



“When You Talk - We Listen!”



PARAMOUNT RESOURCES LTD.

POINTED MOUNTAIN GAS FIELD REMEDIATION PROJECT  
WATER LICENCE MV2023L1-0010 and LAND USE PERMIT  
MV2023A0028 APPLICATION

PUBLIC HEARING

Panel Members:

Tanya MacIntosh	Chairperson
Camilia Zoe-Chocolate	Member
Lesley Allen	Member
Cathie Bolstad	Member

HELD AT:

Community Hall

Fort Liard, NT

April 10, 2025

Day 2 of 2

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1		LIST OF UNDERTAKINGS	
2	Undertaking No.	Description	Page No.
3	3	EQC for all potential discharges to	
4		land.	
5		Paramount to provide proposed Effluent	
6		Quality Criteria, as per the Boards'	
7		Waste and Wastewater Management Policy	
8		with rationale and/or derivations where	
9		applicable, for effluent discharges to	
10		land, including but not limited to the	
11		following sources:	
12		- The oxidation pond;	
13		- Poned water from soil excavations;	
14		and	
15		- Contact water from bioremediation of	
16		contaminated soil.	
17		Paramount to include proposed discharge	
18		locations and/or setbacks where	
19		applicable or possible.	
20	4	Options analysis for landfilling	
21		contaminated waste.	
22		Paramount to provide the standard or	
23		guidance they plan to use for the	
24		"evaluation of alternative remediation	
25		and management options or combinations	

1	LIST OF UNDERTAKINGS	
2	Undertaking No.	Page No.
3	of options in addition to the onsite	
4	landfill" referred to the in their	
5	response to ADKFN's Intervention	
6	5.3.1.c.	
7	5 Policy on Security	
8	The Government of the Northwest	
9	Territories Department of Environment	
10	and Climate Change (GNWT-ECC) to	
11	provide the GNWT's policy or policy	
12	statement on security for water	
13	licenses.	
14		
15		
16		
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25		

1 --- Upon commencing at 9:00 a.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
4 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
5 Good morning, everybody. I'd like to call the room to  
6 order.

7 Welcome back to the public Hearing for  
8 Paramount's application for a type 'A' water licence.  
9 My name is Tanya MacIntosh. And I am the Chair of the  
10 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and this  
11 proceeding.

12 Today, we are going to sit from 9:00  
13 until 12:00 and from one o'clock until four o'clock.  
14 I've adjusted the lunch hour so that we can have  
15 additional time. I'm also adjusting our breaks to be  
16 shorter, so, like, ten (10) minutes maximum.

17 And -- and I'm going to be trying to  
18 allocate time equally so that we can all get our  
19 questions and get through the agenda today.

20 There are a few reminders that I would  
21 like to cover before we continue. For those requiring  
22 the Wi-Fi and password, please let me know and I can  
23 distribute that.

24 The washrooms as we know, are located  
25 there. And in case of emergency, there are two (2)

1 exits, one (1) to my left and one (1) in the main door  
2 that we came through.

3                   For those of you in the Hearing room,  
4 please ensure your cellphones are in silent mode and  
5 that your computers are on mute. If you are joining  
6 us virtually, please keep yourself on mute until I  
7 have indicated it is your turn.

8                   That being said, when we are doing the  
9 questions and responses, as you noticed yesterday, I  
10 do not feel that I need to indicate each time, and so  
11 I would ask that people just proceed back and forth.

12                   Members of the public who would like to  
13 speak or ask questions either in person or via Zoom  
14 should ensure that they register as speakers using the  
15 sign-up sheet or provide -- or providing their contact  
16 information to the Board staff technology coordinator,  
17 who is Chris Hotson. Pardon me.

18                   Please state your name and organization  
19 each time before you speak to ensure the Hearing is  
20 accurately transcribed.

21                   Keep in mind that we also -- oh, no, we  
22 don't have an interpreter. Please follow my  
23 instructions on turn taking and only speak when I have  
24 indicated it is your turn.

25                   Yesterday, we ended a little



1 differently than anticipated, so we are still working  
2 on Paramount's questions from Interveners. And so, we  
3 stopped with GNWT-ECC. And we will now start today  
4 with ECCC.

5                   Following that, we also had the  
6 presentation from ADK yesterday. And so, we will --  
7 after the questions to Paramount, we'll start with  
8 questions to ADK.

9                   I would like to now ask ECC to start  
10 their questions for Paramount. Please go ahead, ECCC.

11

12 CONTINUED QUESTION PERIOD OF PARAMOUNT:

13                   MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM): Good  
14 morning. Mitchell Johnson, with ECCC. I believe we  
15 do have one (1) question, so I'll turn it over to our  
16 water quality analyst.

17                   MS. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): Sarah  
18 Forte, with Environment and Climate Change Canada.  
19 Thank you for the presentation you made yesterday, the  
20 Paramount folks.

21                   I have one (1) question regarding  
22 possible downhole disposal of leachate. And I think  
23 the possibility was also on the slides for other  
24 effluent.

25                   So, for disposal of -- of leachate and

1 possibly effluent, offsite disposal was one (1) option  
2 that was presented. And then there was also downhole  
3 injection. My understanding is that the injection  
4 well C-1 on the plant site has been abandoned.

5 And so, I was wondering, is there  
6 another injection well available or would that one be  
7 reopened? Or where were you seeing this possibility  
8 of injection? Thanks.

9 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Good morning,  
10 everybody. Terence Hughes, Paramount. Yeah, the  
11 injection well has been abandoned, but we could re-  
12 enter it and reuse it. In order to do that, we would  
13 have to get an approval from OROGO, who I believe the  
14 acronym stands for the Office of the Regulator For Oil  
15 and Gas Operations in the Northwest Territories

16 MS. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): With  
17 Environment and Climate Change Canada. Thank you for  
18 that clarification. And that was my only question.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
20 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
21 Are there any other remaining ECCC members that have  
22 questions for the Proponent?

23 MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):  
24 Mitchell Johnson, ECCC? No, that's it for our  
25 questions. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much  
2 for that. Tanya MacIntosh, Chair of the Mackenzie  
3 Valley Land and Water Board. I'd like to move on from  
4 -- from them and now offer the opportunity for  
5 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board staff, and  
6 technical advisors, and legal counsel.

7 Board staff...?

8 DR. KATHY RACHER: Morning. Kathy  
9 Racher here, with the -- with the Board. So, I just  
10 have a question relating to ADKFN's recommendation  
11 that Paramount propose alternative methods for  
12 contaminated soil disposal outside of the onsite  
13 landfill.

14 And in response, Paramount stated that  
15 the CRP will provide an evaluation of alternative  
16 remediation and management options or combinations of  
17 options.

18 And I see on slide 45 of your  
19 presentation there's a list of sort of factors that  
20 would be considered when you evaluate closure options,  
21 including environmental impact, safety uncertainties,  
22 reliability, practicality, emissions, durability,  
23 disturbance, and timelines.

24 And I'm just wondering. Given ADKFN's  
25 stated concerns about the onsite landfill, how you

1 will -- or do you plan to address or incorporate the -  
2 - the input from ADKFN, their concerns and their --  
3 and land use objectives into your evaluation of  
4 closure options with regard to the landfill in  
5 particular?

6 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
7 with Paramount Resources. Yes, we'll take that into  
8 consideration.

9 DR. KATHY RACHER: Okay. Kathy  
10 Racher, for the Board. Okay.

11 So -- and you're -- you're planning on  
12 using -- like, doing that as part of our process, the  
13 input they provide during the Board's process, as  
14 opposed to a one-on-one engagement with the community?

15 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
16 with Paramount. As we have stated on the record and  
17 is documented in the log, you know, if they request  
18 additional engagement, we're -- we are available.  
19 Their last request for additional engagement we  
20 followed up on and didn't get a response.

21 So, if there's a request there, we'll -  
22 - we'll follow up and make ourselves available and  
23 take it from there. But, you know, we obviously have  
24 their presentation, their intervention, the comments  
25 that were made yesterday by their representative, the

1 comments by the chief, and the comments by their  
2 members who attended the public session last night,  
3 so.

4 DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher.  
5 Thanks for that answer, Terence.

6 One (1) point we noted, that GNWT-ECC  
7 has provided two (2) security estimates for the  
8 Project with their Intervention, one in the case that  
9 the landfill option is approved and one without.

10 And we're just wondering if Paramount  
11 would like the opportunity to submit a second security  
12 estimate based on no landfill. It's not a requirement  
13 for you to do, but just in fairness, we just thought  
14 we'd -- we'd mention the opportunity.

15 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
16 with Paramount. I -- we -- I don't think we would  
17 provide a security for that scenario. As like we  
18 stated yesterday, we -- we've applied for a landfill.  
19 That's our preferred option. You know, if we -- we  
20 wouldn't see that, you know. It's not our  
21 application.

22 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
23 with Board staff. Just wanted to seek some  
24 clarification on slide 42 of your presentation.

25 So, Paramount notes that other water

1 for discharge could be created during reclamation.

2 I think it's -- you've made it crystal  
3 clear that there is no landfill leachate being applied  
4 for an authorization to discharge. Can you just  
5 clarify what the other water would entail?

6 I heard you talk about, like, there'd  
7 be water ponded from excavations and -- and whatnot,  
8 but would there be any other managed water for  
9 discharge beyond that?

10 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
11 with Paramount. I can't see the -- I would assume my  
12 colleagues are online, but, Ian, are you there?

13 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Yeah. Ian  
14 Kier, with Paramount. I think we also contemplated --  
15 so -- so, correct, it's not landfill leachate. It  
16 could be water from soil or medial excavations. It --  
17 it could be water.

18 If we establish a bioremediation cell  
19 as an example, there could be runoff from there that  
20 gets tested and released. We did say we are looking  
21 at other remedial options.

22 You know, I wouldn't think something  
23 like soil washing or -- or that, you know, has been  
24 currently contemplated, but I think the two (2) -- the  
25 two (2) ones that stick out to me the most would be

1 runoff from a -- from a treatment area or water that,  
2 you know, either it rains while we're doing a soil  
3 remediation excavation or there's some -- some  
4 groundwater seepage as we do that.

5 I'm sorry. I see my camera's grayed  
6 out here on my laptop; I'm not sure why.

7 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Okay. Thanks,  
8 Ian. Heather Scott, Board staff. I think you briefly  
9 spoke about this with GNWT yesterday.

10 But does Paramount plan to propose  
11 discharge effluent criteria for a potential  
12 bioremediation pad or land farm established on site?

