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January 23, 2026

File: MV2025L8-0013

Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Mackenzie Valley Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
Box 938, 5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife NT X1A 2N7

Sent by email

Dear Mark Cliffe-Phillips,

Re: Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Infrastructure – Notice of Preliminary Screening Determination – Application for Water Licence – Miscellaneous – NWT Highway 6

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board) met on January 22, 2026, and considered the Application Package from the Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Infrastructure for Water Licence (Licence) MV2025L8-0013 for the Culvert Replacement on NWT Highway 6 (Project) in accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The Board conducted a preliminary screening based on the public record for the proceeding. Based on the evidence provided, the Board is satisfied the screening has been completed according to section 125 of the MVRMA and has decided **not to refer** the Project to environmental assessment. The Board's Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision, as required by section 121 of the MVRMA, is attached.

If the Board does not receive notice of referral to environmental assessment, it can proceed with issuance of Licence MV2025L8-0013 on **Tuesday, February 3, 2026**.

The Board and staff look forward to continued communications throughout the pause period. Please contact Kathy Racher via [email](#) or at (867) 766-7457 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

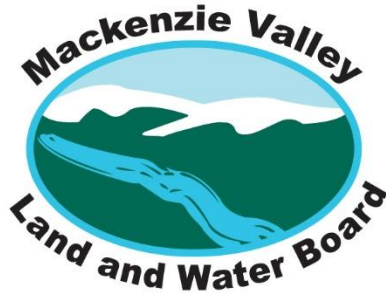
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tanya MacIntosh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Tanya MacIntosh
Chair, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

BCC'd to: Akaitcho Distribution List
Mahabub Rahman – GNWT-INF

Attached: Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision



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Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision

Water Licence Application	
File Number	MV2025L8-0013
Company	Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Infrastructure
Project	Culvert Replacement
Location	NWT Highway 6
Activity	Miscellaneous
Date of Decision	January 22, 2026

1.0 Decision

In accordance with subsection 124(1) of the [Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act](#) (MVRMA), the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB or Board) met on January 22, 2026, to make a preliminary screening determination on the Application from the Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Infrastructure (GNWT-INF) (Applicant) for Water Licence (Licence) MV2025L8-0013¹ for the Culvert Replacement of NWT Highway 6 (Project).²

The Board has decided not to refer the proposed Project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) for Environmental Assessment because, based on the evidence, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed Project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.

¹ See MVLWB Online Registry [GNWT-INF – Highway 6 Culvert – Application – Dec12 25](#).

² The Project is the Miscellaneous, which is the proposed development, where "development" is defined in Part 5 of the [MVRMA](#) as:

"any undertaking, or any part or extension of an undertaking, that is carried out on land or water and includes an acquisition of lands pursuant to the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* and measures carried out by a department or agency of government leading to the establishment of a park subject to the *Canada National Parks Act* or the establishment of a park under a territorial law."

The Board’s determination, including reasons for its decision, are detailed in sections [3.0](#) and [4.0](#).

2.0 List of Defined Terms and Acronyms

Applicant/Licensee	Government of the Northwest Territories-Department of Infrastructure
Application	The complete application package submitted by the Applicant for Water Licence MV2025L8-0013.
Distribution List	The list of individuals and organizations to whom materials from the regulatory proceeding were circulated. ³
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
Inspector	An Inspector designated under subsection 65(1) of the Waters Act
Intervener	As per the LWB Rules of Procedure , any person or organization that has submitted an intervention in the public hearing phase of the regulatory proceeding, as outlined in the Rules.
Licence	Water Licence MV2025L8-0013
LWBs	Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley
MVLWB or Board	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
MVRMA	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act
Minister	Minister of the Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Climate Change.
ORS	Online Review System (https://new.onlinereviewsystem.ca/reviews)
Party	As per the LWB Rules of Procedure , an applicant, a person, or an organization participating in this regulatory process.
Project	The undertaking as described in Part A of the Licence
Review Board	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Standard Licence Conditions	LWB Standard Water Licence Conditions Template

3.0 Background and Scope of Screening

On December 12, 2025, GNWT-INF submitted an application for a new Licence MV2025L8-0013 (the Application) for the replacement of a culvert located on NWT Highway 6 (Project).

In accordance with paragraph 125(1)(a) of the [MVRMA](#), the Board must conduct a preliminary screening of the proposed Project to determine and report to the Review Board whether, in its opinion, the proposed Project might have a significant adverse impact on the environment, or might be a cause of public concern. The details of the Board’s analysis are set out in section [4.0](#) below.

