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September 6, 2026

File: MV2025Q0005

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: Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd. – Notice of Preliminary Screening Determination – Application for Land Use Permit – Quarry – Howards Pass Access Road, NT

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board) met on September 3, 2026, and considered the Application Package from Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd. for Land Use Permit (Permit) MV2025Q0005 for the Howard's Pass Access Road Repair and Quarry Project (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 Permit MV2025Q0005 on **Thursday, September 17, 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.

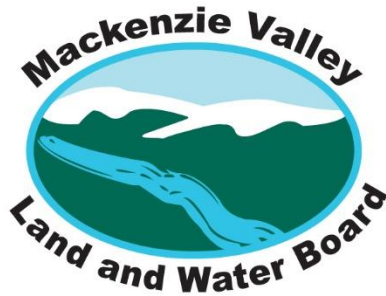
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tanya MacIntosh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tanya" and last name "MacIntosh" clearly legible.

Tanya MacIntosh
Chair, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

BCC'd to: Tulita ORS Distribution List
Gabe Xue – Principle Geologist/VP, Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd.
Sukie Sidhu – Environmental Scientist, Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd.

Attached: Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision



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Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision

Land Use Permit Application	
File Number	MV2025Q0005
Company	Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd.
Project	Howard's Pass Access Road Quarries
Location	Howard's Pass Access Road – Sahtú Settlement Area and Yukon
Activity	Quarrying
Date of Decision	September 3, 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 September 3, 2026, to make a preliminary screening determination on the Application from Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd. (Selwyn) (Applicant) for Land Use Permit MV2025Q0005 (Permit)¹ for the Howard's Pass Access Road Quarries Project (Project).

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.

The Board's determinations, including reasons for its decisions, are detailed in sections [3.0](#) and [4.0](#).

¹See MVLWB Online Registry www.mvlwb.com for [Selwyn – Updated Application Form – February 28, 2025](#).

2.0 List of Defined Terms and Acronyms

Applicant	Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd. (Selwyn)
Application	The complete application package submitted by the Applicant for Land Use Permit MV2025Q0005.
CRP	Closure and Reclamation Plan
GNWT-ECC	Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Climate Change
HPAR	Howard’s Pass Access Road
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 (www.new.onlinereviewssystem.ca)
Party	As per the LWB Rules of Procedure , an applicant, a person, or an organization participating in the regulatory proceeding for the Application.
Permit	Land Use Permit
Project	Howards Pass Access Road Quarries Project, which is the proposed development (as defined in Part 5 of the MVRMA). ²
Review Board	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Standard Permit Conditions	LWB Standard Land Use Permit Conditions Template

3.0 Background and Scope of Screening

On February 12, 2025, Selwyn submitted an application for a new Permit S25Q-004, and on April 17, 2025, the Board met and determined that Permit S25Q-004 was Transboundary. At that time, the Board also invoked section 22(2)(b) of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations to receive additional information from the Applicant. As a result of the Transboundary determination, Permit S25Q-004 was closed, and the authorization was refiled under Permit MV2025Q0005. On February 27, 2025, the Board received an updated application, and on July 20, 2026, the Board received additional information (the Application). The Application was deemed complete on July 23, 2026.

The Application is to develop and operate two quarries and use the material for repairs and maintenance on the Howard’s Pass Access Road (HPAR) and maintenance and repair activities on the approaches to the Placer and Steel Creek Bridges. The HPAR is approximately 79 km long and located in the Mackenzie Mountains, near the Yukon-Northwest Territories border. Selwyn is currently conducting an advanced exploration program on a large zinc-lead deposit located at Howard’s Pass, in the Yukon. The two quarries are the Steel Creek site at km 63.5 and the Steel Creek North site at km 64 on the HPAR. The Steel Creek site is proposed to have an area of 9.55 hectares and an estimated volume of 15,000 m³ and the Steel Creek North site an area of 2.46 hectares and estimated volume of 5,000 m³.

² “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.”

