



Sahtu Land & Water Board
REASONS FOR DECISION
Issued Pursuant to Section 72.25 of
Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act
Section 40(2)(c) of
Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations

Type B Land Use Permit S20Q-007 and Type B Water Licence S20L8-005

This is the decision of the Sahtu Land & Water Board with respect to the application deemed complete January 11, 2021 for issuance of a Land Use Permit and Water Licence made by:

**Imperial Oil Resources N.W.T. Limited, Norman Wells Operations,
Mail Bag 5000, Norman Wells, NT X0E 0V0**

for: quarrying and haul of sand from the sandbars located downstream on Artificial Islands 4, 5 and 6 located in the Mackenzie River at Norman Wells, NT. The Project is located on Imperial leased Crown Land and falls within the Proven Area Agreement.

With respect to this application, written notice was given to 23 organizations within the Sahtu Settlement Area and 24 outside of the settlement area in accordance with Sections 63 & 64 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. 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.125(1)(a) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, and that any potential adverse environmental effects were insignificant or mitigatable 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 S20Q-007 and Water Licence S20L8-005 will be issued subject to the terms and conditions contained therein.

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

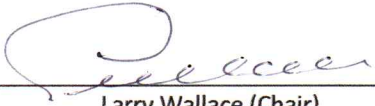
- It is the opinion of the Board that the Project is exempt from conformity requirements of the Sahtu Land Use Plan,
- It is the opinion of the Board that the Project is exempt from Preliminary Screening in accordance with Schedule 1, Part 1 (2),
- It is the opinion of the Board that the Engagement Record for this Project has met the requirements for community consultation and includes provisions for ongoing engagement efforts with the local community to address concerns and to improve understanding of Project activities and potential effects,
- 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,
- It is the opinion of the Board that the terms and conditions attached to S20Q-007 and S20L8-005, pursuant to the MVRMA, will ensure that any potential environmental impacts resulting from this activity 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 Application documents are followed,
- The quarrying of sand from Artificial Islands 4, 5 and 6 has occurred in the past with no environmental concerns or negative impacts to the surrounding water,
- Sand is replaced over time through natural accretions deposited on the downstream side of the Artificial Islands,

- The use of land and water proposed by the Proponent is of a nature contemplated by the MVRMA, and
- No significant or unmitigable public concern has been made known to the Board.

Land Use Permit S20Q-007 and Water Licence S20L8-005 contain provisions that the Board feels necessary to ensure and monitor compliance with the MVRMA and the Regulations made thereunder, and to provide appropriate safeguards in respect of Imperial's use of the lands affected by the Permit and use of the waters affected by the Licence.

The Board will provide any referenced material or documents and/or reasons for decision for any specific clause or clauses contained within the application if requested to do so in writing.

SIGNED this 3rd day of February 2021 on behalf of the SAHTU Land & Water Board.



Larry Wallace (Chair)
SAHTU Land & Water Board