



July 29, 2022

Mr. Mark Cliffe-Phillips  
Executive Director  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Via email: [mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca](mailto:mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca)

Dear Mr. Mark Cliffe-Phillips:

**Notice of Preliminary Screening Decision for Pesticide Application Permit – Westcan Bulk Transport Ltd.**

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The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) has completed the preliminary screening of the referenced application (Development) in accordance with its responsibilities under subsection 124(1) and subsection 125(1) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

ENR has determined that the proposed Development will not be a cause of public concern and will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, ENR has decided not to refer the proposed Development to environmental assessment. ENR's reasons for decision, as required by section 121 of the MVRMA, are attached for your reference.

Unless the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, or another party with the authority to do so, refers the proposed Development to an environmental assessment, ENR will proceed with the next stages of issuing the Pesticide Application Permit to Westcan Bulk Transport Ltd. after the ten-day pause period has expired.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [harvey\\_gaukel@gov.nt.ca](mailto:harvey_gaukel@gov.nt.ca) or (867) 767-9236 Ext. 53184.

Sincerely,

Harvey Gaukel  
Manager, Environmental Protection  
Environment and Natural Resources

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Attachment

c. Bruno Croft, Regional Superintendent, North Slave Region  
Environment and Natural Resources

Laurie McGregor, A/Manager, Environmental Impact Assessment  
Environment and Natural Resources

Jeff Nichiporik, Vegetation Field Coordinator and Red Seal Instrumentation  
Intricate Vegetation

## PRELIMINARY SCREENING REPORT FORM

<b>PRELIMINARY SCREENER:</b> Government of the Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources Environmental Protection Section	<b>PROPOSER NAME:</b> RTL/Westcan Bulk Transport Ltd.  <b>PROJECT NAME:</b> Pesticide Application Permit
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### **PART 1:**

**Type of Development:**  
(check all that apply)

- New Development
- Amendment
- Renewal
- Authorization required
- Does not require an authorization

### **Project Summary**

On behalf of RTL/Westcan Bulk Transport Ltd., Intricate Vegetation will conduct industrial vegetation control by mechanical and herbicide means. For the mechanical work, they will be using bush saws and weed trimmers. For herbicide application, they will be using a 200-gallon herbicide sprayer skid to be mounted on the back of a truck with a 200-foot hose reel with spray gun. They will undertake this work throughout Westcan operated tank facility at 116 Eagle Drive in Yellowknife, NT. All work will be performed by trained and certified contractors.

### **Scope**

Perform vegetation control using herbicides and hand operated equipment to remove all undesirable and noxious vegetation from the tank facility. Vegetation within the facility poses a risk to workers and facilities and must be removed. All vegetation control measures using herbicides will be in accordance with the *Pesticide Act* and Pesticide Regulations.

### **Type of ENR Authorization**

(check the authorization that applies)

- Forest Management Agreements
- Timber Cutting Permit (>5000m<sup>3</sup> burned wood or > 1100 m<sup>3</sup> of other timber)
- Timber Cutting Licence
- Mill Licence
- Burning Permits (area > 25m<sup>3</sup>)
- Pesticide Application Permit
- Harvest of Wildlife for a Commercial Purpose
- Wildlife Business Licence

- Commercial Wildlife Licence
- Game Farm Licence
- Wildlife Management Permit
- General Wildlife Permit
- Licence to Capture Wildlife
- Licence to Capture Gyrfalcons for Commercial Purposes
- Licence to Import Live Wildlife
- Licence to Export Live Wildlife
- Licence to a Reindeer Owner for Grazing Allotment within a Reserve

- Protected Area Land Withdrawal
- Territorial Park

- Non-Application
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal Activities**

(check all that apply)

- |   |   |                                       |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction         | <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration                | <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decommissioning      | <input type="checkbox"/> Installation               | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintenance     | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expansion            | <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operation | <input type="checkbox"/> Camp                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repair               | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific/ Research       | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Intake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Linear / Corridor    | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarry       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____         | Maintenance of Westcan Tank Facility in Yellowknife |                                       |

