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## Work Plan

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>File Number</b>       | W2023L4-0001   |
| <b>Applicant</b>         | Northwest Territories Power Corporation (NTPC)                   |
| <b>Project</b>           | Snare Hydroelectric Facility – Water Licence Renewal Application |
| <b>Location</b>          | Snare River, NT  |
| <b>Activity</b>          | Power  |
| <b>Date of Work Plan</b> | July 25, 2023  |
| <b>Work Plan Version</b> | Version 1  |

### Purpose of the Work Plan

To outline the processes and timelines to be followed for this regulatory proceeding.

### Background

On June 29, 2023, the Applicant submitted a Renewal Application for its type A Water Licences N1L4-0150 and W2014L4-0001 (Licences) (the Application Package) to the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (Board). On July 10, 2023, the Application Package was deemed complete.

### Scope of the Project

The scope of the Project includes the already licenced hydroelectric generation plants and associated structures at Snare Rapids, Snare Falls, and Snare Forks (currently under Water Licence N1L4-0150), as well as Snare Cascades (currently under Water Licence W2014L4-0004). NTPC is applying to combine the authorizations for the facilities into one Water Licence as outlined in the Application Package.

### Guiding Principles

The following principles will guide the Board's regulatory proceeding:

- The Board will carry out the regulatory proceeding in a timely manner and in accordance with the Boards' [Rules of Procedure](#);
- The Board shall consider the impacts of the proposed Project on and the importance of conservation to the wellbeing and way of life of the Indigenous peoples of Canada (section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*);

- The Board will review the Application Package and develop the licence based on the evidence and rationale submitted by the Applicant and other Parties; and
- The Board will develop the licence in accordance with the Board’s mandate and applicable policies to ensure protection of the environment and, where possible, consistency in decision-making throughout the Mackenzie Valley.

**Work Plan Objectives**

The Work Plan objectives are:

- Compile a broad range of input through the review process;
- Ensure adequate information is gathered to complete the Board’s regulatory proceeding; and
- Facilitate a thorough, inclusive, and timely regulatory proceeding.

**Opportunities for Community Engagement**

- The Board requires the Applicant to engage with potentially affected parties – including communities and Indigenous organizations and governments – regarding the Application Package prior to submission;
- The Board will distribute the Application Package, a draft Work Plan, and a draft Licence for public review using the LWB Online Review System (ORS);
- The Board will place a notification(s) regarding the review process in the newspaper;
- The Board will coordinate a technical session to address specific issues that require more focused review and discussion;
- The Board will hold a public hearing and will place a notification regarding the hearing in the newspaper; and
- The Board will hold any other consultation or engagement activity that the Board considers appropriate.

**Regulatory Proceeding Timelines**

Subsection 47(1) of the *Waters Act* requires the Board to make a decision on a water licence application within a period of nine months after the day on which an application is deemed complete and the review process begins. Based on section 28 of the *Federal Interpretation Act*, this is equivalent to 275 calendar days. The Board’s day count stops whenever the Board requires the Applicant to provide information for the regulatory proceeding to continue (signified by the red shading in the table below). Once that information has been provided, the Board’s day count resumes (signified by the green shading in the table below). Significant milestones have also been bolded in the table below.

The Work Plan table below sets out the main process steps and indicates the responsible Party and the anticipated completion date for each item.

## Work Plan

| Task   | Responsible Party                                     | Date Due<br>(Date Completed)                                  |
|--|---|---|
| Application Package Submitted  | Applicant   | Thursday, June 29, 2023                                       |
| <b>Application Package Complete and Distributed for Review with Draft Work Plan</b>        | <b>Board staff</b>                                    | <b>Monday, July 10, 2023</b>                                  |
| Deadline for Comments on Draft Work Plan   | All Parties   | Monday, July 24, 2023   |
| <b>Deadline for Comments on Application Package and for Notices of Compensation Claims</b> | <b>Reviewers</b>                                      | <b>Monday, August 14, 2023</b>                                |
| Deadline for Applicant's Responses to Comments   | Applicant   | Monday, August 28, 2023                                       |
| Preliminary Screening Determination  | Board   | September, 2023   |
| <b>Technical Session</b>   | <b>All Parties<br/>[Location to be determined]</b>    | <b>Tuesday –<br/>Wednesday,<br/>September 26-27<br/>2023</b>  |
| Distribute Technical Session Information Requests  | Board Staff   | <b>Thursday, September 28, 2023</b>                           |
| Deadline for Responses to Information Requests   | All Parties   | Thursday, October 05, 2023                                    |
| <b>Pre-Hearing Conference</b>  | <b>All Parties<br/>[WLWB Office/Zoom]</b>             | <b>Monday, October 16, 2023</b>                               |
| <b>Deadline for Interventions and for Compensation Claims</b>                              | <b>Interveners and<br/>Compensation<br/>Claimants</b> | <b>Wednesday,<br/>November 01, 2023</b>                       |
| Deadline for Applicant's Response to Interventions   | Applicant   | Monday, November 13, 2023                                     |
| Deadline for Interveners' Public Hearing Presentations                                     | Interveners   | Monday, November 20, 2023                                     |
| Deadline for Applicant's Public Hearing Presentation                                       | Applicant   | Wednesday,<br>November 22, 2023                               |
| <b>Public Hearing</b>  | <b>All Parties<br/>[Behchokò]</b>                     | <b>Wednesday -<br/>Thursday,<br/>November 29-30,<br/>2023</b> |
| Distribute Public Hearing Undertakings   | Board Staff   | Thursday, November 30, 2023                                   |
| Deadline for Response to Public Hearing Undertakings                                       | All Parties   | Thursday, December 7, 2023                                    |

| <b>Task</b>  | <b>Responsible Party</b> | <b>Date Due<br/>(Date Completed)</b> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Draft Licence Distributed for Review               | Board Staff              | Thursday, January 11, 2024           |
| Deadline for Comments on Draft Licence             | Reviewers                | Thursday, January 25, 2024           |
| Deadline for Applicant's Comments on Draft Licence | Applicant                | Thursday, February 01, 2024          |
| Deadline for Closing Arguments                     | Reviewers                | Thursday, February 08, 2024          |
| Deadline for Applicant's Closing Arguments         | Applicant                | Thursday, February 15, 2024          |
| Board Meeting                                      | Board                    | March 2023                           |
| <b>Board Recommendation to the Minister</b>        | <b>Board</b>             | <b>Early April 2023</b>              |
| Minister's Decision                                | Minister                 | Up to 90 days                        |

Please note that the Work Plan has been created based on the information available and is subject to change at any time.

**Work Plan Revision History**

| <b>Version</b> | <b>Date</b>   | <b>Rationale for Revision</b>                                     |
|----------------|---------------|---|
| 1              | July 25, 2023 | To remove "Draft" watermark and update the public hearing timing. |