



AUG 01 2018

MV2007L8-0031

Dear Members of the Giant Mine Remediation Project Working Group:

The GNWT's role in the Giant Mine Remediation Project (GMRP) regulatory process

A water license/land use permit application for full remediation of the Site will be submitted to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board in January 2019. The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board formal regulatory process will be carried out during 2019 with license issuance anticipated for mid-2020.

In response to request by GMRP stakeholders regarding GNWT role in the regulatory process, and current involvement during the water license package preparation, the following clarification is provided.

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) relationship as a co-proponent with the Government of Canada on the Giant Mine Remediation Project (GMRP) was established with the signing of the 2005 Cooperation Agreement. The GNWT will not participate as an official intervenor in the MVLWB regulatory process.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), as the lead GNWT Department on the Project, has been working both internally and with other departments to obtain expertise and guidance on various aspects of the Project. The Project continues to seek input and guidance from ENR divisions on specific aspects of the water license application and associated draft documents, including but not limited to Effluent Quality Criteria (EQC), the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program (AEMP), and the Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan.

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To ensure transparency, any discussions involving expert divisions will generate a record of discussion, which will be shared publically with the GMRP working group members and provided to the MVLWB registry. In addition, the respective ENR experts have committed to providing written review comments on these various plans, which will also be shared. Departmental review and input will take place during the drafting stage of documents, prior to their submittal to the MVLWB in January 2019. ENR will not participate in the 'pre-engagement stage' technical sessions being planned by the GMRP.

I hope this provides clarity in ENR's role in the Giant Mine Remediation Project regulatory process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rt Jenkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Robert Jenkins
Assistant Deputy Minister
Corporate and Strategic Planning
Environment and Natural Resources