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PO Box 2130, Yellowknife NT X1A 2P6

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www.mvlwb.com

December 7, 2023

File: MV2019C0031

Michael Macmorran
North Arrow Minerals Inc.
Suite 960 - 789 West Pender St.
Vancouver BC V6C 1H2

Sent by email

Dear Michael Macmorran,

Re: North Arrow Minerals Inc. – Amendment Issuance Package – Land Use Permit MV2019C0031– Mineral Exploration – Lac de Gras Area

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board) met on November 30, 2023 and considered North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s request to amend Land Use Permit (Permit) MV2019C0031 for the Lac de Gras Mineral Exploration (Project) in accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The Board has approved the amendment, Permit (attached), which is supported by the Board's Reasons for Decision. These documents are posted on the Board's Public Registry.¹

Submission Requirements

Management Plans – Revisions Required

The Board requires that the Engagement Plan be revised to include all changes committed to during the review of the Amendment. The revised Plan will be considered approved when the Permittee receives written confirmation of conformity. The updated Plan is to be submitted to the Board by December 21, 2023.

¹ See MLWB Online Registry www.mvlwb.com for [MV2019C0031](#)

Inspectors

The Inspectors referred to in the Permit can be contacted at the regional GNWT-ECC offices.²

Permit Processes and Additional Information

Sections 5 and 6 of the Land and Water Board (LWB) *Guide to the Land Use Permitting Process*³ (Guide) contain detailed information on permit enforcement and potential post-issuance processes, such as amendments to conditions, and assignment to another company. Please be familiar with these sections of the Guide and reach out to Board staff with any questions about LWB processes related to the Permit.

Full cooperation of North Arrows Minerals Inc. is anticipated and appreciated. Please contact Tyree Mullaney via [email](#) or at (867) 766-7464 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Tanya MacIntosh

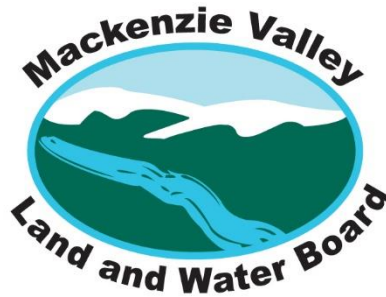
Chair, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

BCC'd to: Akaitcho Distribution List
Wek'èezhìi Distribution List
Nick Thomas, North Arrow Minerals Inc.
Clint Ambrose – Inspector, GNWT-ECC
Scott Stewart – GNWT-ECC

Attached: Land Use Permit MV2019C0031
Reasons for Decision

² See GNWT-ECC Regional Offices webpage (<https://www.ecc.gov.nt.ca/en/regional-offices>) for regional contact information.

³ See MLWB Policies and Guidelines webpage for LWB [Guide to the Land Use Permitting Process](#).



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**North Arrow Minerals Inc.
Land Use Permit MV2019C0031**

Pursuant to the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board grants this Land Use Permit to:

North Arrow Minerals Inc.
(Permittee)

of Suite 960 – 789 West Pender St. Vancouver BC V6H 1H2
(Mailing Address)

hereinafter called the Permittee, to proceed with the following land-use operation, subject to the annexed definitions and conditions contained therein:

Location:	Lac de Gras Project, NT
Purpose:	Mineral Exploration
Type:	Type A
Effective Date:	February 25, 2020
Expiry Date:	February 24, 2025

Amendment: Mineral Claims	December 7, 2023
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Handwritten signature of Tanya MacIntosh in blue ink.

Tanya MacIntosh, Chair
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

Handwritten signature of Amanda Gauthier in blue ink.

Amanda Gauthier, Witness

Conditions Annexed to and Forming Part of Land Use Permit # MV2019C0031

Part A: Scope of Permit

1. This Permit entitles the Permittee to conduct the following land-use operation:
 - a) Mineral exploration, including geophysical geochemical sampling, geophysics, diamond drilling and reverse circulation drilling;
 - b) Large diameter drilling and/or trenching;
 - c) Use and storage of explosives;
 - d) Use of equipment, vehicles and machines;
 - e) Construction, operation and maintenance of winter roads;
 - f) Use and storage of fuel;
 - g) Construction, operation and maintenance of temporary camps; and
 - h) Associated closure and reclamation of the above activities.
2. This Permit is issued subject to the conditions contained herein with respect to the use of land for the activities and area identified in Part A, item 1 of this Permit.
3. Compliance with the terms and conditions of this Permit does not excuse the Permittee from its obligation to comply with the requirements of any applicable Federal, Territorial, Tłı̨chʔ, or Municipal laws.

Part B: Definitions (defined terms are capitalized throughout the Permit)

Act - the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

Archaeological Impact Assessment - archaeological research as defined by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre *Guidelines for Developers for the Protection of Archaeological Sites in the Northwest Territories*.