Prior to submission, Selwyn engaged with potentially affected parties to ensure there were no objections to the proposed scale and nature of project activities. The identified parties in the Engagement Plan are the following:

- Tulita Land Corporation
- Tulita Renewal Resource Council

According to the Applicant's engagement records, engagement occurred between November 13, 2024, and March 17, 2026, using a variety of methods for engagement such as in-person meetings; conference calls; emails; print communication materials (fact sheets, maps, presentations, etc.).

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.

3.1 Scope of Screening:

The Application is to develop and operate two quarries and use the material for road repairs, maintenance and upgrades, and bridge repairs on the Howard's Pass Access Road (HPAR). The two quarries are the Steel Creek site at km 63.5 and the Steel Creek North site at km 64 on the HPAR (the Shale Slide quarry is not part of the application). The Steel Creek site will have an area of 9.55 hectares and an estimated volume of 15,000 m³ and the Steel Creek North site will have an area of 2.46 hectares and estimated volume of 5,000 m³.

The quarry material will be used to repair the HPAR, which includes lifting and surfacing the road. It will also be used to repair the approaches to the Placer and Steel Creek Bridge. The Placer and Steel Creek Bridges are located between km 60 and 70 of the HPAR.

The HPAR in the Northwest Territories is used to access the Selwyn Project in the Yukon and may have cumulative effects to be considered.

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 Permit for public review on July 23, 2026, inviting reviewers to provide comments and recommendations on the Applications and the preliminary screening (e.g., on impacts and mitigation measures) using the Online Review System (ORS). Comments were due August 13, 2026, with responses from the Applicant due August 20, 2026. The Board received comments and recommendations from the Sahtu Renewable Resource Board (SRRB), North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA), Government of the Northwest Territories – Education, Culture and Employment – Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre (GNWT-ECE-PWNHC), and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) (attached).³

³ See MVLWB Online Review System for [Howards Pass Access Road – Land Use Permit – July 23_26](#).

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](#).

