



Tłıchǫ Government

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October 19, 2020

Tyree Mullaney, EP
Regulatory Specialist
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB)
7th Floor, 4922 48th Street, PO Box 2130
Yellowknife NT, X1A 2P6

Dear Ms. Mullaney,

RE: Recommendations for MV2020L4-0005 NTPC – Bluefish Power Generation Facility Type A Water Licence.

The Tłıchǫ Government (TG) wishes to thank the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) for the opportunity to participate in the technical session held on September 22, 2020 for the aforementioned water licence application by NTPC. We have the following recommendations and rationales.

Recommendations:

- 1. To refrain from sampling Slimy Sculpin for a few years, then resume monitoring following the methodologies done in previous years. If there is an increase in Slimy Sculpin mercury concentrations, then consider a non-lethal large bodied fish program (such as Lake Trout) using muscle plugs to obtain tissue samples.**
- 2. NTPC to communicate results with stakeholders in a plain language summary with supporting data and analysis.**

Rationales:

The recommendations were drawn from discussions held between TG regulatory team and a TG fish biologist who is familiar with the monitoring program.

Tlicho Government (TG) believes that monitoring is necessary to confirm that Mercury concentration remains at normal background levels, and fishes are safe for human consumption. In addition, we think our recommendation for Slimy Sculpin monitoring is the rational scientific approach based on the following reasons:

- Sentinel species, lives in newly flooded areas, short life-span, good dataset to compare to
- Avoid impacts on large fish (even muscle plugs can result in fish mortality, bycatch etc).
- Small lake and small populations
- Large fish monitoring requires more effort and cost

Again, we appreciate the opportunity given by MVLWB to participate in this process. Tlicho Government do not plan to participate in a formal public hearing, our written recommendations (above) and responses from NTPC will be adequate.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Masi.



Violet Camsell-Blondin, Manager

Lands Regulatory Department

Department of Culture, Language & Lands Protection

Tlicho Government

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Tyree Mullaney

From: Longinus Ekwe <longinusekwe@tlicho.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 9:00 AM
To: Tyree Mullaney
Cc: Violet Camsell-Blondin
Subject: RE: Recommendations for MV2020L4-0005 NTPC – Bluefish Power Generation Facility Type A Water Licence.
Attachments: Final NTPC Doc..docx

Hi Tyree,

Attached is a letter from Tlicho Government (TG) expressing TG's **Recommendations for MV2020L4-0005 NTPC – Bluefish Power Generation Facility Type A Water Licence.**

We do appreciate the opportunity given to TG to participate in the technical session held on September 22, 2020. Please note that Tlicho Government do not plan to participate in a formal public hearing, review attached letter for our written recommendations.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Masi.

Longinus Ekwe

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