Archaeological Overview - a study of archaeological sites as defined by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre *Guidelines for Developers for the Protection of Archaeological Sites in the Northwest Territories*.

Board - the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board established under Part 4 of the Act.

Borehole - a hole that is made in the surface of the ground by drilling or boring.

Dogleg - the clearing of a line, trail, or right-of-way that is curved sufficiently so that no part of the clearing beyond the curve is visible when approached from either direction.

Drilling Fluid - any liquid mixture of water, sediment, drilling muds, chemical additives or other wastes that are pumped down hole while drilling and are specifically related to drilling activity.

Drilling Waste - all materials or chemicals, solid or liquid, associated with drilling, including drill cuttings and Drilling Fluids.

Durable Land - land that is able to withstand repeated use, such as gravel or sand with minimal vegetative cover.

Engagement Plan - a document, developed in accordance with the Board's *Engagement and Consultation Policy* and the *Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits*, that clearly describes how, when, and which engagement activities will occur with an affected party during the life of the project.

Flowing Artesian Well - a well in which water:

- a) Naturally rises above the ground surface or the top of any casing; and
- b) Flows naturally, either intermittently or continuously.

Fuel Storage Container - a container for the storage of petroleum or allied petroleum products with a capacity of less than 230 litres.

Fuel Storage Tank - a closed container for the storage of petroleum or allied petroleum products with a capacity of more than 230 litres.

Greywater - all liquid wastes from showers, baths, sinks, kitchens, and domestic washing facilities but not including toilet wastes.

Habitat - the area or type of site where a species or an individual of a species of wildlife naturally occurs or on which it depends, directly or indirectly, to carry out its life processes.

Inspector - an Inspector designated by the Minister under the Act.

Ordinary High Water Mark - the usual or average level to which a body of water rises at its highest point and remains for sufficient time so as to change the characteristics of the land. In flowing waters (rivers, streams) this refers to the "active channel/bank-full level" which is often the 1:2 year flood flow return level. In inland lakes, wetlands, or marine environments, it refers to those parts of the Watercourse bed and banks that are frequently flooded by water so as to leave a mark on the land and where the natural vegetation changes from predominately aquatic vegetation to terrestrial vegetation (excepting water tolerant species). For reservoirs, this refers to normal high operating levels (full supply level).

Permittee - the holder of this permit.

Progressive Reclamation - Closure and Reclamation activities conducted during the operating phase of the project.

Seasonal Shut Down Period - The period of time when operations have ceased for the season.

Secondary Containment - containment that prevents liquids that leak from Fuel Storage Tanks or containers from reaching outside the containment area and includes double-walled Tanks, piping, liners, and impermeable barriers.

Sewage - all toilet wastes and Greywater.

Spill Contingency Plan - a document, developed in accordance with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's *Guidelines for Spill Contingency Planning* that describes the set of procedures to be implemented to minimize the effects of a spill.

Spring Break-up –April 15 each year, for the purpose of this operation.

Sump - a human-made pit or natural depression in the earth's surface used for the purpose of depositing Waste that does not contain Toxic Material, such as non-toxic Drilling Waste or Sewage, therein.

Toxic Material - any substance that enters or may enter the environment in a quantity or concentration or under conditions such that it:

- a) Has or may have an immediate or long-term harmful effect on the environment or its biological diversity;
- b) Constitutes or may constitute a danger to the environment on which life depends; or
- c) Constitutes or may constitute a danger in Canada to human life or health.

Waste - any garbage, debris, chemical, or Toxic Material to be used, stored, disposed of, or handled on land, and also as defined in section 51 of the Act.

Waste Management Plan - a document, developed in accordance with the Board's Guidelines for Developing a Waste Management Plan, that describes the methods of Waste management from Waste generation to final disposal.

Watercourse - a natural body of flowing or standing water or an area occupied by water during part of the year, and includes streams, springs, swamps and gulches but does not include groundwater.

Part C: Conditions Applying to All Activities (headings correspond to subsection 26(1) of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations)