³ To access the Distribution List, see the LWBs’ Online Review System for [GNWT-INF –Highway – Culvert Replacement – Dec12 24 25](#).

3.1 Scope of Screening:

The proposed work includes the following:

- Stream isolation and flow by-pass;
- Precautionary fish and amphibian salvage;
- Excavation 60cm below pipe inverts, overlay with non-woven geotextile fabric and fill with gravel or crushed aggregate material;
- Soft of yielding material below 60cm will be stabilized or removed;
- Replacement of the existing primary culvert structure;
- Backfill and compaction to grade with crushed aggregate;
- Armoring of the culvert inlets and outlets with riprap, tied to the existing streambanks;
- Restoration of the road surface; and
- Seeding disturbed surface within the construction footprint with northern seed mix.

Construction is anticipated to take place from May to October of 2026, but may progress into 2028 depending on weather, fire, and the construction season.

3.2 Public Record and Regulatory Proceeding

To assist the Board in its preliminary screening determination for the Project, the Board distributed the Application and a draft Licence for public review on December 12, 2025, inviting reviewers to provide comments and recommendations on the Application and the preliminary screening (e.g., on impacts and mitigation measures) using the Online Review System (ORS). Comments were due January 6, 2026, with responses from the Applicant due January 8, 2026. The Board received comments and recommendations from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (attached).⁴

Since there were no requests to extend the reviewer comment deadline, the Board is satisfied that a reasonable period of notice was given to affected communities and First Nations, as required by subsection 63(2) of the [MVRMA](#).

Pursuant to Schedule 4.1 of [Northwest Territory Métis Nation \(NWTMN\) Interim Measures Agreement](#),⁵ the Board determined that written notice was given to the NWTMN and that a reasonable period of time was allowed for NWTMN to make representations with respect to the Application.

Pursuant to subsection 1.6, paragraphs (a) and (b) of the [Akaitcho Territory Dene First Nations \(ATDFN\) Interim Measures Agreement](#),⁶ the Board determined that written notice was given to the ATDFN and that

⁴ See MVLWB Online Registry for [GNWT-INF – Highway 6 Culvert – Application - Review Comment Table – Jan23 26](#).

⁵ See MVLWB Land Claims, IMAs, and Land Use Plans webpage to access the [Northwest Territory Métis Nation Interim Measures Agreement](#).

⁶ See MVLWB Land Claims, IMAs, and Land Use Plans webpage to access the [Akaitcho Territory Dene First Nations Interim Measures Agreement](#).

a reasonable period of time was allowed for ATDFN to make representations with respect to the Application.

The Board is also satisfied that notice of the Application was provided to the Ghotelnene K'odtjneh Dene (formerly Manitoba Denesuline) and that a reasonable period of time was provided for the Ghotelnene K'odtjneh Dene to make representations to the Board in accordance with section 63 of the [MVRMA](#).

The Board is also satisfied that notice of the Application was provided to the Saskatchewan Denesuline and that a reasonable period of time was provided for the Saskatchewan Denesuline to make representations to the Board in accordance with section 63 of the [MVRMA](#).

4.0 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigations

All Parties have had an opportunity to provide recommendations to the Board regarding draft conditions. In finalizing the conditions, the Board will consider these recommendations and all of the evidence provided through the regulatory proceeding.

Table 1 below summarizes:

- the potential impacts of the proposed Project;
- the concerns that were identified during the regulatory proceeding and how the Applicant addressed those concerns;
- the proposed and potential mitigations for the potential impacts; and
- the Board's analysis of the potential impacts and proposed mitigations.

Table 1: Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigations for the Proposed Project

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
Land – Soil contamination, soil compaction, destabilization/erosion, change in soil structure inability to support vegetation, other	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat, cut and fill, On-site storage or disposal of wastes (domestic garbage, sewage, waste petroleum products, drilling waste and hydraulic flowback fluids, hazardous wastes, etc.), Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals, Use of motorized and heavy equipment,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures (e.g., silt fence) will be installed to mitigate the release of sediment into soil structure. ○ Placement of riprap will improve the long-term stability of the road embankment. ○ Work will be scheduled to avoid wet/rainy periods where feasible. ○ Overburden will be stockpiled >30 m from watercourses and surrounded by ESC measures ○ Complete work in the dry (e.g., by isolating the watercourse, dam and pump, or completing work when watercourse is frozen to bottom or dry) ○ A Spill Contingency Plan has been developed and supports this application. Please review Spill Contingency Plan for more information. ○ Equipment will arrive on-site clean and free of dirt or debris ○ Equipment will use pre-established points of access (where feasible) to minimize compaction to soil. • The Board has standard licence conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include:⁷ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precaution to Protect Environment ○ Objective – Construction ○ Engineered Structures – General 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board’s opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.

