



July 28, 2026

VIA EMAIL

Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Executive Director
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 SCOTIA CENTRE 5102-50th AVENUE
PO BOX 938
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Mr. Cliffe-Phillips:

EA1213-02: Update on the Mackenzie Valley Highway Environmental Assessment

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) is writing to provide an update on the Mackenzie Valley Highway (MVH) Environmental Assessment (EA1213-02).

In March 2026, the Government of Canada announced that the Mackenzie Valley Highway project would be referred to the Major Projects Office (MPO). Since that time, the GNWT has been working with Canada, the MPO, and other parties including the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) to identify opportunities to advance the project more efficiently. As part of these conversations, the GNWT has been exploring options to assess the full Mackenzie Valley Highway corridor, including the Norman Wells-to-Inuvik segment, within a single environmental assessment.

Over the last several months, the GNWT has engaged with Indigenous governments and organizations, communities, and other affected parties to better understand the opportunities and implications of this approach. Through these discussions, the GNWT heard interest in evaluating the full corridor as part of a single environmental assessment process and is now assessing the implications of this approach on the scope, assessment process, and the overall schedule of the environmental assessment.

Based on these discussions, the GNWT project team has developed a recommended path forward for the Environmental Assessment but needs direction from Cabinet to proceed. It is anticipated that this direction will come in mid-August.

Pending Cabinet direction, the Developer's Assessment Report will be updated to reflect the revised project scope. As a result, the GNWT will not be submitting the Developer's Assessment Report Addenda (DARA) at the end of July. The GNWT will provide the Review Board with revised deliverables and timelines once a decision has been made regarding the path forward.

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The GNWT remains committed to working collaboratively with Indigenous Governments and organizations, communities, other affected parties and the Review Board throughout this process and will continue to keep all parties informed as this work advances.

If you have any questions or required additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 767-9082 ext. 31035 or via email at Michael.Auge@gov.nt.ca. Alternatively, you can also contact Patricia Coyne, Manager of Mackenzie Valley Highway Environmental Affairs at (867)767-9082 ext. 31033 or via email at Patricia.Coyne@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,



Michael Auge
Director, Strategic Infrastructure
Infrastructure

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