Condition	Category
26(1)(a) Location and Area	
1. The Permittee shall only conduct this land-use operation on lands designated in the application.	LOCATION OF ACTIVITIES
2. The Permittee shall not conduct any part of the land-use operation within 100 metres of any privately owned or leased land or structures, including cabins used for traditional activities, unless otherwise approved by the Board.	PRIVATE PROPERTY SETBACK
3. The Permittee shall locate all camps on Durable Land or previously cleared areas, and a minimum of 100 metres from the Ordinary High Water Mark unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	CAMP SETBACK
4. Prior to the commencement of drilling, the Permittee shall submit the target areas and final drill hole locations on a 1:50,000-scale map with coordinates and map datum to the Board and an Inspector.	DRILL LOCATIONS
5. The Permittee shall not locate any Sump within 100 metres of the Ordinary High Water Mark of any Watercourse, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	SUMP SETBACK
6. The Permittee shall not construct parallel lines or roads, unless an existing line or road cannot be used.	PARALLEL ROADS
26(1)(b) Time	
7. At least 48 hours prior to the initial commencement of the land-use operation, the Permittee's Field Supervisor shall contact an Inspector at (867) 767-9188.	INITIAL NOTIFICATION – CONTACT INSPECTOR
8. At least 48 hours prior to returning to the worksite following a seasonal Shut Down Period, the Permittee's Field Supervisor shall contact an Inspector at (867) 767-9188.	SEASONAL NOTIFICATION – CONTACT INSPECTOR
9. At least 48 hours prior to commencement of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall provide the following information, in writing, to the Board and an Inspector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the name(s) of the person(s) in charge of the field operation; b) alternates; and c) all methods for contacting the above person(s). 	IDENTIFY AGENT

10.	At least ten days prior to Seasonal Shut Down Period, the Permittee shall advise an Inspector of:	REPORTS BEFORE SEASONAL REMOVAL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the plan for removal or storage of equipment and materials; and b) when cleanup and Progressive Reclamation of the land used will be completed. 	
11.	At least ten days prior to the completion of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall advise an Inspector of:	REPORTS BEFORE FINAL REMOVAL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the plan for removal or storage of equipment and materials; b) when final cleanup and reclamation of the land used will be completed; and c) when the Final Plan will be submitted. 	
	26(1)(c) Type and Size of Equipment	
12.	The Permittee shall only use equipment of a similar type, size, and number to that listed in the complete application.	USE APPROVED EQUIPMENT
	26(1)(d) Methods and Techniques	
13.	Immediately upon completion of operations at each Borehole, the Permittee shall remove or cut off and seal each drill casing at ground level.	MINERAL EXPLORATION DRILL CASINGS
14.	The Permittee shall construct and maintain the overland portion of winter roads with a minimum of 10 cm of packed snow and/or ice at all times during this land-use operation.	WINTER ROADS
15.	The Permittee shall not erect camps or store material, other than that required for immediate use, on the ice surface of a Watercourse.	STORAGE ON ICE
	26(1)(e) Type, Location, Capacity, and Operation of All Facilities	
16.	The Permittee shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean at all times.	CLEAN WORK AREA
	26(1)(f) Control or Prevention of Ponding of Water, Flooding, Erosion, Slides, and Subsidence of Land	
17.	The land-use operation shall not cause obstruction to any natural drainage.	NATURAL DRAINAGE
18.	The Permittee shall, where flowing water from a Borehole is encountered:	FLOWING ARTESIAN WELL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) plug the Borehole in such a manner as to permanently prevent any further outflow of water; and b) immediately report the occurrence to the Board and an Inspector. 	

19.	The Permittee shall prepare the site in such a manner as to prevent rutting or gouging of the ground surface.	PREVENTION OF RUTTING
20.	The Permittee shall suspend overland travel of equipment or vehicles at the first sign of rutting or gouging.	SUSPEND OVERLAND TRAVEL
21.	The Permittee shall not move any equipment or vehicles unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging.	VEHICLE MOVEMENT FREEZE-UP
22.	The Permittee shall—only use clean water and snow in the construction of ice bridges and snow fills.	CONSTRUCT ICE BRIDGES SNOWFILLS
23.	Prior to Spring Break-up or completion of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall clean up and either remove or v-notch all ice bridges and snowfills from stream crossings, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	REMOVE ICE BRIDGES/ SNOWFILLS
24.	The Permittee shall not cut any stream bank, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	STREAM BANKS
25.	The Permittee shall minimize approach grades on all Watercourse crossings.	MINIMIZE APPROACH
26.	The Permittee shall not excavate land within 100 metres of the Ordinary High Water Mark of any Watercourse, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	EXCAVATION SETBACK
27.	The Permittee shall slope the sides of Waste material piles, excavations, and embankments — except in solid rock — to a minimum ratio of 2:1 vertical, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	EXCAVATION AND EMBANKMENTS
26(1)(g) Use, Storage, Handling, and Ultimate Disposal of Any Chemical or Toxic Material		
28.	At least seven days prior to the use of any chemicals that were not identified in the complete application, the Safety Data Sheets must be provided to the Board and an Inspector.	CHEMICALS
29.	When drilling within 100 metres of the Ordinary High Water Mark of any Watercourse, and when drilling on ice, the Permittee shall contain all drill water and Drilling Waste in a closed circuit system for reuse, off-site disposal, or deposit into a land-based Sump or natural depression.	DRILLING NEAR WATER OR ON ICE
30.	The Permittee may deposit Drilling Waste that does not contain Toxic Material in a Sump or natural depression. Any Sumps or natural depressions used to deposit Drilling Waste must be located at least 100 metres from the Ordinary High Water Mark of any Watercourse, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	DRILLING WASTE