⁷ See the MVLWB Policies and Resources webpage to access the LWB [Standard Water Licence Conditions Template](#).

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Construction Material – Source(s) ○ Objective – Waste and Water Management ○ Erosion Control ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan ○ Waste Management Plan ○ Disposal Location – Ordinary High-Water Mark ○ Objective – Prevent Waste into Water ○ Spill Contingency Plan ○ Spill Prevention and Response Equipment ○ Clean Up Spills ○ Material Storage – Ordinary High-Water Mark 	
Land – Water – Groundwater, Water table alteration, infiltration changes, changes in water quality, Temperature changes, other	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat, transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures (e.g., silt fence) will be installed to mitigate the release of sediment into ground water banks. ○ A Spill Contingency Plan has been developed and supports this application. Please review Spill Contingency Plan for more information. • The Board has standard licence conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precaution to Protect Environment ○ Objective – Construction ○ Engineered Structures – General ○ Construction Material – Source(s) ○ Objective – Waste and Water Management ○ Erosion Control ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board’s opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waste Management Plan ○ Disposal Location – Ordinary High-Water Mark ○ Objective – Prevent Waste into Water ○ Spill Contingency Plan ○ Spill Prevention and Response Equipment ○ Clean Up Spills ○ Material Storage – Ordinary High-Water Mark 	
Water - Permafrost	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat, stripping of overburden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clearing of vegetation or stripping of overburden is not anticipated to impact permafrost. ○ Stripping of overburden is not anticipated to impact permafrost. 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.
Water – Surface Water, Water flow or level changes, drainage pattern changes, temperature changes, changes in water quality, wetland impairment, changes to aquatic habitat, other	Retaining, storage or diverting of water, watercourse alteration (ditch construction, changeling, training, installation of culvert), clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat near a watercourse, stripping of overburden adjacent to a watercourse, evacuation or stockpiling of earth or gravel adjacent to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Diversion of water will be temporary, and continuous downstream flow will be maintained. ○ Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures (e.g., silt fence) will be installed to mitigate the release of sediment into soil structure. ○ Placement of riprap will improve the long-term stability of the road embankment. ○ Overburden will be stockpiled >30 m from watercourses and surrounded by ESC measures. ○ Complete work in the dry (e.g., by isolating the watercourse, dam and pump, or completing work when watercourse is frozen to bottom or dry). ○ A Spill Contingency Plan has been developed and supports this application. Please review Spill Contingency Plan for more information. ○ Equipment will arrive on-site clean and free of dirt or debris. 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
	an watercourse, use of motorized or heavy equipment adjacent to, within, or through a water course. Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals near a water course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Equipment will use pre-established points of access (where feasible) to minimize compaction to soil. ● The Board has standard licence conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precaution to Protect Environment ○ Objective – Construction ○ Engineered Structures – General ○ Construction Material – Source(s) ○ Objective – Waste and Water Management ○ Erosion Control ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan ○ Waste Management Plan ○ Disposal Location – Ordinary High-Water Mark ○ Objective – Prevent Waste into Water ○ Spill Contingency Plan ○ Spill Prevention and Response Equipment ○ Clean Up Spills ○ Material Storage – Ordinary High-Water Mark 	
Air – changes in air quality, harm to living things, increased greenhouse gases, other	Mobilization and operation of equipment for construction and operational activities, increased traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Idling will be minimized to the extent feasible ○ Equipment will be maintained and in good working conditions. ○ The number of vehicles and trips to/from site will be minimized to the extent feasible, 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board’s opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.
Vegetation – direct loss of vegetation, loss	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat, stripping of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Equipment will arrive on-site clean and free of dirt or debris 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board’s opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
of Species at Risk or may be at risk plans, changes in species composition, introduction of non native species, increased risk of fire, compaction of vegetation, other	overburden, construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance, and operation of lines, trails or right-of-ways, Reclamation activities (leveling, contouring, placement of fines, or woody debris, re-vegetation, fertilization), use of motorized and heavy equipment, burning of fossil fuels, increased road traffic, transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals	<p>that could carry seeds for non-native species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-quality seeds, collected from local genetic sources will be planted after construction. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local saplings will be planted where available. ○ A Spill Contingency Plan has been developed and supports this application. Please review Spill Contingency Plan for more information. • The Board has standard licence conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precaution to Protect Environment ○ Objective – Construction ○ Engineered Structures – General ○ Construction Material – Source(s) ○ Objective – Waste and Water Management ○ Erosion Control ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan ○ Waste Management Plan ○ Disposal Location – Ordinary High-Water Mark ○ Objective – Prevent Waste into Water ○ Spill Contingency Plan ○ Spill Prevention and Response Equipment ○ Clean Up Spills ○ Material Storage – Ordinary High-Water Mark 	impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.
Terrestrial Wildlife Habitat, Direct loss or removal	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat, stripping of overburden,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ When clearing of vegetation will occur during the breeding bird window, pre-construction nest sweeps will occur prior to 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board’s opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources,

