



Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
 7th Floor - 4922 48th Street
 P.O. Box 2130
 YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P6
 Phone (867) 669-0506
 FAX (867) 873-6610

Staff Report

Applicant: Geological Survey of Canada	
Location: South Rae Area (southeastern Northwest Territories)	Application: MV2015X0006
Date Prepared: June 9, 2015	Meeting Date: June 18, 2015
Subject: New Land Use Permit Application	

1. Purpose/Report Summary

The purpose of this Report is to present to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board):

- a) The preliminary screening for determination;
- b) A new Land Use Permit (Permit) Application submitted by the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) for determination;
- c) The Spill Contingency Plan for determination;
- d) The Waste Management Plan for determination; and
- e) The Engagement Plan for determination.

2. Background

- April 22, 2015 – Application submitted;
- May 1, 2015 – Application deemed incomplete;
- May 8, 2015 – Additional information submitted;
- May 11, 2015 – Application deemed complete;
- May 29, 2015 – Reviewer comments due;
- June 5, 2015 – GSC responses due;
- June 18, 2015 – Application presented to the Board for decision; and
- June 22, 2015 – 42-day deadline.

3. Discussion

The aim of this proposed project is to fill in gaps in geoscience understanding where geological data does not currently exist. This research project operation will involve two concurrent activities, to occur during the 2015, 2016 and 2017 field seasons, and is summarized as follows:

- The first is collecting fist-sized rock samples and making observations that are selected on the basis of visual elements that can help tell how the rocks were formed and what happened to them. The research will be conducted by walking and collecting samples in the areas of interest from set-out locations.
- The second activity involves collecting glacial sediment samples at various sites. In this process, shovels and 5 gallon pails will be used. The sediments (dirt) will be collected from shallow, hand dug pits less than 1 meter deep with the organic layer being placed back on top of the site once the sample has been collected.

There will be approximately 17 people onsite at various times ranging from 16 to 42 days. The project will run from a temporary field camp situated on a beach on a peninsula in Wignes Lake in 2015, in the vicinity of Firedrake Lake in 2016 and Boyd Lake in 2017.

Water will be withdrawn from the nearby lake once or twice daily. Over the course of the field season, it is estimated that the total amount of water withdrawn will be between 13.5 m³ and 20.2 m³.

Transportation to and from site will be via fixed winged aircraft. Onsite, helicopters will be used to transport personal to the various areas of interest.

4. Comments

The activity described triggers a Type A LUP in accordance with paragraph 4(b) of the *Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations*:

- (ii) the use of a campsite outside a territorial park for a duration of or exceeding 400 person-days.

A Water Licence is not required for this operation.

5. Reviewer Comments

By May 29, 2015, comments and recommendations on the Application were received from four reviewers:

- Environment Canada;
- GNWT-ENR;
- GNWT-Lands; and
- GNWT-Regional Superintendent

The reviewer comment summary table (attached) presents the concerns identified through the review of the Application. The draft Permit (attached) contains recommended conditions based on the standard Permit conditions list and reflects reviewer concerns and Board Staff recommendations.

6. Security

In accordance with section 94 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA), the federal government is not required to post security pursuant to section 71 of the MVRMA.

7. Conclusion

The draft Permit conditions are based upon the Working Group 4 list of standard conditions, reviewer comments, and Board staff recommendations.

Board staff concludes that the conditions contained within this draft should mitigate the potential environmental impacts this development may have on the land and water.

8. Recommendation

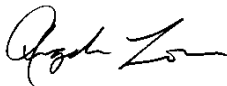
Board staff recommends the Board:

- a) Approve the preliminary screening;
- b) Approval of the Type A Land Use Permit;
- c) Approve the Spill Contingency Plan;
- d) Approve the Waste Management Plan; and
- e) Approve the Engagement Plan.