13 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): We're -- Ian  
14 Kier, with Paramount. We're only planning on  
15 proposing a single set of EQC for that, for the  
16 Project. That would capture all potential, you know,  
17 water that needs -- wants to -- that we want to  
18 release.

19 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
20 Board staff. Thanks, Ian. When will Paramount be  
21 proposing that criteria?

22 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): The initial -  
23 - the initial plan was to put it in the -- sorry, Ian  
24 Kier, Paramount. The initial plan was to put it in  
25 the upcoming ICRP. But -- and sorry, I meant to talk

1 to -- to Millenium on that this morning, and I -- I  
2 didn't get a chance.

3 But, you know, depending on when the  
4 undertakings would be due, it's possible we could --  
5 we could get back to you on that. Is there a date  
6 that -- that an undertaking -- if we took that as an  
7 undertaking, when a response would be required?

8 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
9 with Paramount. Like, we have the current agenda. It  
10 says April 24th.

11 Is that still the -- the expectations,  
12 that undertakings will be circulated by the Board on  
13 the 14th, and then responses would be on the 24th?

14 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
15 Board staff. Yes, that's correct.

16 So, would Paramount be willing to take  
17 that as an undertaking, to propose that one (1) set of  
18 EQC for "the other water discharges on site for the  
19 project"?

20 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
21 with Paramount. So, just to confirm, when you say  
22 "other discharges," are -- isn't there only -- are you  
23 referring to the other being leachate or...?

24 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
25 Board staff. I guess I'm -- I'm referring to, going



1 back to the slide, everything. Well, any --  
2 essentially, Board staff are hoping Paramount proposes  
3 EQC for any discharge they're seeking authorization  
4 for under this licence.

5 And from what I gather, it could be,  
6 based on your side, management of the oxidation pond  
7 is management of water pulled from excavations and  
8 water from a bioremediation pad or otherwise.

9 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
10 with Paramount. So, that's correct. And just to  
11 confirm then, the -- the submission would have to be  
12 on the 14th?

13 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: 24th.

14 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Oh. Yes.  
15 Ian Kier, with Paramount. We can submit that as an  
16 undertaking by the 24th.

17 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
18 Board staff. Thank you. That concludes our  
19 questioning I believe.

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
21 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

22 Does legal counsel have any questions?  
23 I'd like to just circle back and see if members of the  
24 public here in the room have any questions for  
25 Paramount.

1                   Are there any members of the public  
2 online, Chris? Okay.

3                   Then I'd like to move forward and ask  
4 the Board if they have any questions for Paramount.  
5 Okay. I'd like to thank Paramount for their  
6 presentation and taking on the questions.

7                   And now I'd like to move forward with  
8 questions for ADKFN and their presentation. And I  
9 would like to start with the GNWT-ECCC -- or GNWT-ECC.  
10 Thank you.

11

12 QUESTION PERIOD OF ADKFN:

13                   MR. BILL PAIN: Good morning. Thank  
14 you, Madam Chair. Bill Pain, GNWT-ECC. Yes, thanks  
15 again, ADKFN, for your presentation yesterday -- or  
16 last night. We just have a couple questions. We'll  
17 try to keep it concise.

18                   So, we just want clarity on the  
19 discussion of the acceptability of the landfill and  
20 the understanding -- or at least my understanding, and  
21 maybe this would be clarified through the proceeding,  
22 that, you know, this is going to be a perceptual or,  
23 like, forever landfill for containment of hazardous  
24 waste.

25                   We understand that this is something

1 that is acceptable to the government and the  
2 community. So, can you maybe just elaborate, speak on  
3 if this is an acceptable closure strategy having this  
4 landfill on the site. And how would this impact or  
5 deal with the land claim negotiations or anything you  
6 submit in the future?

7           You touched on this yesterday, but  
8 maybe just reiterate or kind of expand on that. Thank  
9 you.

10           MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark McDougall,  
11 ADK. Thank you for the question.

12           I think the voices we heard yesterday,  
13 especially in the public section, made it fairly clear  
14 that this is not something that the community can  
15 support, that being a landfill and -- and contaminants  
16 being stored forever on Pointed Mountain.

17           As Chief shared with the -- with the  
18 group yesterday, Pointed Mountain is -- is a sacred  
19 area for this community and an area that is, you know,  
20 not only rich in historic, you know, cultural history,  
21 but also contemporary land use, and that extends into  
22 Fisherman Lake below.

23           So, simply on that measure, logically,  
24 it doesn't make sense. And from the community's  
25 perspective, it doesn't make sense. So, as a result,

1 it's -- it's not something that -- that we can  
2 support.

3                   Speaking a little bit more to how we  
4 see specifically the impacts to -- to rights and land  
5 claims -- and I think I'll -- I'll sort of break this  
6 up into a few pieces.

7                   From the right's perspective,  
8 obviously, the efforts that we're all trying to make  
9 here is to minimize environmental impacts. You know,  
10 this is not a Greenfield development project. We are  
11 actively looking at opportunities to minimize, you  
12 know, further environmental risk. And -- and, you  
13 know, that is something we -- we certainly support.

14                   Where -- where I think we all need to  
15 be conscious of the potential impacts that may be  
16 continued, I suppose, by decisions made to keep  
17 contaminants at site, perhaps less speak to the  
18 biophysical impacts -- or effects leading to -- to  
19 impacts to -- to harvest rights and those sort of  
20 things, but -- but rather the -- the perceived effects  
21 and -- and the behavioral modification that might be  
22 associated with, you know, just the fear of knowing  
23 something is -- is in the ground regardless of whether  
24 or not it is safe for generations, just knowing it's  
25 there.

1                   And -- and we heard that from some of  
2 the voices that's presented last night, just a level  
3 of fear that may result in people avoiding, you know,  
4 eating and fishing from Fisherman's Lake or hunting  
5 from the Pointed Mountain area, which, you know, these  
6 -- these perceived impacts are tantamount to -- to  
7 real or physically impacts when it comes to -- to  
8 rights.

9                   So, that's -- that's certainly one (1)  
10 element. And that speaks more to sort of the  
11 Aboriginal and -- and Treaty rights.

12                   With respect to the -- the settlement  
13 agreement, I think there's -- there's a few avenues in  
14 which this may intersect at a simple straightforward,  
15 you know, almost practical level. Actually, sorry,  
16 I'll back up.

17                   So, ADK's interest is to have a  
18 consolidated land area that does not have holes cut  
19 out for -- for areas that are, you know, held by third  
20 parties or, you know, withdrawn as a result of -- of,  
21 you know, hazards of various degrees.

22                   And so, with that intention, if -- if  
23 ADK were to select the -- the lands that this Project  
24 currently sits on, we see the potential to have a  
25 landfill and waste stored there as -- as diminishing

1 the value of those lands, both financially, so the --  
2 the surface and subsurface rights maybe -- or value of  
3 those rights may be diminished.

4           And -- and certainly just having that -  
5 - that site in -- in ADK's possession of land, you  
6 know, generations out, what does -- what does that do  
7 to -- you know, what is the responsibility that comes  
8 back to ADK if -- you know, once Paramount relinquish  
9 the site and -- and ADK is in possession of those  
10 lands, what are the -- what are the potential  
11 implications? And I think we're trying to wrap our  
12 heads around what that might be.

13           So, from a -- from a negotiating  
14 perspective, it does draw into question, you know, if  
15 the decision is to leave -- leave contaminated  
16 material onsite regardless of method, you know, would  
17 we want to select those lands.

18           And so, I'm afraid that this process  
19 may bias that -- that decision to select those lands,  
20 which is a shame given how important they are to the  
21 community. Thanks.

22           MR. LEE ROSS: Thank you for that.  
23 Lee Ross, GNWT.

24           We -- we note that Paramount has yet to  
25 provide a comprehensive Closure and Reclamation Plan,

1 which is essential in assessing the true intentions of  
2 Paramount's strategy for abandonment and reclamation.

3 Does ADKFN have a timeline that  
4 Paramount -- or they would like Paramount to meet to  
5 submit this plan to ADKFN for engagement purposes, or  
6 do they have any thoughts on when the plan should be  
7 submitted to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board  
8 for public review? Thank you.

9 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
10 ADK. I'm not sure if I have, you know, a great answer  
11 to that. You know, obviously, as we've -- we've heard  
12 today, there's more work to be done in order to  
13 develop that plan.

14 We would like to see a concept as soon  
15 as feasible, but we recognize there is work to be  
16 done. Our -- our efforts and -- and intentions are to  
17 advance abandonment and reclamation work. And so, the  
18 sooner that we can have a concept, the sooner that we  
19 can have a meaningful plan, in our opinion, the better  
20 because it will allow things to begin to move forward.

21 So, I -- I don't necessarily have, you  
22 know, a specific timeline, but my expectation is for,  
23 you know, if a licence is granted for this Closure and  
24 Reclamation Plan to be developed and -- and done so in  
25 an expedient fashion.

1 MR. BILL PAIN: Thank you. Bill Pain,  
2 GNWT-ECC. Just one (1) or two (2) quick questions in  
3 security. Then we'll pass it over just for a couple  
4 of quick questions on our EQC -- or your, sorry,  
5 discussion on EQC.

6 We appreciate ADKFN's kind of  
7 recommendations on the bonding and security that was  
8 presented in your presentation, and then intervention.

9 I'm just curious if you can expand or  
10 have any thoughts on the security that we presented,  
11 GNWT presented, like, questions on when that maybe  
12 should be posted and if any -- do you feel the -- the  
13 security that we recommended is appropriate, whether  
14 it's too much, too little, or no comment is fine, too?  
15 Thank you.

16 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
17 ADK. Yes, I'll try to unpack those sort of in order.  
18 So, I think in terms of the timing of security, ADK's  
19 longstanding position is that security should be held  
20 for standing liabilities.

21 I know this is a relatively unique  
22 Project. Again, we're not talking about a Greenfield  
23 project where all of the liabilities are ahead of us.  
24 So, with that, our -- our position would be, as soon  
25 as it can be feasibly held is -- is preferable to



1 kicking it down the road.

2                   In terms of the -- the value, we didn't  
3 really dig into the number itself. Again, I'll maybe  
4 share some of our philosophical views rather than our  
5 specific views on -- on the number. But ultimately,  
6 security needs to reflect the cost of achieving the  
7 end state objectives.

8                   So, in recognizing that you've provided  
9 two (2) numbers, you know, again, our -- our position  
10 is clear that a landfill is impossible, so -- or isn't  
11 -- is impossible, but isn't -- you know, isn't  
12 acceptable by ADK.