31.	The Permittee shall not allow any Drilling Waste to spread to the surrounding lands or Watercourses.	DRILLING WASTE CONTAINMENT
32.	Prior to the expiry date of this Permit or the end of the land-use operation whichever comes first, the Permittee shall backfill and restore all Sumps, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	RECLAIM NON-OIL AND GAS SUMPS
33.	The Permittee shall dispose of all Toxic Material as described in the approved Waste Management Plan.	WASTE CHEMICAL DISPOSAL
34.	The Permittee shall dispose of all combustible Waste petroleum products by removal to an approved disposal facility.	WASTE PETROLEUM DISPOSAL
26(1)(h) Wildlife and Fish Habitat		
35.	The Permittee shall take all reasonable measures to prevent damage to wildlife and fish Habitat during this land-use operation.	HABITAT DAMAGE
26(1)(i) Storage, Handling, and Disposal of Refuse or Sewage		
36.	The Permittee shall adhere to the Waste Management Plan , once approved, and shall annually review the plan and make any necessary revisions to reflect changes in operations, technology, chemicals, or fuels, or as directed by the Board. Revisions to the plan shall be submitted to the Board for approval.	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
37.	The Permittee shall keep all garbage and debris in a secure container until disposal.	GARBAGE CONTAINER
38.	The Permittee shall dispose of all Sewage and Greywater as described in the approved Waste Management Plan.	SEWAGE DISPOSAL - PLAN
26(1)(j) Protection of Historical, Archaeological, and Burial Sites		
39.	The Permittee shall not operate any vehicle or equipment within 150 metres of a known or suspected historical or archaeological site or burial ground.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUFFER
40.	The Permittee shall not knowingly remove, disturb, or displace any archaeological specimen or site.	SITE DISTURBANCE
41.	The Permittee shall, where a suspected archaeological or historical site, or burial ground is discovered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) immediately suspend operations on the site; and b) notify the Board at (867)669-0506 or an Inspector at (867) 766-9188, and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre at 767-9347 ext. 71255 or ext. 71251. 	SITE DISCOVERY AND NOTIFICATION

42.	At least 30 days prior to any new land disturbance, including new drill sites, the Permittee shall conduct an Archaeological Overview to identify areas of high and low potential for archaeological and burial sites and shall submit a summary report to the Board and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW
43.	Prior to disturbance in areas of high potential for archaeological or burial sites identified in the Archaeological Overview, the Permittee shall conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment of the sites where disturbance is planned and shall submit a summary report to the Board and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.	AIA – HIGH POTENTIAL
26(1)(k) Objects and Places of Recreational, Scenic, and Ecological Value		
<i>Intentionally left blank</i>		
26(1)(l) Security Deposit		
44.	Prior to the commencement of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall deposit with the Minister a security deposit in the amount of \$195,995.00.	SECURITY DEPOSIT
45.	All costs to remediate the area under this Permit are the responsibility of the Permittee.	RESPONSIBILITY FOR REMEDIATION COSTS
26(1)(m) Fuel Storage		
46.	The Permittee shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) examine all Fuel Storage Containers and Tank for leaks; and b) repair all leaks immediately. 	REPAIR LEAKS
47.	The Permittee shall store Fuel Storage Containers and or Tanks a minimum of 100 metres from the Ordinary High Water Mark of any Watercourse, unless otherwise authorized in writing by an Inspector.	FUEL STORAGE SETBACK
48.	The Permittee shall ensure that all fuel caches have adequate Secondary Containment.	FUEL CACHE SECONDARY CONTAINMENT
49.	The Permittee shall set up all refueling points with Secondary Containment.	SECONDARY CONTAINMENT – REFUELING
50.	The Permittee shall not allow petroleum products to spread to surrounding lands or Watercourses.	FUEL CONTAINMENT
51.	The Permittee shall locate mobile fuel facilities on land when the facilities are stationary for more than 12 hours.	FUEL ON LAND