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
<p>of habitat, dens, or nests, Loss or removal of keystone species and/or SAR habitat. Fragmentation of wildlife corridor. Direct injury or mortality. Disturbances to key lifecycle stages: breeding, feeding, nesting, staging. Effects on population abundance. Change in species diversity. Effects on wildlife health (toxins, metals, etc.). Changes to migratory movement</p>	<p>increased risk to wildlife, increased human presence, noise (use of heavy equipment blasting, crushing or drilling), transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals, onsite storage or disposal of wastes (domestic garbage, sewage, waste petroleum products, drilling waste and hydraulic flowback fluids, hazardous wastes etc.), Onsite disposal of domestic wastes (burning, burying), other</p>	<p>vegetation removal. If nests are found, species specific buffer zones will be established, and work will not occur within the buffer zone until the young have fledged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Soil stripping is not anticipated to impact wildlife habitat. ○ Equipment will be maintained and in good working conditions. ○ The number of vehicles and trips to/from site will be minimized to the extent feasible, ○ Human presence will be limited to Project construction site ○ Noise impacts will be limited to Project construction. Noise as a result of construction activities on site is not anticipated to significantly impact wildlife habitat. ○ Personnel will not feed or harass wildlife. ○ In the event of a spill, clean-up will be executed as outlined in the Spill Contingency Plan. ○ Any structure will be placed in areas with the minimum disturbance for the wildlife ○ Any structure on site will be moved on the back of truck after the project is delivered. ○ Any garbage will be collected and packed properly and will be moved on the back of truck after the project is delivered. ○ A Waste Management Plan has been prepared to support this application. Additional information on the removal of waste can be found in the Waste Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Board has standard licence conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precaution to Protect Environment ○ Objective – Construction ○ Engineered Structures – General 	<p>and will not be a cause of public concern.</p>

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
<p>patterns. Changes to predator-prey relationships. Human-wildlife conflicts. Other.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Construction Material – Source(s) ○ Objective – Waste and Water Management ○ Erosion Control ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan ○ Waste Management Plan ○ Disposal Location – Ordinary High-Water Mark ○ Objective – Prevent Waste into Water ○ Spill Contingency Plan ○ Spill Prevention and Response Equipment ○ Clean Up Spills ○ Material Storage – Ordinary High-Water Mark 	
<p>Aquatic Habitat – breeding disturbances, change in species diversity, effects on health (toxins, metals, sediment, etc.), changes to migratory movement patterns, changes to predator-prey relationships, effects on populations</p>	<p>Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat near a watercourse, stripping of overburden adjacent to a watercourse, use of motorized or heavy equipment adjacent to, within, or through a watercourse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Erosion and sediment control measures (e.g., silt fence) will be installed to mitigate the release of sediment into the waterbodies. ○ Equipment will not enter the wetted area of a waterbody, • The Board has standard licence conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precaution to Protect Environment ○ Objective – Construction ○ Construction Material – Source(s) ○ Erosion Control ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan 	<p>Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board’s opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.</p>