13                   So, we do believe that the security  
14 that has been established for a plan without the --  
15 the landfill is -- is appropriate. But I'm not going  
16 to comment on, you know, specifically whether that  
17 number is appropriate. But sort of philosophically we  
18 support that security as being -- you know, getting to  
19 the finish line, not necessarily the means to get  
20 there.

21                   Sorry, that didn't quite -- achieving  
22 the end state goals, which includes the -- the pathway  
23 there, but, yeah, yeah. I don't know where I was  
24 going with that, but...

25                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on

1 behalf of the GNWT.

2                   So, while we now understand that EQC  
3 may be coming, currently, the suite before parties  
4 during these proceedings are those proposed by the  
5 GNWT, can the ADKFN comment on the GNWT's currently  
6 proposed approach of relatively generic Effluent  
7 Quality Criteria with relatively significant setbacks  
8 from surface water bodies until such time as  
9 monitoring demonstrates that either those EQC are  
10 sufficiently protective, or more protective ones, or  
11 more stringent ones may be required?

12                   MR. MARK MACDOUGALL:   Mark MacDougall,  
13 ADK. Yeah, I think sort of in absence of additional  
14 information, relatively generic EQCs are -- are  
15 appropriate. We do recognize there is a fairly  
16 conservative setback that is -- that is included.

17                   So, you know, we -- we do tend to, in  
18 absence of additional information, support a more  
19 conservative approach. But, yeah, I -- I do recognize  
20 there are knowledge gaps that -- that we need to  
21 address, and -- and that may end up shifting the  
22 numbers one way or another into the future.

23                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT:   Thank you for  
24 that. Richard, on behalf of the GNWT. I -- I  
25 appreciate the direct comment on the setbacks.

1 I'm wondering if you can also comment  
2 on our proposal with -- for compliance with CCME, or  
3 Canadian Council Administrators of the Environment,  
4 water quality objectives in the wetland and  
5 Fisherman's Lake as an appropriate level of protection  
6 for the receiving environment associated with  
7 discharges meeting those EQC to land with those  
8 conservative setbacks?

9 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
10 ADK. Yeah, it's fairly similar to my -- my last  
11 comment.

12 So, barring any additional location,  
13 specific information, you know, I think we -- we all  
14 recognize that the CCME guidelines, you know, they're  
15 intended to be productive, but they are national  
16 guideline standards, so the -- they are very general.

17 But, you know, we -- we do believe they  
18 are a reasonable standard to be applied in this  
19 situation. We would support, you know, generally more  
20 conservative standards so long as they reflect, you  
21 know -- you know, appropriate, you know, natural  
22 conditions for this lake.

23 That's ultimately our end goal, is to  
24 ensure that, you know, the lake does not deviate from  
25 its natural state, which, you know, there's -- there's

1 limitations with -- with any standard that is -- that  
2 is set to being able to achieve that.

3 But unfortunately, you know, we don't  
4 have twenty (20), thirty (30) years of monitoring data  
5 from predevelopment to -- to really be able to tease  
6 that apart.

7 So, I think ultimately, looking at the  
8 CCME standards, they -- they would be applicable in  
9 absence of additional information.

10 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on  
11 behalf of the GNWT. Thank you for that response,  
12 particularly highlighting the absence of appropriate,  
13 I think, reference or baseline data to use as an  
14 alternative to CCME at this time, although, as you  
15 highlighted, certainly additional investigations may  
16 provide more information to provide more site-specific  
17 targets.

18 Further to the line of questioning I've  
19 been pursuing, we've heard that there is some  
20 potential flexibility of where these EQC may live.  
21 Currently, the GNWT is proposing that those EQC be  
22 included in the licence and, therefore, providing an  
23 opportunity for parties to comment in their closing  
24 arguments and through these proceedings until more  
25 appropriate EQC can be derived on site-specific data.

1                   So, again, is ADKFN comfortable with  
2 the EQC living in the licence as opposed to a future  
3 submission in the ICRP or another plan?

4                   MR. MARK MACDOUGALL:   Mark MacDougall,  
5 ADK. Yeah, I think that would provide us with -- with  
6 a level of confidence as to the starting point.  
7 Again, we recognize there is -- there is knowledge  
8 gaps.

9                   So, I think there is opportunity for  
10 those -- those values to be revised as -- as more  
11 information is gained. And so, I think I would like  
12 to see that -- that opportunity for those numbers to  
13 evolve as -- as we increase our understanding. But as  
14 a starting point, I have no issue with -- with that  
15 approach.

16                  MR. BILL PAIN:    Bill Payne, GNWT.  
17 Thank you. That's our last question.

18                  I want to thank you, Chief, and the  
19 members that spoke last night presenting their --  
20 their voices. It's very important and we appreciate  
21 it. So, thank you. With that, we're done.

22                  THE CHAIRPERSON:   Tanya MacIntosh,  
23 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
24 I'd like to move on to the next Intervener.

25                  And I would ask ECCC if they have any

1 questions for ADKFN. Thank you.

2 MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):

3 Mitchell Johnson, with ECCC. We don't have any  
4 questions on the presentation right now, but thank you  
5 for -- for sharing your presentation.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'd like  
7 to ask members of the public here that are in person  
8 here if they have any questions for ADKFN.

9 Has anyone shown up online, Chris?  
10 Okay. Then I'd like to move forward with Paramount.  
11 Do you have any questions for ADKFN?

12 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
13 with Paramount Resources.

14 Since we became the owner of the former  
15 Pointed Mountain development, and we've been through  
16 various regulatory applications, including the current  
17 one, and in -- in support of all those applications,  
18 you know, Paramount has done engagement with affected  
19 parties, including ADKFN.

20 And, you know, it wasn't until the  
21 intervention that the position of ADKFN regarding the  
22 landfill at Pointed Mountain was stated. It would  
23 appear from the intervention and what you've spoken  
24 on, this may have been known for some time.

25 I was wondering when it was known and

1 if the information could have been provided at an  
2 earlier point for the Board, Paramount, and the other  
3 parties to the proceeding.

4 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
5 ADK. Yeah, it's an interesting -- interesting  
6 question. Part of my -- part of my answer speaks to  
7 where ADK has come as a community with -- with  
8 capacity to -- to develop, you know, and articulate  
9 concerns and responses over the last decade.

10 It's really only been since 2016, 2017  
11 that -- that we've been involved in processes such as  
12 this. Previous to that, we relied heavily on Dehcho  
13 First Nations to -- to represent ADK at the table.

14 In -- you know, in the evolution of --  
15 of where this Project has come, I think it's important  
16 to note two (2) things, one (1) being that this  
17 Project hasn't been licenced in five (5) years. And  
18 beyond that, we look at the consultation log that  
19 Paramount has provided, which shows really an absence  
20 of communication, you know, full stop. But really,  
21 since 2019, there hasn't been much information.

22 So, I -- I don't have a specific date  
23 as to when we became aware. I know our team really  
24 only became aware, you know, fairly recently, and  
25 recently being with this application.

1 I think part of -- part of what, you  
2 know, in reflecting on this question and preparing for  
3 this, looking back at some of the submissions previous  
4 to this, it's not fully clear what the plan was  
5 looking at things like the Waste Management Plan that  
6 don't fully articulate Paramount's intentions.

7 And I would challenge that, you know,  
8 conceptually, we understand where you're going, but  
9 without a Closure and Reclamation Plan, as part of  
10 this process, you know, we're still in absence of  
11 truly understanding what it is that Paramount is -- is  
12 trying to achieve and -- and how they're going to get  
13 there. So, yeah, that's -- that's where I'll leave  
14 it.

15 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Thank you.  
16 Paramount Resources, Terence Hughes.

17 When did Shared Value Solutions become  
18 the land's office for ADKFN?

19 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Shared Value  
20 Solutions became the representative for the lands  
21 office as a contractor sometime in early 2020. I  
22 believe it was March, but early spring of 2020.

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

25



1 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: So, Shared Value  
2 Solution -- Terence Hughes, Paramount Resources.

3 Shared Value Solutions on behalf of  
4 ADKFN would've received in -- in the correspondence  
5 that Paramount sent out regarding these applications  
6 would've been involved in the letter sent to ADKFN on  
7 these potential applications and received our  
8 correspondence back on the request for the meeting.

9 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
10 ADK. Can you speak specifically to which  
11 correspondence you're speaking to?

12 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: I'll use --  
13 Terence Hughes, Paramount Resources. August 23rd,  
14 2023, would've been our last correspondence prior to  
15 the applications being made. And the subject line is  
16 regarding Acho Dene Koe Nation Pointed Mountain  
17 correspondence of July 18th, 2023.

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
22 ADK. Yes, correct. We would've received that.

23 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
24 Paramount Resources. Thanks.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'd like to move on

1 to offer opportunity for questions to Board staff,  
2 Board technical advisors, and legal counsel.

3 DR. KATHY RACHER: Okay. Thanks for  
4 your presentation last night, Mark. That was  
5 excellent. Kathy Rachel here for the Board.

6 I just have a question about your  
7 recommendation around an alternatives analysis of --  
8 your recommendation specifically is that you request  
9 Proponent to propose alternative methods for  
10 contaminated soil disposal outside of a long-term  
11 onsite landfill.

12 And in your -- in the body of your  
13 intervention, you strongly recommend that Paramount  
14 provide a robust comparative analysis of other  
15 alternative methodologies. And you also say that you  
16 must -- they must demonstrate through independent  
17 analysis why offsite disposal is not feasible.

18 And I just wanted to get a little more  
19 detail around what your expectations of an  
20 alternatives analysis is. What kind of -- what kind  
21 of factors should be evaluated?

22 Like, what would be meaningful to the  
23 ADKFN in helping, you know, figure out a way forward  
24 and also, yeah, an independent analysis, like what --  
25 what that means to you. So just a little more detail

1 around your expectations or hopes and dreams for that  
2 kind of analysis.

3 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark McDougall,  
4 ADK. Geez. I hope my hopes and dreams go beyond  
5 that, but I appreciate the -- appreciate the question.

6 What -- what I conceptually would --  
7 sort of had in mind is something similar to the  
8 alternatives assessment that is required under  
9 Schedule -- to Schedule 2, a lake under the Fisheries  
10 Act authorization, where it's a comparative analysis  
11 of relevant factors to -- to what is being  
12 contemplated.

13 So, it is basically an equation to --  
14 to understand the -- you know, what is the best  
15 approach based on factors such as environmental  
16 factors, social factors, economic factors, technical  
17 constraints to demonstrate that option 'A' is better  
18 than option 'B'.

19 Certainly, you know, we're very much of  
20 the opinion that a landfill isn't -- isn't a viable  
21 option. But certainly, as we -- as we explore these  
22 options, you know, I -- I do want to, you know, get an  
23 understanding of sort of the rationale of what is  
24 driving the desire to have a landfill.