52.	The Permittee shall mark all Fuel Storage Containers and Tanks with the Permittee's name.	MARK CONTAINERS AND TANKS
53.	The Permittee shall mark all stationary fuel caches and fuel storage facilities with flags, posts, or similar devices so that they are at all times plainly visible to local vehicle travel.	MARK FUEL LOCATION
54.	Within ten days of the establishment of any fuel cache, the Permittee shall report the location and quantity of the cache in writing to the Board and an Inspector.	REPORT FUEL LOCATION
55.	The Permittee shall seal all outlets of Fuel Storage Containers and store the containers on their sides with the outlets located at 3 and 9 o'clock, except for containers currently in use.	SEAL OUTLET
56.	The Permittee shall adhere to the Spill Contingency Plan , once approved, and shall annually review the plan and make any necessary revisions to reflect changes in operations, technology, chemicals, or fuels, or as directed by the Board. Revisions to the plan shall be submitted to the Board for approval.	SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN
57.	Prior to commencement of the land-use operation the Permittee shall ensure that spill-response equipment is in place to respond to any potential spills.	SPILL RESPONSE
58.	All equipment that may be parked for two hours or more, shall have a haz-mat/drip tray under it or be sufficiently diapered. Leaky equipment shall be repaired immediately.	DRIP TRAYS
59.	The Permittee shall clean up all leaks, spills, and contaminated material immediately.	CLEAN UP SPILLS
60.	<p>During the period of this Permit, if a spill occurs or is foreseeable, the Permittee shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) implement the approved Spill Contingency Plan; b) report it—immediately using the NU-NT Spill Report Form by one of the following methods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone: (867) 920-8130 • Fax: (867) 873-6924 • E-mail: spills@gov.nt.ca • <u>Online: Spill Reporting and Tracking Database</u> c) within 24 hours, notify the Board and an Inspector; and d) within 30 days of initially reporting the incident, submit a detailed report to the Board and an Inspector, including descriptions of causes, response actions, and any changes to procedures to prevent similar occurrences in the future. Any updates to this report shall be provided to the Board and an Inspector in writing as changes occur. 	REPORT SPILLS

26(1)(n) Methods and Techniques for Debris and Brush Disposal

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| 61. | The Permittee shall not clear areas larger than identified in the complete application. | MINIMIZE AREA
CLEARED |
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26(1)(o) Restoration of the Lands

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| 62. | Prior to the end of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall complete all cleanup and restoration of the lands used. | FINAL CLEANUP
AND
RESTORATION |
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| 63. | Prior to the end of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall prepare the site in such a manner as to facilitate natural revegetation. | NATURAL
VEGETATION |
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| 64. | The Permittee shall carry out Progressive Reclamation of disturbed areas as soon as it is practical to do so. | PROGRESSIVE
RECLAMATION |
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26(1)(p) Display of Permits and Permit Numbers

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| 65. | The Permittee shall display a copy of this Permit in each campsite established to carry out this land-use operation. | DISPLAY PERMIT |
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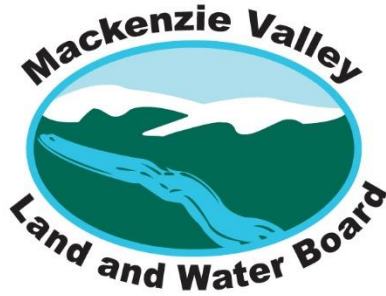
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| 66. | The Permittee shall keep a copy of this Permit on hand at all times during this land-use operation. | COPY OF PERMIT |
|-----|---|-----------------------|

26(1)(q) Biological and Physical Protection of the Land

- | | | |
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| 67. | If any plan is not approved by the Board, the Permittee shall revise the plan according to the Board's direction and re-submit it to the Board for approval. | RESUBMIT PLAN |
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| 68. | The Permittee shall adhere to the Engagement Plan , once approved, and shall annually review the plan and make any necessary revisions to reflect changes in operations or as directed by the Board. Revisions to the plan shall be submitted to the Board for approval. | ENGAGEMENT
PLAN |
|-----|---|----------------------------|

- | | | |
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| 69. | All revised plans submitted to the Board shall include a brief summary of the changes made to the plan. | SUMMARY OF
CHANGES |
|-----|---|-------------------------------|



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Reasons for Decision

Issued pursuant to subsection 26(2) and paragraph 40(2)(c) of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations (MVLUR).

Land Use Permit Amendment Application	
File Number	MV2019C0031
Company	North Arrow Minerals Inc.
Project	Lac de Gras Mineral Exploration Project
Location	Lac de Gra Area, NT
Activity	Mineral Exploration
Date of Decision	November 30, 2023

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On November 30, 2023, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MLWB or Board) met and considered the Permit Amendment Request (the Application) made by North Arrow Minerals Inc. (North Arrow) (the Applicant) to the Board on October 19, 2023 for Land Use Permit (Permit) MV2019C0031 for the Lac de Gras (the Project). After reviewing the Application and the evidence gathered during the regulatory proceeding, the Board has made the following decisions:

- 1) To amend Land Use Permit MV2019C0031;
- 2) To require revisions to Version 1.1 of the Engagement Plan, which the Applicant must submit as Version 1.2 of the Plan within 30 days of the issuance date of the amended Permit for a conformity confirmation; and

These Reasons for Decision set out the Board’s regulatory process for the Application and rationale for decisions regarding the amended Permit. A summary of the Application and the main issues identified during the proceeding is provided in sections [2.0](#) and [3.0](#) below, followed by an outline of the regulatory process for the Application in [section 4.0](#). [Section 5.0](#) describes how the applicable legislative requirements have been met. The Board’s decisions and supporting rationale are set out in [section 6.0](#).