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

4.0 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigations

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
Soil contamination	Use of equipment, fuel spills, waste disposal	• The Applicant proposed the following mitigations: ○ The approved Spill Contingency Plan will be adhered to. ○ Spill kits and equipment will be in place and readily available. ○ Personnel will be trained in proper spill procedures. ○ Fuel will be stored in secondary containment. ○ Fuel caches and fueling stations will be inspected regularly. ○ The approved Waste Management Plan will be adhered to, and proper waste management practices will be abided by. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impact. These Standard Permit Conditions include: ○ WASTE CHEMICAL DISPOSAL ○ WASTE PETROLEUM DISPOSAL ○ WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN ○ REPAIR LEAKS ○ FUEL CONTAINMENT ○ MAXIMUM FUEL ON SITE ○ SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN ○ SPILL RESPONSE ○ DRIP TRAYS ○ CLEAN UP SPILLS ○ REPORT SPILLS	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
Soil compaction	Use of heavy equipment	• The Applicant proposed the following mitigations: ○ Using staggered tracks to distribute machine weight evenly to minimize ground disturbance and soil compaction. ○ Disturbed areas will be allowed to revegetate naturally. ○ No sumps will be used (so sump driven moisture changes will not alter soil strength and compaction states of soil). ○ Erosion and sediment control measures will be in place to reduce/divert surface runoff. ○ Designated access control restricting heavy machinery and vehicle traffic. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impact. These standard permit conditions include: ○ PARALLEL ROADS ○ USE APPROVED EQUIPMENT ○ PROGRESSIVE EROSION CONTROL ○ PREVENTION OF RUTTING ○ SUSPEND OVERLAND TRAVEL ○ VEHICLE MOVEMENT FREEZE-UP ○ MINIMIZE AREA CLEARED ○ FINAL CLEANUP AND RESTORATION ○ PROGRESSIVE RECLAMATION ○ TRAILS RESTORATION	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
Destabilization/erosion	Use of equipment	• The Applicant proposed the following mitigations: ○ Control water from precipitation events (water direction). ○ Seeding the area after reclamation to help prevent erosion events. ○ If required, sediment control measures such as silt fencing. ○ Removal of sediment control measures upon vegetation regrowth. ○ The application of measures from a project specific Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impact. These standard permit conditions include: ○ PROGRESSIVE EROSION CONTROL ○ REPAIR EROSION ○ NATURAL VEGETATION	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern. It is also noted that the Project CRP includes natural vegetation / revegetation strategies that serve as natural water retention measures, slowing runoff and controlling erosion.
Loss or change in permafrost extent	Use of equipment, Project activities	• The Applicant noted that permafrost degradation is not anticipated, but in case permafrost is encountered, proposed measures to reduce impacts will be based on the following best management practices: ○ Limiting quarry depth to the active layer. ○ Minimizing in-pit water by directing surface water away from the site. ○ Thawing (if encountered) of ice-rich materials at a location where the resulting melt water will not re-enter the quarry. ○ Minimizing disturbance and replacing the vegetative mat where possible. ○ Having the area reclaimed and seeded prior to the permit's conclusion.	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
		○ Field-indicator methodology as a standard pre-disturbance screening approach: prior to disturbance in each area, relying on vegetation cues; slope aspect and terrain; surface expression; soil/moisture conditions; - where if these indicators are observed, Selwyn will treat the area as a likely permafrost zone, document it, and avoid it. ○ An approved Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and Quarry Development Plan will be adhered to. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impact. These standard permit conditions include: ○ PROGRESSIVE EROSION CONTROL ○ REPAIR EROSION ○ PREVENTION OF RUTTING ○ SUSPEND OVERLAND TRAVEL ○ VEHICLE MOVEMENT FREEZE-UP	
Surface Water – water flow or level changes (permanent, temporary, seasonal)	Project activities	• The Applicant has noted the potential impact of an increase of water flow into areas that are not present. Proposed measures to reduce such impacts would be the following: ○ Surface water diverted away from the development area with the use of berms, constructed swales and other site design considerations. ○ Minimizing water in the pit by means of swale construction and pit floor grading to naturally direct water out of the quarry. • The Applicant's CRP also refers to seeding for revegetation which can serve to slow down runoff, increased infiltration, and act as erosion control, contrary to bare ground.	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
