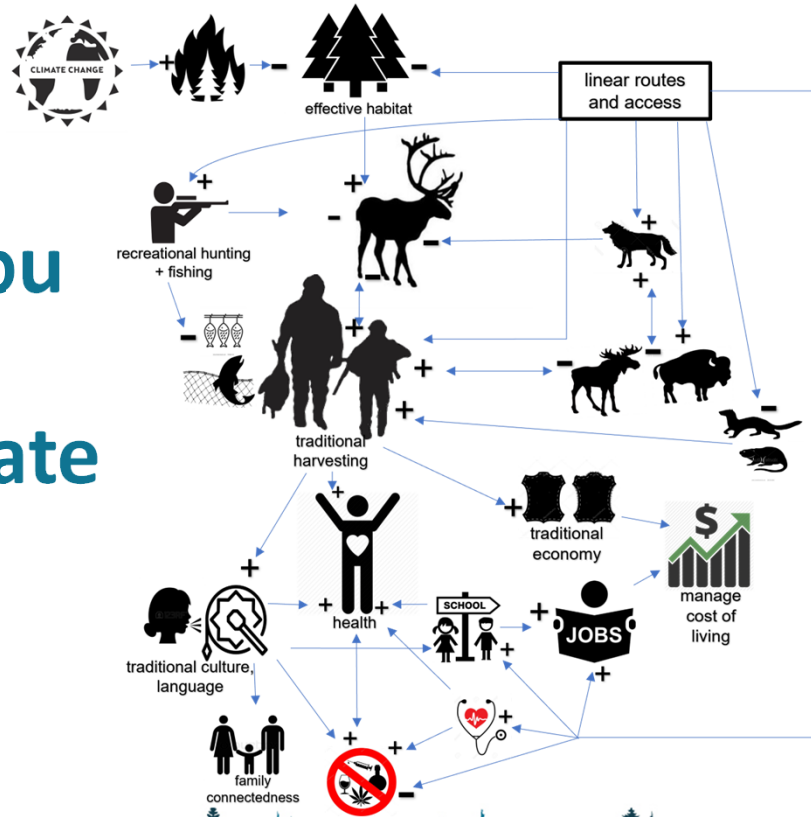
Scoping

Analysis

Hearing

Decision

How you can participate



Attend DAR presentation meeting

Submit information requests

Attend technical sessions

Attend community meetings

Hearings



Tell the Board what you think!





How you can participate



Board Decision + Report of EA

- Board determines **significance** of impacts
- Recommends to Minister:
 - **Approve** the project (usually **with measures**)
 - **Reject** the project
 - Do EIR- Highest level of assessment (Review **Panel**)





How you can participate



Attend Report of EA explanation meeting



Respond to Crown consultation



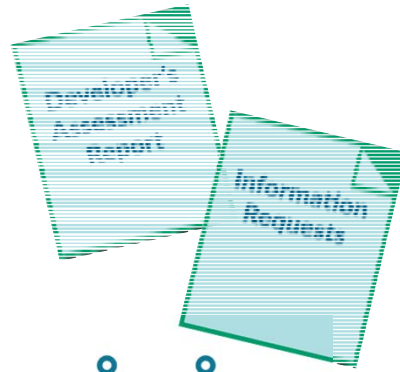
Many ways to take part in EA

Scoping Phase

Analysis Phase

Hearing Phase

Decision Phase



Mackenzie Valley Highway EA workplan



Public Review of DAR	GNWT Responds
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Review Board IRs	GNWT Responds
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Technical and Community Sessions

Second round of IRs

Developer DAR addendum

Party Information Requests	GNWT Responds
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Why do environmental assessment?

- communities get more say
- projects get better designed
 - Better design
 - Better mitigations
 - Better follow-up / monitoring
- unacceptable projects can be rejected



Participate in EA

Use our process to make your voice heard

Mársı | Kinanāskomitin | Thank you | Merci | Hąj' | Quana |
Qujannamiik | Quyanainni | Máhsi | Máhsi | Mahsi

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