1.0 List of Defined Terms and Abbreviations

Applicant/Permittee	North Arrow Minerals Inc.
Application	The complete amendment request submitted by the Applicant for Land Use Permit MV2019C0031.
Distribution List	The list of individuals and organizations to whom materials from the regulatory proceeding were circulated. ¹
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
GNWT-ECC	Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Climate Change
Inspector	An Inspector designated under subsection 84(1) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act
LWBs	Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley
MVEIRB	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
MVLUR	Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations
MVLWB or Board	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
MVRMA	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act
Minister	Minister of the Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Climate Change
ORS	Online Review System (www.new.onlinereviewssystem.ca)
Party	As per the LWB Rules of Procedure , an applicant, a person, or an organization participating in this regulatory process.
Permit	Land Use Permit MV2019C0031
Project	Lac de Gras, the undertaking as described in and Part A of the Permit.

¹ To access the Distribution List, see the LWBs’ Online Review System for North Arrow Minerals Inc. – [Lac de Gra Mineral Exploration Project – Oct23 23](#)

Review Board	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Standard Permit Conditions	LWB Standard Land Use Permit Conditions Template
TG	Tłı̨chq̨ Government

2.0 Summary of Application

On October 19, 2023, the Applicant submitted a request to amend Permit MV2019C0031 (the Application).² The Application is for the inclusion of additional mineral claims. These activities are located within the Wek'èezhìi Resource Management Area and the Akaitcho Region.

In making its decision and preparing these Reasons for Decision, the Board has reviewed and considered:

- 1) The Application as submitted by the Applicant for the Project;
- 2) The evidence and submissions received by the Board from the Applicant in relation to the proposed amendment; and
- 3) The comments and recommendations, evidence, and submissions received by the Board from Parties during the regulatory proceeding.

3.0 Main Issues Raised During the Regulatory Proceeding

These Reasons for Decision focus primarily on the following key issues raised during the regulatory proceeding.

Issues that were resolved by Parties to the Board's satisfaction during the proceeding are not addressed in detail in these Reasons.

4.0 Regulatory Process

On October 19, 2023, the Applicant submitted the Application which was deemed complete and circulated to the Distribution List for public review on the Online Review System (ORS) October 23, 2023.³

As part of the public review, Board staff requested comments and recommendations to assist with the Board's preliminary screening determination. Board staff also circulated a draft amended Permit for review with the Application to allow all Parties the opportunity to comment on the specific wording of the draft changes in order to assist the Board in making its decision on the amended Permit.

By November 10, 2023, the Board received comments and recommendations regarding the Application and the draft Permit from the following Parties Tłı̨chq̨ Government, Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Climate Change and Government of the Northwest Territories – Lands

² See MLWB Online Registry for North Arrow – [Amendment – Request – Oct23_23](#)

³ See MLWB Online Review System for North Arrow – [Lac de Gras Mineral Exploration Project - Amendment – Oct23_23](#)

(Inspector). On November 15, 2023, the Applicant responded to the Parties' comments and recommendations.⁴

On November 30, 2023, the Board met and made its preliminary screening determination for the proposed changes to the Project.⁵ Following this determination, the Board made its decisions regarding the Application. These decisions and related reasons are described in sections [5.0](#) and [6.0](#) below.

5.0 Legislative Requirements Related to Permit Issuance

This Project is subject to the [MVRMA](#) and the [MVLUR](#). The Board has jurisdiction to amend the Permit as per subsection 59(1) and section 102 of the [MVRMA](#).

In conducting its regulatory process for the Application (as described in sections [3.0](#) and [4.0](#) above), the Board has ensured that section 62 of the [MVRMA](#) and all applicable legislative requirements have been satisfied as outlined in the subsections below. The Board has considered the people and users of the land and water in the Mackenzie Valley, and any Traditional Knowledge and scientific information that was made available to the Board during the regulatory proceeding, as per section 60.1 of the [MVRMA](#). The consideration of information provided to the Board is discussed in detail below and in section [6.0](#).