25 I don't think we've heard any, you

1 know, technical constraints to -- to hauling soil out  
2 aside from it being very challenging. I imagine the  
3 landfill would be challenging, but, you know,  
4 ultimately, I want more rationale as to whatever is --  
5 is decided.

6 But, yeah, that's sort of the model I  
7 was -- was sort of envisioning is -- is something  
8 similar to that comparative analysis.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
10 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

11 Legal counsel, do you have any  
12 questions? Oh, there's one more. Hang on.

13 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
14 Board staff. The other question to Paramount in  
15 relation to ADKFN's intervention -- sorry.

16 In your response to ADKFN's  
17 Intervention 5.3.1(c), Paramount states that the CRP  
18 will provide an evaluation of alternative remediation  
19 and management options regarding the land filling of  
20 contaminated soil.

21 So, we're wondering if there's a  
22 professional standard or guideline that Paramount  
23 tends to follow for how to conduct an alternatives  
24 options assessment such -- related to what ADKFN has  
25 requested.

1                   And are there standard metrics that  
2 you're going to use as part of the evaluation, and how  
3 are those different metrics weighed against each  
4 other?

5                   MR. TERENCE HUGHES:   Terence Hughes,  
6 Paramount.  I'll -- I'll turn the question over to Ian  
7 and -- and maybe Emma might join, but I think maybe  
8 before they answer, I'll maybe provide some context.

9                   And -- and maybe some of the lens in  
10 which, you know, Paramount looks at the project is  
11 that, you know, we also look at the jurisdiction in --  
12 in which the property sits and the ability to deal  
13 with the waste streams within that jurisdiction and in  
14 that region and recognizing when I came here today, I  
15 did cross a provincial territorial order to date at  
16 Pointed Mountain and our other projects in the  
17 Northwest Territories.

18                   Another jurisdiction, a different  
19 community's traditional territory has received almost  
20 all of the waste.  So, one of the things we are trying  
21 to consider is where did this project take place?  
22 Where was this waste created?  On the technical piece,  
23 I'll turn it over to my colleagues who are online.

24                   MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM):   Ian Kier,  
25 with Paramount.  Emma, are you okay to take a crack at

1 that one or did you want me to go ahead first?

2 MS. EMMA STIENNE (by ZOOM): Emma  
3 Stienne here, from Millennium.

4 Yeah. I'd -- I'd say there -- there's  
5 some guidance available on -- on conducting a  
6 comparative analysis. There are industry practices  
7 around the different metrics which can be used.

8 It's I'd say an evolving process,  
9 particularly some of the -- the metrics around climate  
10 change and -- and emissions and things like that. So  
11 maybe that's something -- yeah, I -- I can't provide  
12 the detail or a specific reference at the moment, so I  
13 don't know if that's something we'd want to take as an  
14 undertaking to provide more information on. Maybe Ian  
15 can answer that one.

16 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Yeah. Ian  
17 Kier, with Paramount. We -- we could provide more  
18 detail in an undertaking, if needed.

19 I mean, net environmental benefit  
20 analysis I guess is maybe how I would group this.  
21 It's -- it's certainly something that's been done for  
22 -- for years and years in the industry and as Emma  
23 said is -- is evolving.

24

25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

1

2 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): I think that  
3 -- that's about it for us.

4 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Thanks, Ian.  
5 Heather Scott, Board staff.

6 So, would you be willing to take that  
7 as an undertaking to indicate what standard or  
8 guidance Paramount might use in that options analysis  
9 in the CRP?

10 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
11 with Paramount. Can you give me a moment for that  
12 one?

13 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
14 Board staff. Of course.

15

16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18 MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
19 with Paramount. Sorry. I don't know why my camera's  
20 grayed out here this morning. I can't figure that  
21 out, but, yes, we are able to take that as an  
22 undertaking and provide it on or before the 24th.

23 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Okay. Heather  
24 Scott, Board staff. Thanks. Yeah, we'll record that  
25 as Undertaking number 4 and we'll come up with some

1 wording on that. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
3 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

4 I just want to confirm, legal counsel,  
5 no questions? No further questions from the Board  
6 staff? Okay.

7 I'd like to move forward with asking  
8 questions of the Board members. Do any of the Board  
9 members have questions? Please go ahead, Cathie.

10 BOARD MEMBER BOLSTAD: Good morning,  
11 everyone. Cathie Bolstad, Mackenzie Valley Land and  
12 Water Board.

13 I'm not an expert like all of you are  
14 on where things fit in different legislations and  
15 licences, but I heard Ian from Paramount yesterday  
16 indicate -- well -- well, first of all, you've  
17 indicated as Paramount that you have -- you have  
18 decided that this is the best option, and in the  
19 absence of a lot of details about why it is the best  
20 option, I heard Ian say yesterday modeling of failure  
21 may be considered.

22 In ADKFN's presentation we've heard in  
23 terms of an alternative assessment and looking at  
24 alternative assessment, environmental, economic,  
25 social, and technical constraints are things that they



1 were thinking should be in there.

2                   And I guess I'm -- I'm wondering, based  
3 on ADKFN's comments yesterday from the people that  
4 live here and rely on the land, if Paramount has  
5 already done its assessment and decides it's the best  
6 option, I'm curious as, one, was catastrophic or  
7 future failure considered in that option?

8                   And if it was not and won't be  
9 articulated, having heard from ADKFN, whatever the  
10 standard is that is applied would Paramount consider  
11 including in that analysis? What if the landfill  
12 fails?

13                   MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
14 with Paramount. Pete, if you're on the call, do you  
15 mind -- do you mind fielding that one? And if -- if  
16 not, I can. Let me know.

17                   MR. PETE MARSHALL (by ZOOM): Yeah.  
18 It's Pete Marshall here, from Adelantar. Yeah, I can  
19 -- I can offer a thought on that.

20                   Catastrophic failure of landfill is not  
21 something that would be usually contemplated. And the  
22 reason for that is because of the care that's taken in  
23 siting and design and construction oversight,  
24 operation development, and monitoring. That's not to  
25 say that it couldn't be done if there were exceptional

1 circumstances, but it would be in my experience  
2 extraordinary in our industry to contemplate  
3 catastrophic failure.

4 BOARD MEMBER BOLSTAD: And I don't  
5 know -- it's Cathie Bolstad, Mackenzie Valley Land and  
6 Water Board.

7 Not being a water or a landfill expert,  
8 I'm a little bit worried that maybe choosing the word  
9 'catastrophic' may have been -- implied bigger than is  
10 any failure of the -- of the landfill in terms of  
11 things coming out of it that shouldn't be is I guess  
12 what I'm hoping would be, and confirmed would be in  
13 the analysis of when you're looking at the impact of a  
14 landfill.

15 And I don't know if that's a question  
16 or comment, but just cognizant if I used a word that  
17 maybe has a definition that I might not be aware of.

18 MR. PETE MARSHALL (by ZOOM): Pete  
19 Marshall, at Adelantar. Yeah. I think the wording is  
20 important, Cathie, and so that's why I tried to be  
21 careful in responding to that -- that 'catastrophic'  
22 term.

23 Certainly, in terms of landfill --  
24 landfill performance, yes, there -- there are many  
25 aspects of the landfill design process that include

1 sensitivity analysis for the key performance -- the  
2 key aspects of performance.

3           And that includes a number of aspects  
4 of conservatism that are built into the -- the design  
5 process. And all of those elements would be attuned  
6 to the specific conditions that are applicable in a  
7 particular place. So, we heard yesterday indications  
8 about, for example, whether permafrost is an issue.  
9 And so that's a -- that's an item that would be looked  
10 at here that wouldn't be needed in other areas.

11           So, there's lots of place-based aspects  
12 of the analysis that is done to be satisfied that the  
13 outcomes -- and this is the -- the whole target for  
14 our side of the process -- that -- that the outcomes  
15 would be -- would steer towards a high level of  
16 protection of the environment and human health with  
17 all of those factors considered.

18           BOARD MEMBER BOLSTAD: No further  
19 questions, Madam Chair.

20           THE CHAIRPERSON: That concludes the  
21 questions for ADKFN. I'd like to say mahsi cho for  
22 your presentation. And I really appreciate the words  
23 that were offered by Chief Eugene Hope and the members  
24 of the public that were able to -- to come before us  
25 and offer their perspectives, their passion, and their

1 knowledge of the land that they love. Mahsi cho for  
2 that.

3 I'd like to move forward with the  
4 presentation from the Government of the Northwest  
5 Territories Department of Environment and Climate  
6 Change. Please go ahead.

7

8 (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 PRESENTATION BY THE GNWT-ECC:

11 MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Thank you, Madam  
12 Chair. As I mentioned yesterday, my name is Rick  
13 Walbourne. I'm the director of Regulatory and  
14 Permitting Division with GNWT's Department of  
15 Environment and Climate Change.

16 I had previously introduced our team  
17 and legal counsel during opening comments, so I won't  
18 repeat those introductions. I'd just like to thank  
19 you again for the opportunity to present our  
20 recommendations related to the water licence  
21 application for Paramount Resources Pointed Mountain  
22 gas field for a remediation project.

23 So, we will clarify any updates through  
24 this presentation, as well as in our closing  
25 arguments, submit it later in the proceeding. I would

1 like to note that I may paraphrase or skim over some  
2 of the recommendations in the interests of time. So,  
3 I would just direct you to the slides or the  
4 intervention for the full -- or the complete or  
5 official text of the recommendations. Next slide,  
6 please.

7                   Our presentation today will briefly  
8 outline GNWT's concerns and recommendations to the  
9 Board, which include the following topics: effluent  
10 quality criteria and wastewater management,  
11 monitoring, closure conditions, and lastly, we'll  
12 discuss security. Next slide, please.

13                   Madam Chair, our first topic is  
14 Effluent Quality Criteria or EQC for inclusion within  
15 the water license. EQC for discharges from a water  
16 treatment system and from sources of contact water are  
17 a standard component of a water license. Their  
18 derivation and presentation for stakeholder review  
19 should not be deferred as a condition of the license  
20 as it creates ambiguity as to the geographic scope and  
21 magnitude of any potential effects.

22                   Intervenors, including GNWT, questioned  
23 Paramount during the technical workshop regarding  
24 locations that would require EQC to regulate  
25 discharges and requested specific information and

1 values on those EQC.

2                   The GNWT prefers that EQC are derived  
3 using the Board's standard process for setting EQC,  
4 which typically requires an understanding of the  
5 chemical constituents on site and characterization of  
6 the environment to determine whether applied EQC will  
7 achieve water quality objectives in the receiving  
8 environment.

