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May 6, 2024

File: W2024S0004

Pushp Seth
Senior Administrative Officer
Community Government of Behchokò
PO BOX 68
Behchokò, NT X1A 3R3

Sent by email

Pushp Seth,

Re: The Community Government of Behchokò – Permit Issuance Package – Geotechnical Drilling– Behchokò, NT

The Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (Board) met on April 24, 2024 and considered the Community Government of Behchokò Application for Land Use Permit W2024S0004 for the Behchokò Bridge Geotechnical Drilling Project at Behchokò, NT (Project) in accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The Board has approved Land Use Permit (Permit) W2024S0004 (attached) for a term of one year effective May 6, 2024 and expiring May 5, 2024. The Permit is supported by the Board's Reasons for Decision. These documents are posted to the Board's Public Registry.¹

Inspectors

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

¹ See WLWB Online Registry (www.wlwb.ca) for [W2024S0004](#)

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

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 the Community Government of Behchokò is anticipated and appreciated. Please contact Roberta Judas via [email](#) or at (867) 713-2501 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Mason Mantla
Chair, Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board

BCC'd to: Wek'èezhìi Distribution List
Clint Ambrose – Inspector, GNWT-ECC

Attached: Land Use Permit W2024S0004

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



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The Community Government of Behchokò

Land Use Permit W2024S0004

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

The Community Government of Behchokò

(Permittee)

of **PO BOX 68, Behchokò, NT X1A 3R3**

(Mailing Address)

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

Location:	Behchokò, NT
Purpose:	Geotechnical Drilling
Type:	A
Effective Date:	May 6, 2024
Expiry Date:	May 5, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mason Mantla".

Mason Mantla, Chair
Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anneli Jokela".

Anneli Jokela, Witness

Conditions Annexed to and Forming Part of Land Use Permit # W2024S0004

Part A: Scope of Permit

1. This Permit entitles the Permittee to conduct the following land-use operation:
 - a) Use of earth-drilling machinery for the purpose of geotechnical investigations
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, Deline, Tłıchǫ, or Municipal laws.

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

Act - the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

Board - the Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board established under Part 3 of the Act.

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

Closure and Reclamation - the process and activities that facilitate the return of areas affected by the Project to viable and, wherever practicable, self-sustaining ecosystems that are compatible with a healthy environment, human activities, and the surrounding environment.

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.

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.

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.

Minister - the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada or the Minister of the Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Lands, as the case may be.

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.

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.

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.

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. 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
26(1)(b) Time	
3. <u>Option 1:</u> At least 48 hours prior to the initial commencement of the land-use operation, the Permittee's Field Supervisor shall notify the Board and contact an Inspector at (867) 767-9188.	INITIAL NOTIFICATION – CONTACT INSPECTOR
4. 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: 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
5. At least ten days prior to the completion of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall advise an Inspector of: 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.	REPORTS BEFORE FINAL REMOVAL
26(1)(c) Type and Size of Equipment	
6. 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)(e) Type, Location, Capacity, and Operation of All Facilities

7. 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

8. The land-use operation shall not cause obstruction to any natural drainage. **NATURAL DRAINAGE**

9. The Permittee shall install and maintain suitable erosion control structures as the land-use operation progresses. **PROGRESSIVE EROSION CONTROL**

10. The Permittee shall, where flowing water from a Borehole is encountered: **FLOWING ARTESIAN WELL**

- 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.

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

11. 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**

12. 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**

13. The Permittee may deposit Drilling Waste that does not contain Toxic Material in a Sump. 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**

14. The Permittee shall remove all Drilling Waste containing Toxic Material to an approved disposal facility. **DRILLING WASTE DISPOSAL**

15. The Permittee shall not allow any Drilling Waste to spread to the surrounding lands or Watercourses. **DRILLING WASTE CONTAINMENT**

16. 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

17. 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

18. The Permittee shall dispose of all Waste as described in 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**

19. The Permittee shall keep all garbage and debris in a secure container until disposal.
- GARBAGE CONTAINER**

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

20. 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**

21. The Permittee shall not knowingly remove, disturb, or displace any archaeological specimen or site.
- SITE DISTURBANCE**

22. The Permittee shall, where a suspected archaeological or historical site, or burial ground is discovered:
- SITE DISCOVERY AND NOTIFICATION**
- a) immediately suspend operations on the site; and
 - b) notify the Board at (867) 765-4592 or an Inspector at (867) 767-9188, and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre at 767-9347 ext. 71251 or ext. 71255.

26(1)(l) Security Deposit

23. All costs to remediate the area under this Permit are the responsibility of the Permittee.
- RESPONSIBILITY FOR REMEDIATION COSTS**

26(1)(m) Fuel Storage

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| 24. The Permittee shall set up all refueling points with Secondary Containment | SECONDARY CONTAINMENT - REFUELING DRIP TRAYS |
| 25. All equipment that may be parked for two hours or more, shall have a hazmat/drip tray under it or be sufficiently diapered. Leaky equipment shall be repaired immediately. | |
| 26. The Permittee shall: | REPAIR LEAKS |
| a) examine all Fuel Storage Containers and Tank for leaks; and | |
| b) repair all leaks immediately. | |
| 27. The Permittee shall not allow petroleum products to spread to surrounding lands or Watercourses. | FUEL CONTAINMENT |
| 28. The Permittee shall comply with 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 |
| 29. 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 |
| 30. The Permittee shall clean up all leaks, spills, and contaminated material immediately | CLEAN UP SPILLS |
| 31. During the period of this Permit, if a spill occurs or is foreseeable, the Permittee shall: | REPORT SPILLS |
| a) implement the approved Spill Contingency Plan; | |
| b) report it-immediately using the NU-NT Spill Report Form by one of the following methods: | |
| • Telephone: (867) 920-8130 | |
| • Fax: (867) 873-6924 | |
| • E-mail: spills@gov.nt.ca | |
| • Online: Spill Reporting and Tracking Database | |
| 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. | |

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

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| 32. The Permittee shall not clear areas larger than identified in the complete application. | MINIMIZE AREA
CLEARED |
| 33. The Permittee shall progressively dispose of all brush and trees; all disposal shall be completed prior to the end of this land use operation | BRUSH DISPOSAL/
TIME |

26(1)(o) Restoration of the Lands

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| 34. 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 |
| 35. The Permittee shall carry out Progressive Reclamation of disturbed areas as soon as it is practical to do so. | PROGRESSIVE
RECLAMATION |

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

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| 36. 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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| 37. If nesting areas are encountered during the course of operations, the Permittee shall minimize all activity so as to not disturb them. | MIGRATORY BIRD
NEST DISTURBANCE |
| 38. 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 |