



Catherine Fairbairn
Senior Environmental Assessment Advisor
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
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DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

March 07, 2025

Dear Ms. Fairbairn:

Response to answers and comments on IR-7 and IR-8 for the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project Environmental Assessment (EA1213-02)

On February 14, 2025, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) issued a Notice of Proceeding allowing the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) to respond to information request responses provided by Indigenous Governments and Indigenous organizations regarding the highway alignment.

The GNWT has reviewed the responses provided by the Pehdzéh Ki First Nation (PKFN) and the Tulita Working Group and thanks them for their input. The GNWT remains committed to working with Indigenous Governments and Indigenous organizations to address project concerns. The GNWT's collaboration with the Tulita Working Group regarding alignment concerns near Bear Rock and Big Smith Creek, as referenced in the response to MVEIRB-8, demonstrate GNWT's willingness to work together on these issues.

On February 28, 2025, the GNWT received a report from the PKFN titled *The Mackenzie Valley Alternate Highway Route Alignment A Study on Physical Viability*, prepared by Maskwa Engineering Ltd./Delta Engineering Ltd. The GNWT is currently considering this new information and will follow-up directly with PKFN to determine how it can be used to inform the current MVH project, and address concerns referenced by PKFN in their response to MVEIRB-7, moving forward.

Should you have any questions, or if you would like further information, please contact me at (867)767-9082 ext. 31035, or by email at Seth_Bohnet@gov.nt.ca. Alternatively, you can reach out to Patricia Coyne, Manager MVH Environmental Affairs at (867)767-9082 ext. 31033, or by email at Patricia_Coyne@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

Seth Bohnet
Director, Strategic Infrastructure
Infrastructure

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