9                   Some of that information is currently  
10 unavailable and will be provided or addressed by  
11 Paramount through the forthcoming supplemental Phase 2  
12 ESA and submission of an interim Closure and  
13 Reclamation Plan.

14                   The absence of water quality objectives  
15 and predictive modeling makes it challenging to  
16 develop site-specific EQC that will be protective of  
17 appropriate receptors. While these risks are somewhat  
18 diminished with the understanding that Paramount  
19 intends to discharge to land, the GNWT does maintain  
20 that EQC are required due to the unknown potential  
21 impacts to the environment from the project  
22 activities.

23                   GNWT proposes that the EQC shown in  
24 Table 1 of our intervention and here on the slide for  
25 discharges to land at least 250 meters from the

1 aquatic receiving environment to limit the chance of  
2 deleterious effects to aquatic life.

3                   This distance is considered a starting  
4 value without understanding the level of attenuation  
5 that may be expected in the subsurface. The GNWT  
6 proposes that, unless alternative -- alternate EQC are  
7 proposed by Paramount, that these EQC should be  
8 included in the water licence. Next slide.

9                   So, our first three (3)  
10 recommendations, which I'll just paraphrase: GNWT  
11 recommends that the EQC presented in Table 1 of our  
12 intervention be included in the licence.

13                   We also recommend that surface  
14 discharge should occur only to land at least 250  
15 meters from the nearest water body.

16                   And we recommend that EQC should apply  
17 to the wastewater discharges outlined on the previous  
18 slide along with any other effluent that may be  
19 discharged at the surface of the site. Next slide,  
20 please.

21                   Madam Chair, we would highlight that,  
22 should additional information be provided by  
23 Paramount, during this proceeding, the proposed EQC  
24 could be modified for our closing arguments.

25                   The EQC are currently proposed without

1 a complete understanding of the assimilative capacity  
2 that exists at site and were not derived using the  
3 Board's standard process. However, the proposed EQC  
4 rely on being consistent with other northern  
5 operations, discharging effluent and contact water  
6 from their respective operations.

7           Given this uncertainty, Paramount  
8 should establish an adaptive management trigger based  
9 on water quality monitoring within the wetland at  
10 stations adapted from the 2023 wetland assessment  
11 report. These stations are located within the wetland  
12 at the closest area to the plant site along the flow  
13 path of the groundwater plume as currently understood.

14           It is further recommended by GNWT that  
15 more stringent EQC should be considered if  
16 contaminants of potential concern continue to exceed  
17 CCME chronic water quality objectives for the  
18 protection of aquatic life within the wetland after a  
19 period of five (5) years post remediation or  
20 construction of the proposed landfill. Next slide,  
21 please.

22           Madam Chair, this brings me to our next  
23 recommendation which states:

24           "Until such time that revised EQC are  
25 developed by Paramount, the licence



1 required a development of an adaptive  
2 management trigger based on monitoring  
3 within the wetland that stations  
4 adapted from the 2023 wetland report.  
5 It's also recommended that triggers for  
6 the implementation of a robust  
7 management framework should be adopted  
8 if there's a fail -- if there's a  
9 failure to routinely meet CCME  
10 objectives for the protection of  
11 aquatic life."

12 Next slide, please.

13 I'd now like to move on to the topic of  
14 chloride-impacted soils and other residual  
15 contamination. The 2023 Surge Pond Area Remedial  
16 Action Plan states that residual contamination remains  
17 at the former surge pond as well as in a down-gradient  
18 contaminant plume area.

19 As indicated in that plan as well as  
20 information provided with Paramount's liability  
21 estimate, it is assumed that down-gradient contaminant  
22 plume will continue to attenuate.

23 Additionally, there are other locations  
24 where residual contamination is to be left in place  
25 and will likely exceed the yet-to-be-approved remedial

1 criteria. These areas, including the former surge  
2 pond, will need to be monitored and managed noting  
3 that the Board has not made a decision on whether the  
4 remediated concentration level for the former surge  
5 pond is acceptable.

6                   The GNWT, Board staff, and other  
7 parties have requested that Paramount identify how  
8 they will continue to monitor legacy impacts from the  
9 surge pond. In response, Paramount has indicated a  
10 Monitoring Plan would be developed for the Closure and  
11 Reclamation Plan. Next slide, please.

12                   Madam Chair, in the interests of time,  
13 I will not read these into the record, but I would  
14 just refer you to recommendations 6 and 7 in our  
15 intervention or here on slide 9. Next slide, please.

16                   Madam Chair, as highlighted in our  
17 intervention, various parties have requested that a  
18 management plan be provided or updated to describe the  
19 water management at site.

20                   While GNWT appreciates that the Closure  
21 and Reclamation Plan will have some of these details,  
22 it is typical for the Board to require details on how  
23 wastewater is managed in a relevant management (AUDIO  
24 CUTS OUT).

25                   Any discharge should be detailed in a

1 plan such as a Waste Management Plan, a Sediment and  
2 Erosion Control Plan -- Plan, which documents how it  
3 is to be managed to -- to mitigate impacts to the  
4 environment. As such, our recommendation 8 is that  
5 the management of every surface water discharge would  
6 be described within an appropriate management plan.  
7 Next slide, please.

8                   Madam Chair, we would now like to  
9 discuss monitoring at the site prior to remediation as  
10 well as during active remediation and post closure.  
11 We note that the remediation may not be initiated for  
12 several years, and monitoring of the current  
13 contamination onsite should also be required by the  
14 Board.

15                   Paramount has not yet developed the  
16 Monitoring Program associated with the current site or  
17 the proposed remediation activities. This should be  
18 required and will need to be adaptive due to  
19 uncertainties that remain and will presumably be  
20 addressed by Paramount in a supplemental Phase 2  
21 Environmental Site Assessment.

22                   Basic monitoring to evaluate both the  
23 source of contamination post-remediation and the  
24 closest aquatic receptors should be included at a  
25 minimum.

1 GNWT recommends that water monitoring  
2 plans be established before remediation begins and  
3 should be part of the licensing process to assist in  
4 determining trends and to help assess the  
5 effectiveness of remediation. Next slide, please.

6 Again, Madam Chair, in the interests of  
7 time, I will not read recommendations 9 to 12, but  
8 I'll refer to our intervention and slides 11 and 12.  
9 You can skip ahead to slide 13, please.

10 So, Madam Chair, as previously  
11 discussed in today's presentation and within our  
12 intervention, the GNWT has proposed Effluent Quality  
13 Criteria, or EQC, for the water license. Building  
14 upon the establishment of EQC, we have also made a  
15 recommendation regarding where monitoring should occur  
16 to confirm compliance with the proposed EQC.

17 Our recommendation 13 states that  
18 effluent quality monitoring be conducted at all  
19 locations where effluent and contact water may be  
20 controlled and discharged to the environment to  
21 confirm compliance with those EQC. Sampling should be  
22 conducted monthly at a minimum while discharges occur  
23 and include the parameters that we've outlined in this  
24 intervention. Next slide, please.

25 Madam Chair, we'd now like to discuss

1 the water bodies down gradient from the project. As  
2 we've heard yesterday and previously, the GNWT is  
3 aware of the cultural importance and traditional use  
4 of these areas, which has been highlighted in ADKFN's  
5 intervention and presentation.

6           As such, the GNWT proposes that  
7 monitoring occur within the wetland below the plant  
8 site to confirm that influence -- influences from the  
9 project are not resulting in the presence of  
10 contaminants of concern at concentrations sufficient  
11 to degrade the aquatic environment.

12           In our -- in our intervention, it was  
13 clarified that this could be completed following the  
14 approach outlined within the 2023 wetland assessment  
15 report and include annual sub-lethal toxicity testing.

16           These tests are intended to detect  
17 effects from mixture toxicity associated with ongoing  
18 effluent discharge. The results of the proposed  
19 sampling and testing should be used to determine  
20 whether more stringent EQC are required after a period  
21 of five (5) years post-completion of local remediation  
22 activities. Next slide, please.

23           So again, Madam Chair, I'll just refer  
24 to slide 15 on our intervention regarding the complete  
25 recommendation on tis topic in the interests of time.

1 Next slide, please.

2 Madam Chair, I'd now like to briefly  
3 discuss the Waste Management Plan provided by  
4 Paramount. The submitted plan identifies various  
5 waste to be managed by Paramount.

6 The GNWT has requested information  
7 regarding waste management, and some outstanding  
8 information includes specifics on the proposed  
9 temporary storage methods and locations, criteria for  
10 segregation of soils for treatment versus landfill  
11 disposal, criteria for successful soil treatment and  
12 the approach to soil reuse at site, and final  
13 management or disposal locations.

14 It is recommended that the Waste  
15 Management Plan or other appropriate plan include a  
16 clearly defined management approach from source to  
17 final management for each type of waste at each  
18 location. Next slide, please.

19 So, Madam Chair, again, in the  
20 interests of time, I will not read this full  
21 recommendation into the record for recommendation 15,  
22 but refer to our intervention and slide 17 for  
23 proposed details for inclusion in a Waste Management  
24 Plan or a similar plan. Next slide, please.

25 Madam Chair, I'd now like to discuss

1 potential engineered structures and design and  
2 performance reporting. So, Paramount has proposed a  
3 landfill for contaminated soil as well as other  
4 engineered components which will require evaluation  
5 and reporting during construction and/or reclamation  
6 work.

7                   Additionally, these structures or  
8 engineered works will potentially require maintenance  
9 post-closure to ensure objectives and criteria for  
10 final closure have been achieved.

11                   We note that the details on the actual  
12 conditions to be achieved post-reclamation for each  
13 site component have -- have not yet been determined.  
14 However, that does not preclude the Board from  
15 requiring that an engineering evaluation and design be  
16 provided for final conditions at constructed or  
17 reclaimed areas to ensure that long-term stability  
18 will be achieved.

19                   These evaluations also provide the  
20 metric against which actual monitored conditions in  
21 post-closure can be compared to for confirmation of  
22 whether closure objectives and criteria are met. Next  
23 slide, please.

24                   So again, Madam Chair, I'll just refer  
25 to Slide 19 and our intervention for the specific

1 details on recommendation 16.

2                   Madam Chair, we'd now like to discuss  
3 the approach to remediation and reclamation across the  
4 entirety of the project. It's understood that  
5 remediation activities and the associated closure or  
6 remediation objectives may change based on the  
7 outcomes of future assessment, and changes would then  
8 be presented in a revised Closure Plan.

