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[www.wlwb.ca](http://www.wlwb.ca)

July 23, 2021

Files: W2020X0005 and W2020L8-0003

**Re: Information Request Resulting from Kwetj̄j̄j̄j̄j̄j̄ (Rayrock) Proceeding – Type A Water Licence and Type A Land Use Permit Applications (W2020L8-0003 and W2020X-0005)**

To Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada – Contaminants and Remediation Division (CIRNAC-CARD),

During the proceeding for the Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada – Contaminants and Remediation Division (CIRNAC-CARD) Type A Water Licence (W2020L8-0003) and Type A Land Use Permit (W2020X-005) Applications for the Rayrock Project, CIRNAC-CARD provided comments on the draft Water Licence and submitted closing arguments.<sup>1, 2</sup>

In review of these comments and closing arguments, activities were identified that have not been subject to Part 5 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act during this Proceeding. These include the use of Sherman Lake water as a diluent in sediment remediation (CIRNAC general Water Licence comment 3 and 4) and the use of structural bridges rather than ice bridges (CIRNAC general Water Licence comment 5).<sup>3</sup>

The use of water from Sherman Lake for remediation activities was not identified in the Applications or previously discussed during the proceeding. The scope of the preliminary screening did however include the use of Sherman Lake water for camp operations, washing, and dust control, as identified in the Application.<sup>4,5</sup>

The use of “structural” bridges was not identified in the initial Application or included in the January 14, 2021 and April 15, 2021 preliminary screenings.<sup>6,7</sup> The proposed Water Licence conditions provided by CIRNAC in the initial application noted “ice bridges”.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See WLWB Online Registry ([wlwb.ca](http://wlwb.ca)) for [Rayrock – Draft WL and LUP Review – Review Summary Table and Attachments – Jul 23 21](#)

<sup>2</sup> See WLWB Online Registry for [Rayrock – Public Hearing – Closing Arguments – CIRNAC – Jul 15 21](#)

<sup>3</sup> See WLWB Online Registry for [Rayrock – Draft WL and LUP Review – Review Summary Table and Attachments – Jul 23 21](#); p. 34

<sup>4</sup> See WLWB Online Registry for [Rayrock – Preliminary Screening – Determination and Notification – Jan 14 21](#)

<sup>5</sup> See WLWB Online Registry for [Rayrock – Type A Water Licence Application – Sep 21 20](#); p. 7

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> See WLWB Online Registry for [Rayrock – Preliminary Screening – Determination and Notification – Apr 15 21](#)

<sup>8</sup> See WLWB Online Registry for [Rayrock – Type A Water Licence Application – Sep 21 20](#); p. 26

The WLWB is requesting the following information from CIRNAC-CARD:

**1. Confirmation of activities:**

- a) To confirm whether the applicant is requesting the use of Sherman Lake water as a sediment diluent for the current proceeding.
- b) To confirm whether the applicant is requesting the use of structural (i.e., non-ice) bridges at various river crossings.

**2. If yes to 1a):**

- a) Provide a comprehensive description for the use of water from Sherman Lake including but not limited to: the location, frequency, and timing of withdrawal, and the maximum volume.
- b) Describe any potential impacts and mitigations for the proposed use of water from Sherman Lake.<sup>9</sup>

**3. If yes to 1b):**

- a) Provide details regarding the proposed construction of structural bridges, including but not limited to: potential locations and design;
- b) Describe any potential impacts and mitigations for construction of structural bridges in these potential locations.<sup>10</sup>

In order to ensure the regulatory process proceeds efficiently, we ask that CIRNAC-CARD endeavor to submit the requested information as soon as possible, and no later than August 6, 2021. If CIRNAC-CARD responds yes to either or both 1a and 1b above, Parties will be given the opportunity to review the information and the applicant an opportunity to respond – all of which will inform the Board’s preliminary screening determination.

All information regarding these Water Licence and Land Use Permit applications proceeding will be posted on the WLWB’s [Online Registry](#). If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Fequet at 867-765-4589.

Sincerely,



Ryan Fequet,  
Executive Director, WLWB

BCC to: Rayrock Distribution List

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<sup>9</sup> Refer to the [MVLWB Guide to the Water Licensing Process](#); p. 59

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*