		- The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impact. These standard permit conditions include: - NATURAL VEGETATION	
Drainage pattern changes	Project activities	- The Applicant noted the potential impact of ground saturation and stability. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: - Controlling the precipitation waters with adequate ditching or a swale to help prevent changes in drainage patterns. - The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impact. These standard conditions include: - NATURAL DRAINAGE - PROGRESSIVE EROSION CONTROL - REPAIR EROSION	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Surface Water - Changes in water quality	Sedimentation, spills from refueling equipment, storage of hydrocarbons	- The Applicant noted they are committed to adhering to an approved Spill Contingency Plan; they have also referenced mitigating suspended solids entering the watercourse from rain events by diverting runoff to organics to prevent erosion. - The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: - QUARRY SETBACK - PARALLEL WATERCOURSE SETBACK - EQUIPMENT: WATERCOURSE SETBACK - EXCAVATION SETBACK - PROGRESSIVE EROSION CONTROL	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern. It is also noted that the Project CRP includes natural vegetation / revegetation strategies that serve as natural water retention measures, slowing runoff, controlling erosion, and subsequently, protecting water 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
		○ REPAIR EROSION ○ FUEL STORAGE SETBACK ○ WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN ○ REPAIR LEAKS ○ FUEL CONTAINMENT ○ MAXIMUM FUEL ON SITE ○ SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN ○ SPILL RESPONSE ○ NATURAL VEGETATION	
Air quality	Vehicle emissions, dust	• The Applicant noted potential impacts to air quality. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ Ensuring that all vehicles and equipment are in good condition, leak-free, and not left to idle when unnecessary. ○ Dust will be managed by the application of water as necessary.	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Increased greenhouse gases	Vehicle emissions	• The Applicant noted potential impacts to air quality. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ Ensuring that all vehicles and equipment are in good condition, leak-free, and not left to idle when unnecessary.	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Change in species composition and the introduction of non-native species	Land disturbance, reclamation activities, use of equipment	• The Applicant noted potential impacts to species composition and/or the introduction of invasive species. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ Reclaiming the area with an approved native seed mix. ○ Prior to equipment entering the area, examining for invasive species; any equipment with invasive species will be immediately removed and documented.	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
		• During the public review the SRRB sought clarity on how activities will be managed to mitigate impacts to rare plants. The Applicant responded with the following mitigation measures: ○ A rare plant survey will be conducted prior to quarry operations to confirm sites are free of rare plants, consistent with Selwyn's vegetation survey methodology. These surveys will be conducted seasonally and scoped to the small, specific portion of the quarry proposed for disturbance that season, rather than as a single upfront survey of the entire permitted footprint, reflecting Selwyn's intention to open each quarry in small sections as needed rather than clearing the full area at once. ○ Where a rare plant occurrence is identified, Selwyn commits to the following specific mitigation measures: ▪ Avoidance buffer: A minimum 30 m no-disturbance buffer will be established and flagged around any confirmed rare plant occurrence. ▪ Extraction sequencing: Where practicable, quarry extraction sequencing will be adjusted to avoid the flagged occurrence and surrounding buffer entirely, working around it within the same operating season rather than delaying the season's borrow volume needs. ▪ Equipment and access restriction: No equipment, stockpiling, or vehicle traffic will be permitted within the flagged buffer area. ▪ Marking and crew notification: The occurrence will be marked with flagging tape and a GPS waypoint, and field crews will be briefed on its location prior to work resuming in that area. ▪ Reporting: Confirmed occurrences and the mitigation measures applied will be reported to the Board and relevant Sahtú co-management bodies as part of routine seasonal reporting.	