9                   To ensure a complete picture of  
10 remediation and reclamation activities is provided, a  
11 consolidated summary of the overall remediation and  
12 reclamation approach for each part of the site should  
13 be provided within the Closure Plan.

14                   This should also include roads as there  
15 has been unclear information presented regarding  
16 whether roads will be decommissioned or left in place  
17 for community use. We understand further discussions  
18 are anticipated on this topic between those parties.  
19 Next slide, please.

20                   So given the uncertainty surrounding  
21 the reclamation of project components and areas and  
22 the possibility of revisions to the yet-to-be-  
23 submitted Closure Plan, the GNWT has recommended that  
24 the Closure and Reclamation Plan include a  
25 consolidated summary of the remediation and



1 reclamation approach to be completed for each of the  
2 project sites, which would include plant site,  
3 airstrip, large landing, well sites, and also roads.

4           It's also recommended that the updated  
5 Closure and Reclamation Plan for each project  
6 component is submitted within twenty-four (24) months  
7 following issuance of the license.

8           And finally on this topic, it's  
9 recommended that the documents detailing the updated  
10 Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment are updated --  
11 and -- and updates to site-specific remediation  
12 criteria are submitted to the Board for public review  
13 and approval alongside an updated Closure and  
14 Reclamation plan a minimum twelve (12) months prior to  
15 commencement of active remediation activities. Next  
16 slide, please.

17           Madam Chair, continuing on the topic of  
18 closure criteria, the previous 2017 Remediation Plan  
19 provided general objectives and goals for remediation  
20 of the site, with some noted criteria for when  
21 remediation and revegetation may be considered  
22 successful.

23           In response to previous GNWT comments,  
24 Paramount has indicated that objectives will be  
25 revised based on updated site assessment and updates

1 to site specific remediation criteria.

2                   While recognizing further site  
3 investigation is planned by Paramount, the GNWT  
4 believes that criteria should be developed to a  
5 preliminary stage, which can then be further -- which  
6 can be developed further in future iterations of that  
7 closure plan.

8                   We note that the criteria should be  
9 meaningful, measurable and achievable as required by  
10 the closure guidelines. Clear numeric criteria that  
11 are measurable and are recommended for each site-wide  
12 and project component specific objective. Next slide,  
13 please.

14                   So, Madam Chair, on this topic our  
15 recommendation is that updated closure criteria are  
16 developed and submitted as part of an Updated Closure  
17 and Reclamation Plan, to the Board, for review and  
18 approval before remediation activities commence. Next  
19 slide, please.

20                   But we now like to discuss the -- the  
21 construction and design requirements for the proposed  
22 onsite landfill, if it is to be included in the  
23 licence. Paramount has stated in response to comments  
24 that the soil to be potentially landfill exceeds the  
25 industrial criteria as outlined in the GNWT Guideline

1 for Hazardous Waste Management, which would consider a  
2 contaminated soil to be a hazardous waste in the NWT.

3           Regardless of the classification of  
4 waste, the potential disposal of the soil through  
5 permanent onsite containment should follow appropriate  
6 guidance.

7           The GNWT recommends that the CCME  
8 National Guidelines for Hazardous Waste Landfills  
9 should be used as guidance for the design,  
10 construction, operation, closure and post closure  
11 management to minimize risk to the environment and  
12 human health. Specifically, this guidance would --  
13 could be included in the licence's schedule or as the  
14 Board sees fit for the landfill design.

15           A complete listing of the requirements  
16 of that CCME Guideline can be found in our  
17 Intervention. Next slide, please.

18           Again, Madam Chair, we have three (3)  
19 recommendations on this topic, but I'll just defer to  
20 this slide and the text in our Intervention, in the  
21 interest of time. Next slide, please.

22           So, moving on, I would like to discuss  
23 the topic of Reclamation Completion Reports and  
24 Performance Assessment Reports. The Board's closure  
25 guidelines are also considered to provide non-mining

1 proponents with the advice to develop their closure  
2 plans. This includes, as constructed documentation  
3 for completed reclamation work, such as Reclamation  
4 Completion Reports, and states that the reports are to  
5 be submitted to the Board for all components.

6 This facilitates future assessment  
7 maintenance and, if needed, repair work at the site.  
8 Additionally, these reports can be used to evaluate  
9 the work completed in support of security updates for  
10 the project.

11 The GNWT recommends that final  
12 completion reports should be submitted in accordance  
13 with these guidelines, and that Performance Assessment  
14 Reporting should be submitted to provide evidence of  
15 satisfactory performance of actual post closure site  
16 conditions. Next slide, please.

17 So, again, Madam Chair, we have three  
18 (3) recommendations on this topic, but I will defer to  
19 the slides and the text in our Intervention in the  
20 interest of time. Next slide, please.

21 Lastly, Madam Chair, I would like to  
22 discuss security for the project. Following a request  
23 for ruling by Paramount to protect confidential  
24 proprietary and sensitive information related to the  
25 security estimate, Paramount provided an updated

1 security estimate.

2                   Included as part of Paramount's  
3 application and security estimate is the construction,  
4 operation, closure, monitoring and maintenance of an  
5 onsite waste containment facility or landfill for the  
6 disposal and permanent containment of contaminated  
7 soil.

8                   However, if construction of a landfill  
9 is not approved by the Board as part of the water  
10 licence, a revised estimate will be necessary to  
11 reflect a no landfill scenario. As such, the GNWT has  
12 provided estimates for both a landfill and a no  
13 landfill scenario.

14                   And I would note that there are still  
15 opportunities for Paramount to further assist in  
16 refining these estimates by providing additional --  
17 additional information, such as updated soil volumes  
18 and expectations for long-term care.

19                   These refinements could be submitted as  
20 part of closing arguments, or as otherwise requested  
21 by the Board. (AUDIO CUTS OUT) be posted following  
22 licence issuance. Next slide, please.

23                   And again, Madam Chair, our  
24 recommendations regarding securities for landfill and  
25 no landfill scenarios are noted on slide 30 in our

1 interest -- or in -- in our Intervention, but in the  
2 interest of time, I won't read them aloud into the  
3 record again.

4 That concludes our presentation, Madam  
5 Chair. We appreciate the opportunity to present to  
6 the Board and we're happy to answer any questions at  
7 this time. Mahsi.

8

9 QUESTION PERIOD:

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
11 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
12 Thank you very much for the presentation GNWT-ECC.  
13 And I especially appreciate your considerations, Mr.  
14 Walbourne, for the time.

15 I'd like to move forward with  
16 questions from the Interveners and at this time I  
17 would like to ask ADKFN if they have any questions for  
18 GNWT, please go ahead.

19 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
20 ADK. Thank you, Madam Chair. And thank you GNWT for  
21 your presentation. I think it was very helpful for  
22 the conversation here today.

23 We have a couple of questions that we  
24 want -- just want to dig into a little bit more. So,  
25 you've stated a few times that you've envisioned EQC's

1 for all contact water. I'm hoping you can define your  
2 definition of 'contact water'.

3 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on  
4 behalf of the GNWT.

5 We're looking to define 'contact water'  
6 along the lines of water quality that has been in  
7 contact with site infrastructure or as a result of  
8 site activities that has an altered chemical  
9 constituent as a result of that contact.

10 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
11 ADK. So, with this, would you -- would you expect  
12 that requirements for intercept and capture for  
13 potentially -- for water coming off of potentially  
14 contaminated soil from, say, stockpiles would --  
15 wouldn't be -- would be part of -- of that plan?

16 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on  
17 behalf of the GNWT.

18 Yes, that water would presumably be  
19 altered as a result of contact with those stockpiles  
20 and be subject to either capture and movement or to  
21 those EQC.

22 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
23 ADK. In Recommendation 15 there's a request that the  
24 Waste Management Plan and/or other appropriate  
25 management plans be submitted a minimum of twelve (12)

1 months prior to the commencement of active remediation  
2 and describe management approach from source to final  
3 management for each location.

4           ECCC, in their Intervention, have made  
5 a request to the Board to consider whether sufficient  
6 information is provided to make a determination.

7           In your view -- sorry, I think I'm  
8 missing something here. In your view should -- should  
9 this plan have been provided? Sorry, can we scrap  
10 this question? I -- I think it's poorly -- poor --  
11 poorly written for the thought out here.

12           Moving on to my -- my -- my next  
13 question. So, performance monitoring will continue  
14 through the contaminated lifespan of the engineered  
15 hazardous waste landfill facility or until the  
16 jurisdiction of authority is satisfied that the  
17 facility no longer poor -- poses any concern to the  
18 environment and human health.

19           We heard last night a value of thirty-  
20 seven (37) years as an anticipated timeline for  
21 completion of reclamation and monitoring.

22           Was that the number that GNWT included  
23 in their security estimate? If not, was there another  
24 estimate -- or another lifespan value that was  
25 included in the estimate?



1 MR. JAMIE VAN GULCK: Jamie Van Gulck,  
2 for the GNWT. In the security estimate, there is a --  
3 an assumption regarding the duration of post closure  
4 monitoring and maintenance of the site, including the  
5 landfill.

6 It's -- it's -- it's important to  
7 recognize that the -- that duration of monitoring and  
8 maintenance post closure should be reflective of the  
9 expected design life or service life of the landfill  
10 itself.

11 The -- the materials used to construct  
12 these facilities have very good properties when  
13 initially installed, if they're constructed properly.  
14 But these liners, either the bottom liner or the top  
15 liner, are manufactured products that can degrade over  
16 time due to chemical interactions and site specific  
17 environmental factors.

18 And so, the design life is longer --  
19 likely longer than the -- the twenty--five (25) years  
20 post closure that has been assumed by the Proponent  
21 and currently accounted for in the security estimate.

22 So, there's -- there's a -- a bit of  
23 discrepancy there between I guess answering this  
24 question, what is design life versus what is the  
25 timeline included in the security estimate?

1 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
2 ADK, thank you. I believe my colleague, Tamarra,  
3 online has -- has one question as well.

4 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Tamarra  
5 Lewis, ADKFN. Thanks Mark and thank you for your  
6 presentation.

7 I had a question about Recommendation  
8 number 7. Just for context, you suggested that if  
9 chloride is the only residual COC in the aquatic  
10 receiving environment after a five (5) year evaluation  
11 period, then additional chloride impacted soils might  
12 need to be excavated using a more stringent threshold  
13 to determine what may be appropriately left in place  
14 compared to that which is currently proposed by  
15 Paramount, which is the four thousand (4,000).

16 And my first question is around the  
17 soil chloride guidelines. I think it's already been  
18 established that we do not support soils above that  
19 background concentration to be left on site, but the  
20 soil -- soil chloride guidelines also aren't really  
21 well established in Canada.