**Principal Development Components:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment/removal                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Disposal of hazardous waste                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access Road                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Disposal of sewage                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Automobile, Aircraft or Vessel Movement | <input type="checkbox"/> Ditch Construction                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blasting                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Alteration                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Borehole core sampling                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Drilling other than Geoscientific             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Ecological Surveys                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulk soil sampling                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Excavation                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gravel                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Explosive Storage                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hydrological testing                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel Storage                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site restoration                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Geoscientific sampling                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fertilization                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Modification e.g., widening, straightening    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> grubbing                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> planting/seeding                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Slashing and removal of vegetation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reforestation                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Testing                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> scarify                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Stream Crossing/Bridging                      |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> spraying                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste management            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> recontouring   | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste generation            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burning  | <input type="checkbox"/> Topsoil, Overburden or Soil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burying  | <input type="checkbox"/> disposal                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Channeling   | <input type="checkbox"/> fill                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction   | <input type="checkbox"/> removal                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and Fill   | <input type="checkbox"/> storage                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cutting of Trees or Removal of Vegetation | <input type="checkbox"/> Trenching                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction   | <input type="checkbox"/> Tunneling/Underground       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment/Removal                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe):           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification   |  |

**PART 2:**

**NTS Topographic Map Sheet Numbers** (*List all that apply*)

Westcan - 085J08

**NTS Map Sheet #s:**

**Latitude / Longitude and UTM System:**

62°26'9.96"N 114°28'7.532"W

**Nearest Community and Water Body:**

Located within Yellowknife City limits, on Eagle Drive.

Grace Lake is less than 5km away, and several smaller unnamed bodies of water are within 5km.

**Land Status**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Free Hold / Private | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Crown Land |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioners Land             | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Land     |

**Transboundary Implications**

- |   |   |                                       |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> British Columbia           | <input type="checkbox"/> Alberta                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Saskatchewan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manitoba                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Nunavut                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Yukon        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Buffalo National Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Inuvialuit Settlement Region |                                       |

**Type of Transboundary Implication:**

- |  |                                      |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impact / Effect | <input type="checkbox"/> Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Concern: |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_



IMPACT	MITIGATION	CONDITION
<b>3. Noise</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> noise in/near water		
<input type="checkbox"/> other: noise increase		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities. Cutting and spraying noise will be short-term and localized to tank facility and immediate area in Industrial Park.	

IMPACT	MITIGATION	CONDITION
<b>4. Land</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> geologic structure changes		
<input type="checkbox"/> soil contamination		
<input type="checkbox"/> buffer zone loss		
<input type="checkbox"/> soil compaction & settling		
<input type="checkbox"/> destabilization/erosion		
<input type="checkbox"/> permafrost regime alteration		
<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities.	

IMPACT	MITIGATION	CONDITION
<b>5. Non-Renewable Resources</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> resource depletion		
<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities.	

IMPACT	MITIGATION	CONDITION
<b>6. Air/Climate/Atmosphere</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> other		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities.	

## BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

### IMPACT

### MITIGATION

### CONDITION

#### 7. Vegetation

- species composition
- species introduction
- toxic/heavy accumulation
- other:

Chemical and mechanical control of undesirable and noxious vegetation is limited to the Westcan tank facility. Risk of run-off and spray drift is mitigated by using proper spray techniques, low-risk herbicides, establishing and working within buffer zones in accordance with legislation, and only spraying in suitable weather conditions.

N/A

### IMPACT

### MITIGATION

### CONDITION

#### 8. Wildlife & Fish

- effects on rare, threatened or endangered species
- fish population changes
- waterfowl population changes
- breeding disturbance
- population reduction
- species diversity change
- health changes

- behavioural changes
- habitat changes / effects
- game species effects
- toxins / heavy metals
- forestry changes
- agricultural changes
- other:
- N/A

No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities.