5.1 Consultation, Engagement, and Public Notice

As per paragraph 60.1(a) of the [MVRMA](#), in exercising its authority, the Board must consider the importance of conservation to the well-being and way of life of Indigenous peoples of Canada to whom section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982, applies and who use an area of the Mackenzie Valley. Accordingly, the Board works with applicants, affected parties (including Indigenous governments and organizations), and other parties (such as other boards and regulators) to ensure that potential impacts of proposed projects, including impacts on rights under section 35, are understood and carefully considered before decisions are made with respect to the issuance of permits and licences.

The Board's requirements for engagement are set out in the LWB [Engagement and Consultation Policy](#) and [Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits](#).⁶ The Policy and Guidelines were developed to ensure that the Board's obligations for achieving meaningful consultation (as set out by land claims and applicable legislation) with all affected parties, including Indigenous groups in the Mackenzie Valley, are met and engagement and consultation results are clearly articulated. In accordance with the Policy and Guidelines, the Applicant's engagement efforts with respect to the Application are detailed in the Engagement Record submitted with the Application.⁷

⁴ See MVLWB Online Registry for North Arrow – Amendment – [Review Summary Table – Nove30 23](#).

⁵ See MVLWB Online Registry for North Arrow – Amendment – [Preliminary Screening Determination – Dec 7 23](#)

⁶ See MLWB Policies and Guidelines webpage to access the LWB [Engagement and Consultation Policy](#) and [Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits](#).

⁷ See MLWB Online Registry for North Arrow – Amendment – [Engagement Record – Oct23 23](#)

The Application was posted to the Board's Public Registry and distributed through the ORS. As the Project is located in the Wek'èezhì Resource Management Area and Akaitcho Region, the appropriate organizations, governments, First Nations, and Indigenous organizations were included in the Distribution List.⁸ The Distribution List was used throughout this proceeding to circulate submissions, information, and updates relevant to the proceeding; the List was updated if needed, and (if requested) individuals with specific interests in the Project were added. More information about the proceeding for the Application is provided above in [section 4.0](#).

In accordance with sections 63 and 64 of the [MVRMA](#), the Board is satisfied that notice of and access to copies of the Application was provided, and that a reasonable amount of time was given to communities, First Nations, and the public to participate in this proceeding and make submissions to the Board.

In accordance with the [Northwest Territory Métis Nation Interim Measures Agreement](#),⁹ the Northwest Territory Métis Nation was notified of the Application through the ORS distribution. The Board did not receive any evidence from the Northwest Territory Métis Nation during the proceeding.

In accordance with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development's 2004 [Policy Direction to the MVLWB regarding the Akaitcho Territory Dene First Nations](#),¹⁰ the Akaitcho Dene First Nation was notified of the Application through the ORS distribution. The Board did not receive any evidence from the Akaitcho Dene First Nation member nations during the proceeding.

5.2 Eligibility for Land Use Permit

Eligibility for the Permit in accordance with section 18 of the [MVLUR](#) has already been demonstrated as described in the Board's February 25, 2020 Reasons for Decision.¹¹ For the new Project areas, the Applicant provided confirmation that mineral claims are in the name of North Arrow Minerals Inc. to demonstrate eligibility under subparagraph 18(a)(i).

No issues were raised regarding eligibility during this proceeding.

Based on this information, the Board concludes that the eligibility requirements under section 18 of the MVLUR have been satisfied.

⁸ To access the Distribution List, see the LWBs' Online Review System for North Arrow – [Lac de Gras Mineral Exploration Project – Oct23 23](#)

⁹ See MLWB Land Claims, IMAs, and Land Use Plans webpage to access the [Northwest Territory Métis Nation Interim Measures Agreement](#).

¹⁰ See MLWB Land Claims, IMAs, and Land Use Plans webpage to access the [Policy Direction to the MVLWB regarding the Akaitcho Territory Dene First Nations](#).

¹¹ See MLWB Online Registry for MV2019C0031 – Dominion Diamond Mines ULC – Issuance - Type A Land Use Permit – [Issuance RFD – Feb25 20](#)

5.3 Land Use Plan Conformity

As per section 61 of the [MVRMA](#), where an approved Land Use Plan applies, the Board must confirm conformity with the Land Use Plan before issuing an amended permit.

No approved Land Use Plans apply in the Project area.

5.4 Land Use Fees

The Project is located wholly outside of federal areas, so no land-use fees apply.

5.5 Time Limit

No changes have been proposed to the term of the Permit

5.6 Environmental Review (Part 5 of the MVRMA)

5.6.1 Preliminary Screening

On November 30, 2023, the Board met and determined that the project is exempt from Preliminary Screening under the Preliminary Screening Exemption List Regulations.¹²

The Board is satisfied that the requirements of Part 5 of the [MVRMA](#) have been met for the Project.

