



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

Media Release

January 25, 2013

The Review Panel approves the proposed Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway Project

Inuvik - On January 25, 2013 the Panel appointed by the Environmental Impact Review Board submitted the **FINAL REPORT of the Panel for the Substituted Environmental Impact Review of the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk, Town of Inuvik, and GNWT – Proposal to Construct the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway, [02/10-05]** to the Minister of the Environment and federal authorities authorized to approve this development. The Project includes the construction, operation and maintenance of a 140 kilometer, all-weather gravel highway from the Town of Inuvik to the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk, located in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region of the Northwest Territories.

The Project was reviewed in accordance with section 11 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and subject to a substituted environmental review process pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

The Review Panel has concluded that this Development should proceed, subject to the commitments made by the Developer and the measures recommended in the Report. The Review Panel considers these measures necessary to prevent or mitigate any significant environmental or socio-economic effects resulting from the Project, and to minimize negative impacts on wildlife harvesting.

The Review Panel's final report is available on line in the public registry at www.eirb.ca.

A Summary of the decision and recommendations of the Review Panel is provided as an attachment to this News Release.



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About the Environmental Impact Review Board

The environmental impact screening and review process set out in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement establishes the Environmental Impact Screening Committee and the Environmental Impact Review Board which are responsible for environmental impact screening and environmental impact review in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Northwest Territories.

A five member Panel of the Review Board members conducted the public review and wrote the report setting out its findings and recommendations for Ministers and competent government authorities.

For further information, please contact, Eli Nasogaluak, EIRB Environmental Assessment Coordinator at eirb@jointsec.nt.ca or call (867) 777-2828.



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Requesting information

If you are looking for information please call Eli Nasogaluak at the Joint Secretariat, Inuvik.

Because of the quasi-judicial nature of the Review Board, there are limitations as to what the Chairperson, Members and staff can speak about. Review Board decisions, submissions made by other parties or any other evidence must speak for itself. The staff cannot provide interpretation or explanations of any information that is on the public record. All the information is available on the Review Board's website.

If you would like to gain a better understanding of the information on the public record, please contact the groups or individuals who submitted the particular document. It is advisable to make sure they have had a chance to read the decision before soliciting comments.

Finding background information and other interview sources

There are a number of sources you can use for background information about the Review Board and ongoing assessments.

Aside from the public registry, which contains all the information the Review Board has on file, contact the developer of the project under assessment. Review Board staff will only be able to give you a cursory overview of the project. The developer is best suited to describe its own project.



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For the ITH environmental assessment, the following groups were listed as registered parties:

Government Parties to the Proceeding	Inuvialuit Parties to the Proceeding
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)	Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee (Aklavik HTC)
Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) - Northern Projects Management Office (NPMO)	Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC)
Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)	Inuvialuit Land Administration (ILA)
Environment Canada (EC)	Wildlife Management Advisory Committee (NWT) (WMAC)
Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) – coordinating all GNWT departments	
Health Canada (HC)	
Infrastructure Canada (INFC)	
Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)	
Parks Canada (PC)	
Transport Canada (TC)	
Other Parties to the Proceeding	
Inuvik Community Corporation (ICC)	Tuktoyaktuk Inuvik Working Group (TIWG)
Tuktoyaktuk Community Corporation (TCC)	

You may wish to contact these groups to find out more about the information they submitted to the Review Board for consideration.