22 So, we wanted to ask what the GNWT  
23 suggests that cutoff might either be or if you think  
24 the four thousand (4,000) is appropriate.

25 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,

1 on behalf of the GNWT.

2 I hope in our Intervention we were  
3 clear and so I'm going to -- I'm going to reiterate if  
4 I can, that we understand the four thousand (4,000)  
5 milligrams per kilogram to be a starting value that is  
6 going to be re-evaluated by Paramount during the  
7 supplemental phase to ESA.

8 We hope that as part of those  
9 investigations a better understanding of the site  
10 specific factors and conditions between any location  
11 where contaminated soils may be located and the  
12 aquatic receiving environment will be established,  
13 allowing for refinement of that four thousand (4,000)  
14 milligrams per kilogram.

15 Again, noting the uncertainty with  
16 those factors in the stretch of land between the soil  
17 and the aquatic receiving environment, we don't have a  
18 revised figure available at this time.

19 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Tamarra,  
20 from ADK. Thank you, that was very helpful.

21 My next question was going to be how  
22 you determined that threshold, but I think you -- you  
23 just answered that, so thank you for that.

24 I just wanted to follow up on the table  
25 1 of your EQC guidelines, which I think we have gone

1 over today. But we did want to just ask about the  
2 comparison of the other mines that you referenced in  
3 creating this table.

4 And just to clarify, why you feel like  
5 those criteria are appropriately -- are appropriate  
6 for applying here at Pointed Mountain.

7 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on  
8 behalf of GNWT. I'm just pulling up our  
9 recommendations so I can go through each one  
10 individually.

11 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Tamarra,  
12 with ADK. No problem.

13 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Okay.

14 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Just so  
15 at the end of --

16 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: I'm ready if  
17 you'd like.

18 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Oh,  
19 sorry.

20 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Were -- were  
21 there specific ones you'd like me to speak to or would  
22 you like me to go through all of them?

23 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Tamarra,  
24 with ADK. I have here the Mary River Baffin Land Mine  
25 and the Hope Bay Mine Water Licence in Nunavut. So,

1 if you can discuss those two (2).

2 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Certainly. So,  
3 there were two (2) primary locations we considered for  
4 focusing on the Mary River Project at first. The --  
5 oh, Richard Nesbitt on behalf of the GNWT, sorry for  
6 that, Andy, thank you.

7 With the Mary River Project, our first  
8 location that we used in the proposed EQC was from the  
9 Waste Rock Storage Facility. This is a location where  
10 contaminated water or contact water is expected and is  
11 discharged to land at a fairly significant setback  
12 from an aquatic receiver, understanding that the  
13 volumes involved with discharges from that location to  
14 land will be greater than those expected from a  
15 facility of this type.

16 And noting that the water quality in  
17 the receiving environment was able to remain below  
18 applicable thresholds, we felt that that application  
19 would be an effective starting point to ensure that  
20 with a significant setback of water quality in the  
21 nearest aquatic receiving environment, in this case,  
22 the wetland would be protected.

23 We also looked at the landfill  
24 locations and stockpiles for the Mary River Project.  
25 Again, water associated with those locations were

1 discharged to land at a significant setback from the  
2 nearest aquatic receiving environment. And, once  
3 again, in those instances, water quality in the  
4 aquatic receiving environment was protected with those  
5 criteria and setbacks. Again, noting discharge is  
6 specifically to land.

7                   Hope Bay, very similar case, say  
8 setbacks water quality being achieved in the aquatic  
9 receiving environment. We used these as applicable  
10 locations as they are -- both projects are northern  
11 context locations with, in this case, above the tree  
12 line but a similar situation with some discontinuous  
13 permafrost of bedrock limited assimilative capacity  
14 within the terrestrial environment.

15                   So, while there would be some  
16 assimilation during the -- the subsurface flow path  
17 between the location where discharges would occur and  
18 the aquatic receiving environment, the actual  
19 potential provided by local vegetation would be more  
20 limited than what would be expected in the environment  
21 around at Pointed Mountain.

22                   If there are any specific details you'd  
23 like me to further elaborate on, I'm happy to.

24                   MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Tamarra.  
25 with ADK. Thank you very much, that was very helpful.

1 I just have one follow-up around the  
2 setbacks for Pointed Mountain. You were referring to  
3 aquatic receiving water bodies, but I just wanted to  
4 confirm for -- for this case at Pointed Mountain. I  
5 do believe in the Wetland Assessment from 2023, it was  
6 stated that the wetland is two hundred and fifty (250)  
7 meters south of the plant site.

8 So, will this be considered within the  
9 surface water bodies within that setback or is a  
10 wetland not considered because it's not an aquatic --  
11 sorry, yeah, go ahead.

12 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
13 on behalf of the GNWT. The wetland is absolutely  
14 considered part of the aquatic receiving environment.

15 And with that logic in mind, that is  
16 why part of our proposed approach for adaptive  
17 management and adaptive monitoring of the aquatic  
18 receiving environment that may trigger the need for  
19 more stringent EQC or a more stringent chloride soil  
20 disposal criteria would be based on monitoring in that  
21 location.

22 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Tamarra,  
23 with ADK. That's great, thank you so much for  
24 clarifying that.

25 I have one other question for you.

1 It's a bit more general, but I'm wondering -- we've  
2 been discussing the definitions of hazardous material  
3 versus non-hazardous. And I'm specifically talking  
4 about in relation to soil quality.

5 I'm wondering if the GNWT could define  
6 what they consider to be hazardous in relation to the  
7 soil quality guidelines that they follow.

8 MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Rick Walbourne,  
9 GNWT. If you give us one second, we're just pulling  
10 up a reference. Thank you.

11 MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Yeah.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15 MR. BILL PAIN: Bill Pain, GNWT-ECC.  
16 Madam Chair, would it be possible to just have just  
17 like a bio break and we'll just pull it up, instead of  
18 -- thank you.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
20 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. I  
21 had intended to take a break. So, we'll -- we'll take  
22 a break and resume with the answer for that.

23 And so, if we could take a ten (10)  
24 minute break, please. The time is 10:37. So please  
25 be back in your chairs in ten (10) minutes. Mahsi



1 cho.

2

3 --- Upon recessing at 10:37 a.m.

4 --- Upon resuming at 10:48 a.m.

5

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
7 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. I  
8 would like that ask -- I would like to ask everyone to  
9 please find their seats so we can proceed again.

10 And at this time, we are going to ask  
11 GNWT for their response to the last question. Thank  
12 you.

13 MR. LEE ROSS: GNWT, Lee Ross. Thank  
14 you for the break so I could track this down. So, the  
15 definition we were using in our intervention was from  
16 the 2017 GNWT guideline for hazardous waste  
17 management.

18 The general definition for all  
19 hazardous waste incorporates several -- several terms  
20 for the different types of hazardous waste and how  
21 it's generated. The general categories for that, is  
22 it corrosive, flammable, reactive, persistent  
23 bioaccumulative, or toxic.

24 Some of the waste types -- this is part  
25 of the definition -- is a dangerous good according to

1 the transportation of dangerous goods regulations,  
2 leachable waste, hazardous to the aquatic environment  
3 type waste, waste containing dioxins and furons,  
4 contaminated soil, snow, water from a contaminated  
5 site, drilling waste, listed waste, and any other  
6 waste deemed hazardous.

7           And then you go in the schedules and  
8 you could find listed waste and that such. But there  
9 is section 3.2(e) -- is what I was trying to hunt down  
10 for us before the break -- speaks to contaminated  
11 soil. And I'm just scrolling there right now.

12           And there's -- there's a section on  
13 that in the guideline. It's the general -- what it's  
14 trying to tell you is that soil that does not meet an  
15 industrial standard is considered hazardous in the  
16 NWT.

17           The only exemption for contaminated  
18 soil that doesn't meet the industrial standard -- what  
19 is taken from the guideline for contaminated site  
20 remediation. That's another GWT guideline that speaks  
21 specifically to soil criteria.

22           If it met the industrial criteria, it  
23 could be used for onsite remediation. It could be  
24 used for a reuse for landfill cover and other places  
25 that met an industrial land use.

1                   So, the reason I wanted to get to the  
2 industrial standard is that I think it was Board staff  
3 that had asked previously if the soil met the  
4 industrial standard. The soil does not is what we had  
5 heard, so by this guideline, it was considered  
6 hazardous. Thank you.

7                   MS. TAMARRA LEWIS (by ZOOM): Tamarra,  
8 from ADK. Thank you for -- for clarifying that. That  
9 was my final question, Madam Chair. Thank you.

10                  THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
11 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

12                  Just to confirm, ADKFN has no further  
13 questions?

14                  MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
15 ADK. Correct. We have no further questions. Mahsi.

16                  THE CHAIRPERSON: At this time, I  
17 would like to ask the next Intervener for their  
18 questions. And so, I will call on ECC. Please  
19 proceed.

20                  MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):  
21 Mitchell Johnson, with ECCC. I believe our water  
22 quality analyst has a couple questions, so I'll turn  
23 it over to her.

24                  MS. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): Thanks,  
25 Mitchell. Sarah Forte, with Environment and Climate

1 Change Canada. Thank you to Rick for the GNWT's  
2 presentation.

3 I have two (2) questions, and the first  
4 is about on slide 3, table 1, with proposed Effluent  
5 Quality Criteria.

6 So, my colleague and I interpreted the  
7 toxicity testing requirements differently. And I'd  
8 just like to clarify what was meant. As they're  
9 written, it's not clear to me if the effluent would  
10 need to pass both the trout and the daphnia magna  
11 acute lethality tests, or if it would need to pass  
12 only one (1) of those two (2) tests.

13 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on  
14 behalf of the -- Richard Nesbitt, on behalf of the  
15 GNWT. Thanks for that question.

16 We certainly intend for effluent to  
17 need to pass both the rainbow trout and daphnia magna  
18 tests.

19 MS. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): Thanks,  
20 Richard. Sarah Forte, on behalf of Environment and  
21 Climate Change Canada.

22 My next question is on -- about  
23 recommendation number 14, which covers monitoring in  
24 the aquatic environment. The recommendation is to  
25 follow the approach outlined within the 2023 wetland

1 assessment report.

2                   Could you please clarify what aspects  
3 of that approach you think should be followed for the  
4 monitoring in the receiving environment?

5                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT:     Richard Nesbitt,  
6 on behalf of the GNWT.

7                   The focus is primarily with regards to  
8 both the toxicity testing, the sublethal toxicity  
9 testing that was outlined in that report, as well as  
10 the distribution of sampling stations along the  
11 north/northwestern portion of the wetland closest to  
12 where the flow path from the site would interact with  
13 those locations.