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
abundance, change in species diversity, other			
Cultural Components, loss or reduction in game species populations, effects on traditional land use, subsistence, and harvesting rights, other	Noise (use of heavy equipment, blasting, crushing, drilling), increased traffic risk to wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Noise impacts will be limited to Project construction. Noise as a result of the activities on site is not expected to significantly impact any applicable wildlife harvesting. ○ The number of vehicles and trips to from site will be minimized to the extent feasible. 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.
Cultural Integrity and Heritage Resources, change to or loss of cultural integrity, change to or loss of traditional lifestyle, change to or loss of heritage resources,	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat, noise (use of heavy equipment, blasting, crushing, drilling), construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance and operation of lines, trails, or right-of-ways, increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Noise impacts will be limited to Project construction. Noise as a result of the activities on site is not expected to significantly impact any applicable wildlife harvesting. ○ Prior to any actions, any possible heritage resources will be identified and preserved. ○ Human presence will be limited to Project construction. Human presence associated with this Project is not anticipated to significantly impact cultural integrity or add to loss of traditional lifestyle. 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
other	human presence		
Social and economic well-being, increased human health hazard and risk, economic opportunities or losses (employment, training), changes in ecological, cultural, social or economic values identified for protection in approved Land Use Plans, impairment of the recreational or traditional uses of the land or water, impairment of aesthetic quality of the land or water,	Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals, On-site storage or disposal of wastes (domestic garbage, sewage, waste petroleum products, drilling waste and hydraulic flowback fluids, hazardous wastes, etc.), Construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance and operation of lines, trails, or rights-of-way Construction of structures (buildings, water, or waste management facilities, etc.), Increased human access and presence, Operating in a remote location inaccessible or not easily accessible by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant proposed the following mitigations in the Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Spill Contingency Plan has been developed and supports this application. Please review the Spill Contingency Plan for more information. ○ All disposal of wastes (construction of waste) will be moved out of the sites on the back of pickup trucks. ○ The area will be inspected after construction to remove any garbage and waste. ○ A Waste Management Plan has been prepared to support this application. Additional information on the removal of waste can be found in the Waste Management Plan. ○ Increased human presence will be limited to Project construction. ○ Health and safety contingencies will be covered under the Health and Safety Plan which will be the responsibility of the Contractor to produce and implement. • The Board has standard licence conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Precaution to Protect Environment ○ Objective – Construction ○ Engineered Structures – General ○ Construction Material – Source(s) ○ Objective – Waste and Water Management ○ Erosion Control ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan ○ Waste Management Plan ○ Disposal Location – Ordinary High-Water Mark 	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board’s opinion that the proposed activities are not likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water, or renewable resources, and will not be a cause of public concern.

Potential Impact	Activity	Proposed Mitigations <i>Description of measures to reduce potential impacts, including consideration of cumulative impacts and climate change.</i>	Board Analysis and Determination
changes to the use of the area by other non-indigenous people (trappers, outfitters, residents, hunters, forest harvesters, other authorized projects), other	emergency aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Objective – Prevent Waste into Water ○ Spill Contingency Plan ○ Spill Prevention and Response Equipment ○ Clean Up Spills ○ Material Storage – Ordinary High-Water Mark 	

4.1 Consideration of Potential Impacts

Based on the potential impacts and proposed mitigations identified above in Table 1, the Board considered whether the Project might have a significant adverse impact on the environment. In general, impacts of the Project on the environment can be mitigated through the use of standard licence conditions and/or project-specific conditions established by the Board as per the LWB [Standard Process for Creating New Conditions](#). These conditions may include requirements for management and monitoring plans that provide detailed information regarding the implementation of mitigation measures and the evaluation of their effectiveness.

A draft Licence was circulated for review during the regulatory proceeding, and all Parties were given the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations on the draft conditions. In finalizing the conditions, the Board will consider all of the evidence provided through the regulatory proceeding.

4.2 Consideration of Public Concern

In addition to considering the potential impacts of the Project, the Board considered whether the Project might be a cause of public concern.

Based on the evidence provided during the regulatory proceeding, the Board did not identify any comments or issues that indicate that the Project is a cause of public concern.

5.0 Conclusion

The Board has reviewed all the evidence received during the regulatory process with respect to the Preliminary Screening of the proposed Project. Based on the evidence, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed Project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern, as set out in paragraph 125(1)(a) of the [MVRMA](#). The Board has therefore decided not to refer the proposed Project to Environmental Assessment

If the Board does not receive a notice of referral to environmental assessment by February 2, 2026, the Board can issue the Licence on Tuesday February 3, 2026.

SIGNATURE



Tanya MacIntosh, Chair
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

January 23, 2026

Date