



Canadian Northern Economic
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de développement
économique du Nord

October 30, 2026

JoAnne Deneron
Chair
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Yellowknife, NT

Via: Email

Government of Canada's Consolidated Comments on the Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report for the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project (EA1213-02)

Dear Ms. Deneron,

On behalf of the Government of Canada, the Northern Projects Management Office (NPMO) submits the attached comments to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) regarding the Draft Report from the Technical Re-Scoping Session for the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project (the Project) ([EA1213-02](#)), held on October 1, 2026.

The Government of Canada appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments and looks forward to continued participation in the environmental assessment.

If you have any questions related to this correspondence, please contact Alain Gagnon, A/Senior Project Manager with NPMO, at alain.gagnon@cannor.gc.ca or 873-354-5864.

Sincerely,

Gagnon, Alain Digitally signed by Gagnon, Alain
Date: 2026.10.30 10:18:27 -06'00'

Alain Gagnon
A/Senior Project Manager
Northern Projects Management Office (NPMO)
Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor)



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Canada

Attachment: Government of Canada's consolidated comments on the Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report for the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project (EA1213-02)

CC. Distribution List:

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Indigenous Relations Unit, Ontario, Prairies and Northern Region, Transport Canada

Duwayne Williams, Regional Director General
Ontario, Prairies and Northern Region, Transport Canada

Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board



Table 1: Government of Canada's Consolidated Comments on the Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report for the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project (EA1213-02)

Note that suggested additions are in **Bold** and suggested deletions are in ~~striketrough~~.

Topic	Reference	Comment	Recommendation
Government of Canada (GC)			
GC-01 Government of Canada GC Attendance at Technical Re-Scoping Session	Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report, p.2	On page 2, the Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report states: "The GNWT, the Major Projects Office (MPO), and the Northern Project Management Office (NPMO) attended the technical re-scoping session." Appendix C (p. 73-75) identifies additional participants, including federal departments that attended virtually.	Revise the statement to read: "The GNWT, the Major Projects Office (MPO), and the Northern Project Management Office (NPMO) attended the technical re-scoping session in person ."
GC-02 Government of Canada Description of NPMO Roles and Responsibilities	Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report, p.3	<p>On page 3, the Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report states: "NPMO is responsible for federal participation in board-led EA processes and coordinates unified federal submissions. It was present to hear comments and concerns of with Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities, as part of meeting its legal consultation requirements under the <i>Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act</i>."</p> <p>NPMO is not responsible for federal participation in board-led EA processes and does not have legal consultation requirements under the <i>Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act</i> (MVRMA).</p>	Revise the statement to read: "NPMO is responsible for federal participation in board-led EA processes and coordinates unified federal submissions participation in board-led EA processes and supports unified federal submissions . It was present to hear comments and concerns of with Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities, as part of meeting its legal in support of the Crown's consultation requirements under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act ."

<p>GC-03</p> <p>Government of Canada</p> <p>Description of MPO's Role and Participation at the Re-Scoping Session</p>	<p>Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report, p.3</p>	<p>On page 3, the Draft Technical Re-Scoping Session Report states: "MPO is responsible for streamlining federal processes if the project were to be proposed as a project of national interest. Its purpose was to hear parties' comments to guide its decision on whether the Mackenzie Valley Highway should be listed as a project of national interest and answer related questions."</p> <p>The reference to MPO hearing parties' comments to guide its decision on project listing suggests that the re-scoping session formed part of the project listing consultation process, however, consultation on project listing had already occurred prior to the session. The Board's Notice of Proceeding also indicated that MPO would be available to answer questions.</p>	<p>Revise the statement to read: "MPO is responsible for streamlining federal processes. Should the project be listed under schedule 1 of the <i>Building Canada Act (BCA)</i>, the required federal authorizations that are set out in Schedule 2 of the BCA would be issued through a single Conditions Document if the project were to be proposed as a project of national interest. From June 24 to October 1, 2026, MPO conducted consultation with potential impacted Indigenous Governments and Organizations Its purpose was to hear parties' comments to guide its decision on whether the Mackenzie Valley Highway should be listed as a project of national interest. The MPO also attended the re-scoping sessions to listen to community feedback on the project generally and answer related questions on the listing process."</p>
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