



**Sahtu Land & Water Board
REASONS FOR DECISION
Issued Pursuant to Section 121 of
The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act**

Land Use Permit S15E-004 (Type "A")

This is the decision of the Sahtu Land & Water Board (the Board) with respect to an application for a Land Use Permit dated November 5, 2015 made by:

**The Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Transportation,
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2L9**

for: Construction of the Norman Wells to Canyon Creek All-Season Access Road, Tulita District, NT

With respect to this application, written notice was given to 12 organizations within the Sahtu Settlement Area and 17 outside of the settlement area in accordance with Sections 63 & 64 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA). There was no Public Hearing held in association with this Application.

DECISION

After having been satisfied that the project has been screened pursuant to s.124(1) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, and that any potential adverse environmental effects were insignificant or mitigable with known technology, and as such the application could proceed through the regulatory process and after reviewing the submission of the Applicant and after reviewing the written comments received by the Board; the Board, 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 MVRMA and Regulations made thereunder has determined that:

Land Use Permit S15E-004 will be issued subject to the terms and conditions contained therein.

REASONS

The Board's reasons for this decision are as follows:

- The Board is satisfied that appropriate consultation has been conducted and that advice has been sought and considered, in accordance with sections 63 and 64 of the MVRMA;
- The construction of the Access Road provides training, employment and economic opportunities for Tulita District beneficiaries;
- The construction of the Access Road provides access to the new quarry, potential new Town dump site, the Canyon Creek Bridge, and proposed camping and recreational area south of the Canyon Creek Bridge;
- The construction of the Access Road provides access to Sahtu lands for recreation, tourism and business development, including easier access for community members to their traditional fishing and hunting areas;
- It is the opinion of the Board that the terms and conditions attached to S15E-004, pursuant to the MVRMA, will ensure that any potential environmental impacts resulting

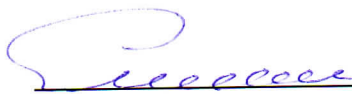
from this development are not significant. The effects of the Project on the environment can take place in an environmentally responsible manner provided that environmental considerations and mitigation measures outlined in the Land Use Permit and Water Licence application documents are followed;

- The Department of Transportation will continue comprehensive, meaningful and ongoing engagement efforts with local communities to address concerns and to improve understanding of Project activities and potential effects; and
- The use of land proposed by the Proponent is of a nature contemplated by the MVRMA.

The Proponent has been notified through a provision included in the scope of the Land Use Permit, that compliance with the terms and conditions of this Permit has no effect on the Permittee's responsibility for compliance with the requirements of any other legislation.

Signed this 24th day of February, 2016.

SAHTU Land and Water Board



Larry Wallace
Chair