

**Paramount Resources Ltd.**  
**Pointed Mountain Gas Field Remediation Project – Draft Workplan**  
**MV2023L1-0010**  
**Water Regulatory Comments**  
**Contact: Celena Hoeve**

**Topic: Pre-Hearing Conference**

**Comment:**

The Pre-Hearing Conference is scheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup>, a month before Interventions are due on August 30<sup>th</sup> and over two months before the Public Hearing on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The Pre-Hearing Conference is significantly more effective in planning for the Public Hearing if it occurs after Interventions are submitted, and closer to the Public Hearing date. This allows parties to have a better sense of their main issues of concern, and therefore a better sense of how long they will need to present their recommendations. For example, in the most recent amendment process for the Diavik Water Licence, during the Pre-Hearing Conference, not all parties had determined whether they would intervene.

**Recommendation:**

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Department of Environment and Climate Change (ECC) recommends that the Pre-Hearing Conference be held after Interventions are submitted, and as close to the Public Hearing as possible.

**Topic: Draft Licence and Closing Arguments Deadlines**

**Comment:**

GNWT-ECC notes that the Closing Arguments are due only one week after the Applicant's responses to comments on the draft water licence are due. GNWT-ECC requests at minimum, one week be added between these deadlines to give parties more time to consider the responses to draft water licence comments in their Closing Arguments.

**Recommendation:**

GNWT-ECC recommends that the Closing Arguments be due two weeks after the deadline for the Applicant's responses to comments on the draft licence.