9. Attachments

- Reviewer Comment Summary Table
- [Application](#)
 - Additional Information Received
 - [Number of Persons Onsite](#)
 - [Outstanding Information](#)
- Draft Preliminary Screening
- Draft Land Use Permit Cover Page
- Draft Land Use Permit Conditions
- Draft Reasons for Decision
- Draft Decision Letter from the Board

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela Love
Regulatory Officer

Review Comment Table

Board:	MVLWB												
Review Item:	Geological Survey of Canada - New Land Use Permit Application (MV2015X0006)												
File(s):	MV2015X0006												
Proponent:	Geological Survey of Canada												
Document(s):	Land Use Permit Application (1 MB) Additional Information - Number of Persons Onsite (70 KB) Application Including Outstanding Information (2 MB) DRAFT Land Use Permit Conditions (289 KB)												
Item For Review Distributed On:	May 11 at 10:51 Distribution List												
Reviewer Comments Due By:	May 29, 2015												
Proponent Responses Due By:	June 5, 2015												
Item Description:	<p>Geological Survey of Canada has submitted an application to conduct a three-year geology reasearch project in Southeastern most NWT. The work will involve two concurrent activities. The first is collecting fist-sized rock samples and making observations that are selected on the basis of visual elements that can help tell how the rocks were formed and what happened to them. The research will be conducted by walking and collecting samples in the areas of interest from set-out locations accessed by helicopter. The second activity involves collecting glacial sediment samples at various sites. In this process, shovels and 5 gallon pails will be used. The sediments (dirt) will be collected from shallow, hand dug pits less than 1 meter deep with the organic layer being placed back on top of the site once the sample has been collected.</p> <p>The application also includes the following Plans: Engagement Plan Waste Management Plan Spill Contingency Plan</p> <p>In addition, Draft Land Use Permit conditions have been included with this item for review.</p> <p>The MVLWB encourages reviewers to ask questions and provide comments and recommendations on the content of the Land Use Permit application, the associated management plans, and the Draft Land Use Permit conditions. Please submit comments using the Online Review System by downloading the excel comment table or using the "add comment" button.</p> <p>If you have any questions or comments regarding this application or using the Online Review System, please contact Angela Love at 867-766-7456 or angela.love@mvlwb.com.</p>												
General Reviewer Information:	<p>In addition to the email distribution list, faxes were sent to the Akaitcho fax distribution list:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Fort Resolution Métis Council</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Trudy King</td> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td style="width: 45%;">(867)394-3322; Fieldworker.frmc53@northwestel.net</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hay River Metis Council</td> <td>Wally Shuman</td> <td>President</td> <td>(867)874-4472; hrcm@northwestel.net</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NWT Metis Nation</td> <td>Tim Heron</td> <td>NWTMN IMA Coordinator</td> <td>(867)872-3586; rcc.nwtmn@northwestel.net</td> </tr> </table>	Fort Resolution Métis Council	Trudy King		(867)394-3322; Fieldworker.frmc53@northwestel.net	Hay River Metis Council	Wally Shuman	President	(867)874-4472; hrcm@northwestel.net	NWT Metis Nation	Tim Heron	NWTMN IMA Coordinator	(867)872-3586; rcc.nwtmn@northwestel.net
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NWT Metis Nation	Tim Heron	NWTMN IMA Coordinator	(867)872-3586; rcc.nwtmn@northwestel.net										

Contact Information:	Angela Love 867-766-7456 Marc Casas 867-766-7466
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Comment Summary

Environment Canada: Devin Penney			
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ID	Topic	Reviewer Comment/Recommendation	Proponent Response	Board Response
1	General File	Comment (doc) Environment Canada No Comment Letter Recommendation		N/A

GNWT - Environment and Natural Resources: Central Email GNWT			
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ID	Topic	Reviewer Comment/Recommendation	Proponent Response	Board Response
1	General File	Comment (doc) ENR Letter - No Comments Recommendation		N/A

