



Via Email

Mr. Mason Mantla
Chair
Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board
1-4905 48 STREET
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 3S3

March 27, 2024

Dear Mr. Mantla:

Whatì Access Road Rehabilitation Project: Updates on Type B Water Licence (W2021L8-0002) Annual Report

On August 2, 2021, the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (WLWB) issued a Type B Water Licence (WL) (W2021L8-0002) to the Government of the Northwest Territories' Department of Infrastructure (GNWT-INF) for the Rehabilitation of Whatì Access Road. The Whatì Access Road is approximately 14 Km access road that connects the Tìjchq Highway (Tìjchq All-Season Road) at Km 97 and was originally designated as a winter road. The access road is expected to be upgraded to the Tìjchq Highway standard. In accordance with Schedule 1, Condition 1 of the WL, GNWT-INF is required to submit a WL Annual Report by March 31, 2024. GNWT-INF is submitting this letter to update the WLWB on the project and to provide the rationale for not submitting a fulsome WL Annual Report for the reporting period.

During the reporting period, there were no construction activities. Therefore, GNWT-INF is unable to submit a full WL Annual Report per Schedule 1, Condition 1 of the WL. Also, given that no construction took place, GNWT-INF did not conduct an annual review of the relevant approved environmental management plans in accordance with Part B, Condition 9 of the WL. No additional studies were undertaken either.

In preparation for summer construction works in 2024, INF has obtained an approval for Design Drawings and Construction Plan from the WLWB for a 14-meter bridge, which is associated with the access road rehabilitation project. Additionally, INF has been actively working with DFO to ensure mitigation measures are implemented by the contractor to prevent sediment release into the watercourse during the summer constructions.

Once the contract is fully awarded, a revised construction schedule will be submitted by the contractor. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (867) 767-9086 Ext. 31117 or by email at Ziaur_Rahman@gov.nt.ca at your earliest convenience

Sincerely,

Ziaur Rahman
Manager, Surface Design and
Construction
Department of Infrastructure

c. Bertha Rabesca-Zoe, Tìjchq Executive Officer
Tìjchq Government