6.0 Decision – Land Use Permit MV2019C0031

Having due regard to the facts, circumstances, and the merits of the submissions made to it, and to the purpose, scope, and intent of the [MVRMA](#), the Board has determined that the amended Permit MV2019C0031 should be issued, subject to the scope, defined terms, conditions, and term contained therein. The Board's determinations and reasons for this decision are set out below.

The amended Permit has been developed to address the Board's statutory responsibilities, to protect the receiving environment, and to address issues within the Board's jurisdiction that were identified and investigated during the regulatory proceeding.

In amending the Permit, the Board kept the Permit format and layout largely unchanged. Where appropriate, the Board updated existing standard conditions using the LWB [Standard Land Use Permit Conditions Template](#) (Standard Permit Conditions).¹³ Where applicable, the Board also considered the Standard Permit Conditions in developing new conditions or amending existing conditions to reflect the changes to the Project. As noted in [section 4.0](#) above, Board staff circulated a draft amended Permit for review to allow Parties to provide specific input to the Board on the possible amendment and updates to

¹² See MVLWB Online Registry for North Arrow – Amendment – [Preliminary Screening Determination – Dec 7 23](#)

¹³ See MVLWB Policies and Guidelines webpage to access the LWB [Standard Land Use Permit Conditions Template](#).

the conditions, and the Board considered these review comments and recommendations in making its determination on the amended Permit conditions. Conditions that were not changed are generally not discussed in these Reasons unless they were the subject of concerns raised during the proceeding.

The Standard Permit Conditions have been established by the LWBs based on information from LWB policies and guidelines, other applicable guidelines and best practices, meetings with Inspectors, input from LWB staff, and feedback from a public review. Each standard condition has been evaluated against the following characteristics of an ideal condition:

- Clearly part of LWBs' authority;
- Has a clear purpose and rationale;
- Is practical and enforceable;
- Matches the scale of the project; and
- Does not conflict with existing legislation (i.e., is not less stringent).

The Standard Permit Conditions include general rationale for each standard condition, and as such, the updates to standard conditions are only discussed in detail in these Reasons for Decision when the updates specifically relate to concerns or recommendations raised during the regulatory proceeding. The Board's reasons for developing new and amending existing Project-specific conditions, including discussion of any concerns and recommendations raised regarding these conditions are detailed in the relevant sections below.

6.1 Part A: Scope of Permit

The scope of the Permit ensures the Permittee is entitled to conduct activities which have been applied for and which have been subject to Part 5 of the [MVRMA](#). The changes to the Project are within the existing scope of the Permit, and in accordance with the limitations of subsection 26(2) of the MVLUR, the Board did not make any changes to this section of the Permit.

6.2 Part B: Definitions

- No changes have been made to the definitions.

6.3 Part C: Conditions Applying to All Activities

No changes have been made to the conditions of the Permit.

26(1)(a) Location and Area

26(1)(b) Time

26(1)(c) Type and Size of Equipment

26(1)(d) Methods and Techniques

26(1)(e) Type, Location, Operation of All Facilities

26(1)(f) Control or Prevention of Ponding of Water, Flooding, Erosion, Slides, and Subsidence of Land

26(1)(g) Use, Storage, Handling, and Ultimate Disposal of Any Chemical or Toxic Material

26(1)(h) Wildlife and Fish Habitat

26(1)(i) Storage, Handling, and Disposal of Refuse or Sewage

26(1)(j) Protection of Historical, Archaeological, and Burial Sites

26(1)(k) Objects and Places of Recreational, Scenic, and Ecological Value

26(1)(l) Security Deposit

26(1)(m) Fuel Storage

26(1)(o) Restoration of the Lands

26(1)(p) Display of Permits and Permit Numbers

26(1)(q) Biological and Physical Protection of the Land

Engagement Plan – During the review of the amendment, the Tłı̨chǫ Government requested additional contacts be added to the Plan. Also during the review, the Tłı̨chǫ Government recommended changes and additional conditions be added in relation to the monitoring of caribou. North Arrow has committed to updating the Engagement Plan. The Board requires that the Engagement Plan be updated and resubmitted for Board staff conformity.

7.0 Conclusion

Subject to the scope, definitions, conditions, and term set out in the amended Permit, and for the reasons expressed herein, the MLWB is of the opinion that the activities and land use associated with the Project can be completed by North Arrow Minerals Inc. while providing for the conservation, development, and utilization of waters in a manner that will provide the optimum benefit for all Canadians and in particular for the residents of the Mackenzie Valley.

Land Use Permit MV2019C0031 contains provisions that the Board deems necessary to ensure and monitor compliance with the MVRMA and the Regulations made thereunder, and to provide appropriate safeguards in respect of North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s use of the land as authorized by the Permit.

SIGNATURE



Tanya MacIntosh, Chair
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

December 7, 2023

Date