GNWT - Lands: Erin Anderson			
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ID	Topic	Reviewer Comment/Recommendation	Proponent Response	Board Response
1	Land Use Permit Application	Comment (doc) Lands Division and Mining Recorder's Office have now reviewed the LUP application and have no specific comments. Recommendation For specific recommendations, see attached letter.		N/A

GNWT - Lands: Mike Vassal			
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ID	Topic	Reviewer Comment/Recommendation	Proponent Response	Board Response
1	Amendment of LUP conditions	<p>Comment</p> <p>Conditon #4: Inspectors phone number: Mike Vassal 867 872-2558 ex 24</p> <p>Condition #24: Inspectors phone number: Mike Vassal 867 872-2558 ex 24</p> <p>Condition #25 and #26: Given that there is no drilling or other disturbance, other than samples being taken with pick or shovel, there is no necessity for an Archeological Overview. The permittee has already received a map of areas of high archeological potential. Conditions #22-24 cover the possibility of archeological artifacts being found. There is also not the necessity for the permittee to conduct an Archeological Impact Assessment.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>Plae add: 867 872-2558 ex 24 Mike Vassal to condition #4 and #24</p> <p>After discussing Conditions #25 and #26 with Angela Love (RO MVLWB) and with Glen McKay from the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre I believe these conditions can be removed from the LUP.</p>		As per Inspectors recommendations, conditions 4 and 24 have been updated and conditions 25 and 26 have been removed.



Northwest
Territories Environment and Natural Resources

May 29, 2015

Angela Love
Regulatory Officer
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7th Floor – 4910 50th Avenue
P.O. Box 2130
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2P6

Dear Ms. Love,

**Re: Geological Survey of Canada
 MV2015X0006
 New Land Use Permit Application
 Request for Comment**

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has reviewed the request at reference based on its mandated responsibilities under the *Environmental Protection Act*, the *Forest Management Act*, the *Forest Protection Act*, *Waters Act* and the *Wildlife Act* and has no comments or recommendations at this time.

Should you have any questions please contact Patrick Clancy, Environmental Regulatory Analyst, at (867) 920-6118 or email patrick_clancy@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

for Patrick Clancy
Environmental Regulatory Analyst
Environmental Impact Assessment Section
Conservation, Assessment and Monitoring Division
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Government of the Northwest Territories



Environmental Protection Operations Directorate (EPOD)
Prairie and Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife NT X1A 2P7

May 29th, 2015

EC file: 5300 000 042 / 003
MVLWB file: MV2015X0006

Angela Love
Regulatory Officer
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7th Floor, 4922 48th St.
P.O. Box 2130
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6

Via Online Registry

RE: MV2015X0006 – Geological Survey of Canada – New Type A Land Use Permit Application

Attention: Angela Love

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) regarding the above-mentioned file and has no comments. The Proponent is still required to comply with its obligations under legislation, including the Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999, the pollution prevention provisions of the Fisheries Act, the Migratory Birds Convention Act, and the Species at Risk Act.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4732 or devin.penney@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Devin Penney
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Loretta Ransom A/Head Environmental Assessment North (NT & NU), EPOD



May 29, 2015

Tyree Mullaney
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB)
7th Floor, 4910 - 50th Avenue
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2P6

Dear Ms. Mullaney:

Land Use Permit Application: MV2015X0006 – Geological Survey of Canada
Type of Operation: Geological Research Project
Location: Wignes Lake, NT

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) reviewed Land Use Permit Application MV2015X0006 and recommends that the permit be granted.

On May 28, 2015, our Inspector, Mike Vassal, provided his comments and recommendations for your consideration, via the LWB Online Review System.

Comments received from the Lands Administration Division and the Mining Recorders Office indicate no concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our comments, please contact our Inspector, Mike Vassal, at (867) 872-2558 (ext. 24)

Sincerely,

Scott Stewart
Regional Superintendent
North Slave Region

c. South Slave Region - Fort Smith

SS/eka