

July 15, 2024

Seth Bohnet
Director, Strategic Infrastructure
Department of Infrastructure

Government of the Northwest Territories
P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Via email: seth_bohnet@gov.nt.ca

Dear Mr. Bohnet,

RE: Mackenzie Valley Highway, Review Board information requests

The Mackenzie Valley Review Board (Review Board) has carefully reviewed your answers to parties' and Review Board's comments and questions about the Developer's Assessment Report (DAR), and answers to the Review Board's overarching information requests (IRs).

The Review Board recognizes the effort that went into the developer's responses to the three overarching IRs the Review Board asked in March. The Review Board found some aspects of the responses useful, but some responses lacked important details. The Review Board wants to understand what the optimal schedule and future conditions mean for impact predictions, as well as how the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) can build on successes or learn from problems on similar highway projects. The Review Board has additional questions for the developer, many of which build on topics in the overarching IRs or questions parties asked in the review of the DAR.


The Review Board understands that the GNWT is taking a whole-of-government approach for the Mackenzie Valley Highway project. The GNWT also has key responsibilities and expertise within specific departments and has responsibilities under Section 22 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (the Act) to provide information to assist the Review Board in its assessment. The Review Board wants the views and analyses of expert departments in response to certain IRs that are within their field of expertise and responsibility. As such, the Review Board requires that each department with relevant expertise respond to the IRs as indicated, and that the developer clearly state: a) which information came from expert departments; and b) how that information was considered or applied in responding to the relevant IRs.

The Review Board requires the developer to fully respond to each IR. These IRs are intended to address relevant issues prior to public hearings. Thorough and thoughtful responses to IRs should lead to less complicated hearings with fewer issues. Please carefully consider the Review Board's detailed IRs on the [online review system](#).

Parties can submit their own IRs until August 14, 2024. The developer is asked to respond to all the IRs directed to it by [September 27, 2024](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Catherine Fairbairn at 867-766-7054 or cfairbairn@reviewboard.ca.

Respectfully,



Joanne Deneron
Chairperson

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