## INTERACTING ENVIRONMENT

### IMPACT

### MITIGATION

### CONDITION

#### 9. Habitat & Communities

- predator-prey
- wildlife habitat/ecosystem
- composition changes
- keystone/endangered species
- wildlife corridor/buffer zone
- other:
- N/A

No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities.

**IMPACT**

**MITIGATION**

**CONDITION**

**10. Social and Economic**

planning / zoning changes or conflicts

increase in urban facilities or services use

rental house

airport operations / capacity changes

human health hazard

impair the recreational use of water or aesthetic quality

affect water use for other purposes

affect other land use operations

quality of life changes

public concern

other:

N/A

No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities. The permit holder will be required to post signs warning workers and the public that pesticide spraying is taking place in the area. Public access will also be restricted during and after the spraying.

**IMPACT**

**MITIGATION**

**CONDITION**

**11. Cultural and Heritage**

affects to historic property

increased economic pressure on historic properties

change to or loss of historic resources

change to or loss of archaeological resources

increased pressure on archaeological sites

change to or loss of aesthetically important site

affects to aboriginal lifestyle

other:

N/A

No impacts are expected based on the proposed development or associated activities.

**PART 4:**

**PRELIMINARY SCREENER / Distribution List**

Grand Chief Jackson Lafferty	Tłı̨chǫ Government
Chief Louis Balsillie and Council	Denínu Kúé First Nation
Chief Fred Sangris and Council	Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Ndilǫ)
Chief Edward Sangris and Council	Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Dettah)
Chief Darryl Marlowe and Council	Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Vice-President Marc Whitford	North Slave Métis Alliance
Shelagh Montgomery Executive Director	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
Mark Cliffe-Phillips Executive Director	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Sheila Bassi-Kellett Senior Administrative Officer	City of Yellowknife
Erin Goose Environmental Regulatory Analyst	Environment and Natural Resources
John Ritchie Assistant Fire Marshal	Municipal and Community Affairs

**Part 5:**

**PRELIMINARY SCREENING COMMENTS**

Table 1. Preliminary Screening comments for the proposed Pesticide Application Permit

Organization	Impact/Concern	Mitigation
No concerns expressed to ENR.		

**REASONS FOR DECISION**

(LIST REASONS AND SUPPORTING RATIONALE FOR PRELIMINARY SCREENING DECISION)

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**DECISION:**

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) is satisfied that the preliminary screening of application for a Pesticide Application Permit by Westcan Bulk Transport for industrial vegetation control at their Tank Facility in the North Slave region has been completed in accordance with Section 125 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

ENR is satisfied that a reasonable period of notice (21 days) was given to the City of Yellowknife and Indigenous Governments affected by the application as required by Subsection 63(2) of the *MVRMA* so that they could provide comments to ENR.

Having reviewed all relevant information in the application, including the submissions of the Applicant and the absence of any written comments, ENR has decided that in its opinion that:

- there is no likelihood that the proposed development might have a significant adverse impact on the environment; and
- there is no likelihood that the proposed development might be a cause of public concern.

ENR is also of the opinion that the application can proceed through the regulatory process and that any impacts of the development on the environment can be mitigated through the imposition of the terms and conditions in the Pesticide Application Permit.

As a result, ENR, having due regard to the facts and circumstances, the merits of the submissions made to it, and to the purpose, scope and intent of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations has decided that this Pesticide Application Permit be issued subject to the terms and conditions contained therein.


?	PRELIMINARY SCREENING DECISION
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Outside Local Government Boundaries</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have a significant adverse impact on the environment, <i>refer it to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board).</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have public concern, <i>refer it to the Review Board.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Wholly within Local Government Boundaries</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water or renewable resources, <i>refer it to the Review Board.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have public concern, <i>refer it to the Review Board.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>

**Preliminary Screening Organization**

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Signatures**

  
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