



Sahtu Land and Water Board

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March 24, 2014

File: S13L1-007

To all parties,

Re: Jurisdictional Question by Imperial Oil Resources Ltd. (IORL) and Board Ruling - Update on Water Licence Renewal Process

As you may be aware, the Sahtu Land and Water Board (Board) has initiated a process (the "Ruling Process") which will result in a ruling about the Board's jurisdiction under the *Northwest Territories Waters Act* (the Act) to address closure and reclamation matters in the context of the captioned Water Licence proceeding, in specific relation to the IORL facilities at Norman Wells.

IORL has raised questions about the authority and/or the scope of the Board's authority to order financial security under the Act, in the context of the Water Licence Renewal proceeding (S13L1-007) now under way.

On March 12, 2014 the Board instructed IORL to prepare its legal submissions on this jurisdictional question and to file them by March 28, 2014. It is the Board's intention to rule on this jurisdictional question before continuing with the Water Licence Renewal proceeding.

The purpose of this Notice is to encourage parties interested in this proceeding to participate in this Ruling Process, and specifically to invite the Government of the Northwest Territories and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada to file legal submissions in response to those expected from IORL on March 28, 2014.

Parties planning to respond to this jurisdictional issue should notify Mr. Tony Morris, Regulatory Specialist; tony.morris@slwb.com at their earliest convenience.

The IORL submission will be posted on the Board's website on March 28th. The following timetable will then apply to the conclusion of this Ruling Process:

- Parties Responses to IORL jurisdictional submission by **April 11, 2014**
- IORL reply to other parties submissions by **April 17th, 2014**

The Board will then deliberate and issue written reasons for its jurisdictional ruling. After making its ruling, the Board will notify all parties on the next steps in the Water Licence Renewal process.

If there are any questions about the Ruling Process please contact Mr. Tony Morris at 867-598-2413 ext. 223 or tony.morris@slwb.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul", written in a cursive style.

Paul Dixon
Executive Director
Sahtu Land and Water Board