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
		Where avoidance is not feasible due to the occurrence's location within the only viable extraction area, Selwyn will consult its qualified environmental professional on additional measures (e.g., salvage/transplant feasibility) prior to proceeding and will document the rationale for the approach taken.	
Effects on plant health (dust, metals, toxins)	Project activities	- The Applicant noted potential impacts to plant health. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: - If conditions become dusty, wet down the borrow source may be necessary to mitigate dust. - The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: - SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Compaction of vegetation	Land disturbance	- The Applicant noted potential impacts to revegetation and erosion. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: - Minimize the area of disturbance and complete seeding within a year of completion of operation. - Take care to ensure root stock is intact when stockpiling material. - The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: - MINIMIZE AREA CLEARED - CLEARING SENSITIVE AREA - FINAL CLEANUP AND RESTORATION - NATURAL VEGETATION - PROGRESSIVE RESTORATION	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
Direct loss or removal of habitat, dens, or nests	Land disturbance	• The Applicant noted potential wildlife disruption due to noise and activity, with direct loss of habitat and dens. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ Follow guidelines, processes and procedures outlined in the No Hunting, Feeding, or Harassment policy. ○ Proper food handling and ensuring garbage is removed and burned daily. ○ Maintaining aircraft away from bird concentrations. ○ Notification to SRRB of large game within 500 m ○ Temporary suspension of operation when caribou are in the immediate vicinity. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: ○ HABITAT DAMAGE ○ MIGRATORY BIRD NEST DISTURBANCE	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Direct injury or mortality	Use of equipment	• The Applicant noted potential wildlife injury or mortality. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ While driving a vehicle, if wildlife is visible within 500 m of the road: ▪ Speed will be reduced to minimize disturbance to the wildlife. ▪ The horn will not be honked to attempt to move wildlife. ▪ Staff will wait for wildlife to move off or navigate cautiously around them and carry on. ▪ On radio-controlled roads, the location of the sighting will be noted, and nearby vehicles will be alerted of wildlife hazards	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
		- The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: - MIGRATORY BIRD NEST DISTURBANCE	
Disturbances to key lifecycle stages: breeding, feeding, nesting, staging	Land disturbance	- The Applicant noted potential impacts to breeding birds. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: - The environment department will conduct nesting checks before accessing and clearing borrow sources during nesting season. Cordon off appropriate buffer zone if/where nests found according to ECCC criteria. - The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: - MIGRATORY BIRD NEST DISTURBANCE	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Human-wildlife conflicts	Use of equipment, land disturbance	- The Applicant noted potential impacts to Human-wildlife conflicts. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: - All employees are trained in Bear awareness training and given the necessary deterrents (bear spray and bangers). - Employees are also trained to pay attention to the surroundings and not to harass wildlife. - All food is to remain in the vehicle, and garbage is to be disposed of properly in receptacles. - The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: - GARBAGE CONTAINER - HABITAT DAMAGE	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
		○ WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN ○ MINIMIZE AREA CLEARED ○ FINAL CLEANUP AND RESTORATION ○ NATURAL VEGETATION ○ PROGRESSIVE RECLAMATION ○ MIGRATORY BIRD NEST DISTURBANCE	
Other - Human/Machine - Wildlife Disruption	Use of equipment	• The Applicant noted other potential wildlife disruption due to exploration noise and activity, particularly South Nahanni Caribou and Grizzly Bear. Disturbance is seasonal while work is occurring. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ Stop work when animals are in the area and do not complete work(s) in known sensitive habitats. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: ○ HABITAT DAMAGE	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Effects on health (toxins, metals, sediment, etc.)	Land disturbance	• The Applicant noted potential impacts on health of aquatic and terrestrial environments and human impacts. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ No work will be completed within 30 m of the ordinary high-water mark. ○ If there is a potential for mobilization of sedimentation the following will occur: ▪ Relocate to another area. ▪ If relocation is not possible, install silt fencing and other sediment mitigations. ▪ If there is still potential for sedimentation even after step 2, stop work in the area and proceed to identify alternatives.	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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
		• The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: ○ QUARRY SETBACK ○ PARALLEL WATERCOURSE SETBACK ○ NATURAL DRAINAGE ○ PROGRESSIVE EROSION CONTROL ○ REPAIR EROSION ○ PREVENTION OF RUTTING ○ SUSPEND OVERLAND TRAVEL ○ STREAM BANKS ○ MINIMIZE APPROACH ○ EQUIPMENT: WATERCOURSE BUFFER ○ EXCAVATION SETBACK ○ HABITAT DAMAGE ○ FUEL STORAGE SETBACK ○ FUEL CONTAINMENT	
Increased human health hazard and risk	Project activities	• The Applicant noted a potential increased human health hazard. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ These risks will be managed through the diligent application of Safe Work practices. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: ○ USE APPROVED EQUIPMENT ○ CLEAN WORK AREA ○ GARBAGE CONTAINER	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or 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 (e.g., trappers, outfitters, residents, hunters, forest harvesters, other authorized projects)	Land disturbance	• The Applicant noted potential effects on Indigenous lifestyle Employment and business contract benefits. Proposed measures to reduce these impacts were listed as: ○ Increased income is not expected to cause significant adverse social effects. ○ Selwyn will work with the Land Corporations to build the employment and business registry, help with training strategies, and maintain regular communication to help community members realize the benefits and help manage any adverse human resources or social effects. • The Board has standard permit conditions that are typically used to mitigate the identified potential impacts. These standard conditions include: ○ ENGAGEMENT PLAN	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.
Cumulative Effects	Direct or indirect activities associated with using the HPAR as an access road to mineral exploration projects in the Yukon.	The HPAR in the Northwest Territories is used to access the Selwyn Project in the Yukon and may have cumulative effects to be considered.	Based on the described mitigations, it is the Board's opinion that the proposed activities will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment or be a cause of public concern.

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 permit 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 Permit 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 as well as any cumulative effects from associated transboundary components. 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 September 14, 2026, the Board can issue the Permit on September 15, 2026.

SIGNATURE



Tanya MacIntosh, Chair
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

September 6, 2026

Date