14                   In our full recommendation, we  
15 approximately proposed sample stations in that area  
16 somewhat in line with the wetland monitoring report  
17 where stations are located approximately 50 meters  
18 apart to provide fuller coverage in that sort of  
19 intersection pathway to make sure that given the  
20 uncertainties of a direct flow path, that the highest  
21 levels -- or highest concentrations of contact water  
22 would be detected.

23                   And our recommendation went on to  
24 suggest a number of samples collected during the open  
25 water season, approximately three (3) times, with some

1 option for flexibility, depending on how findings  
2 proceeded.

3                   We -- we are also considering --  
4 understanding that that wetland report did highlight  
5 the use of reference locations. I want to specify that  
6 we are not specifically looking to adopt -- or for the  
7 Board to adopt the reference approach in the wetland,  
8 considering that there is uncertainty about where  
9 impacts currently manifest in that wetland and the  
10 presence of a true physical reference location is  
11 somewhat uncertain.

12                   And again, moving on, that's why we had  
13 also suggested a comparison to CCME, chronic water  
14 quality objectives, to evaluate performance, again,  
15 knowing that in the absence of reference or baseline  
16 data, those could be defaulted to -- to evaluate  
17 whether the ongoing interactions were having any kind  
18 of negative effect in that receiving environment.

19                   MS. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): Sarah for  
20 the -- with Environment and Climate Change Canada.  
21 Thank you, Richard. Those details are -- are helpful  
22 to know. I have no further questions. Thanks.

23                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
24 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

25                   To confirm, there are no questions from

1 ECCC?

2 MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):

3 Mitchell Johnson, ECCC. No further questions. Thank  
4 you.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you for  
6 that. I'd like to move forward with offering the  
7 opportunity to members of the public, to ask them of  
8 any questions from GNWT-ECC to -- on their  
9 presentation. And so, I'd like to start with members  
10 of the public that are in the room. If anybody would  
11 like to offer any questions, there are microphones  
12 available.

13 Please step forward to the microphone,  
14 please. And if I could ask that you identify yourself  
15 with your name. And then proceed with your question.  
16 Mahsi cho.

17 MR. JAMES DUNTRA: Morning. It's  
18 James Duntra, again, from Fort Liard. Yesterday I was  
19 talking about the acid spill and stuff in case you  
20 guys remember me.

21 I didn't know you guys. Well, the only  
22 way I found out you guys were coming in was through  
23 Joanne (phonetic). I didn't know what time was the  
24 meeting, but I guess you guys started, like,  
25 afternoon.

1 All I knew was that 7:30 was that  
2 something, and so I came in. I think I was in time  
3 for that -- to talk on the mic, so I was kind of a  
4 little bit surprised there.

5 But as I find out a little bit more  
6 about this information and answer questions, I do --  
7 yesterday, when I said it would be good we have one  
8 representative, but I didn't know ADK was here. We --  
9 I didn't know about him or anything.

10 So, like, I talked with those other  
11 people and stuff. They also wanted to find out what  
12 they're going do with the contaminate. They're going  
13 to move it. And, you know, like, again, I heard lots  
14 of things here.

15 The water runs off. I don't know if  
16 anybody from here knows about Fisherman Lake or have  
17 been there or our representative has been there, but  
18 we do live there. And I've been to the site, and it's  
19 kind of a bit sloped down towards the lake. And every  
20 time it rain or snow, it runs down to the lake.

21 And one (1) thing that I kind of really  
22 want to be part of it is that water -- if its water is  
23 contaminated, I would be -- like to be part of it, not  
24 only me, but maybe other people be part of it.

25 So, is it safe to go in the water? But



1 right now, we don't drink that water, but, you know,  
2 we do clean things with and stuff. That's all we do.

3                   We need to be more with Paramount and  
4 with a representative so he could represent us. Like,  
5 just I knew -- I heard of ADK is here, but nobody knew  
6 who he is. And Paramount should come here with the  
7 public.

8                   And there is lots of people in  
9 Fisherman Lake. Like, again, it's like fifteen (15),  
10 twenty (20) cabins there. And if the -- if the --  
11 contaminated, it's going to be clean, like, in twenty-  
12 five (25) years, somewhere around in that area, you  
13 know, I don't know if we're going to be here, but, you  
14 know, we do have our kids still in -- growing up and  
15 we still go to Fisherman Lake. We have cabins.

16                   For myself, I really like to have, you  
17 know, like, Paramount come here and have a meeting  
18 with us with our representative here. We got lots of  
19 things to say. Like, are they going to pull out the  
20 pipes and -- or are they going to leave it in?

21                   I know some of them are way on the --  
22 towards up the mountains, and they're still in there.  
23 And beaver ponds are making dams. And all those pipes  
24 are underneath the water now.

25                   If there is water monitor, I would like

1 to know that every time if they do water sampling.  
2 Right now, I haven't heard anything from Paramount or  
3 representative since back in 2019 somewhere. We've  
4 been left in the dark.

5                   And it's -- when -- when I heard that  
6 the Water Board was coming in, I didn't know what  
7 time, so I still got here. So, it's really good  
8 information that I heard. Paramount needs to come  
9 here and talk to us directly, not to the office where  
10 it stops.

11                   What else is there? Yeah, mostly it's  
12 the fish in the water that I need -- wanted to know,  
13 and the contaminated that's been there. And I kind of  
14 don't feel really safe with it there because it still  
15 runs down the -- to the water. And I -- I heard that  
16 they're going to monitor it from the -- where it's  
17 coming.

18                   And there's only one creek there that  
19 runs down to the lake from there. And if you go down  
20 over there, you'll see a whole bunch of trees just  
21 dried up from there all the way down. And it just  
22 tells you how the water -- it is.

23                   So, you know, like, I wouldn't mind to  
24 be part of that monitor there. So, you know, I feel  
25 more safe that way than if -- if it gets more

1 contaminated, like, I would like to know more about  
2 that, too, so, you know, to warn the other people,  
3 part of it doesn't get worse, those things.

4 I don't know if there's any other  
5 things, but I also wanted to say this. So, we need to  
6 talk to the Paramount representative here. So, it's  
7 really good information that I hear today from you  
8 guys. And I have an idea what's happening there.

9 So, just like to thank you for  
10 listening to me.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
12 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land Water Board. Thank  
13 you, James, for your comment. If I could, could I  
14 just get you to say your last name again, please, so  
15 that I can write it down properly?

16 MR. JAMES DUNTRA: It's James Duntra,  
17 D-U-N-T-R-A. I don't know if there's a couple people  
18 behind me, but I know they're -- they need translate  
19 or something.

20 So, I asked somebody yesterday here.  
21 You know, there's lots of people out there needs  
22 translate and stuff. So, I don't know if they want to  
23 talk about anything. So, I could do -- translate if  
24 they need. Anyway, thank you.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, James

1 Duntra. So, it wasn't specifically a question to  
2 GNWT-ECC, but it was a great comment.

3 And from what I'm hearing, and  
4 especially from the other members of the public that  
5 spoke, is that a request for engagement from  
6 Paramount, including ADKFN and the members of the  
7 public, is needed and is requested.

8 And the intention now is to put that on  
9 the record and to have that as evidence. And that'll  
10 help us with our decision making later and how we go  
11 forward.

12 James, if you are willing to offer  
13 translating so that other members of the public feel  
14 comfortable speaking, we will definitely compensate  
15 you for that. And if you would be available through  
16 the day to help that out, that is excellent.

17 Just as -- just as an information piece  
18 for other members of the public that are here, in this  
19 moment, we are trying to specifically ask questions of  
20 the people that have presented.

21 Once Environment Canada and Climate  
22 Change has done their presentation, we will ask them  
23 questions as well. Then there is a real time  
24 allocated for members of the public to come speak and  
25 offer their comments as you have today.

1                   And so, there will be more opportunity  
2 to just be able to speak off of your knowledge and --  
3 and give us the information that we really, really  
4 respect and need.

5                   So, thank you so much, James. I  
6 appreciate everything that you have said. And I just  
7 want to confirm.

8                   Do you have any specific questions for  
9 the GNWT-ECC?

10                  MR. JAMES DUNTRA: I'm not too sure  
11 who looks after the water monitor, and must be the  
12 GNWT. I'm not sure.

13                  MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Thank you, Madam  
14 Chair. Thank you, James. Yeah, I can speak to a few  
15 of those points. And -- oh, sorry. Rick Walbourne,  
16 GNWT. Thank you, Bill.

17                  Yeah. And so, just to -- on  
18 Fisherman's Lake, we've heard, I know myself for  
19 several years, about the importance of that area. And  
20 this is one of the reasons GNWT has been recommending,  
21 you know, water licence limits and kind of  
22 conservative water quality limits for contaminants in  
23 that area as part of this licence to make sure that  
24 the area is protected.

25                  We've even asked for toxicity testing.

1 So, that's where they do testing on actual different  
2 aquatic species to -- to make sure that the area is  
3 safe so that -- these are recommendations we've been  
4 bringing forward here as part of this proceeding,  
5 hoping that the Board will incorporate them in -- into  
6 the permits for -- for Paramount.

7                   On monitoring as well, we -- we've made  
8 some recommendations about the type of monitoring we'd  
9 like to see. You did have a good point there about,  
10 you know, wanting to see those monitoring results and  
11 -- and being interested in that.

12                   So, I mean, there -- there are a couple  
13 options there. The Board could have some kind of  
14 mechanism whereby those are distributed. Also on  
15 Paramount, I'm not sure about their communications or  
16 any kind of annual reporting or anything that's made  
17 available, but I think there was a couple mechanisms  
18 where that monitoring information should be able to  
19 make it back to the public.

20                   I can't speak to -- you did have a  
21 comment about, you know, potentially being a part of  
22 that monitoring. So, that might be -- if there's  
23 further engagement with Paramount, I know in a lot of  
24 other areas there are, you know, specific field  
25 monitors or on the land where community members are

1 part of the monitoring.

2                   And that really gives them a good  
3 understanding of what's happening onsite and taking  
4 the samples themselves and -- and gives them a lot  
5 more certainty with what actually is -- what's  
6 happening at site.

7                   Yeah, the only other thing, I think you  
8 mentioned about, you know, the closure of the site and  
9 -- and what different aspects, and you'd like to have  
10 further engagement. So, I -- I think the Chair  
11 already spoke to -- Paramount has heard that there's  
12 an interest in further engagement and talking about  
13 these specific topics, so hopefully there'll be some  
14 follow up there.

15                   And I guess just the final thing I can  
16 say from a GNWT perspective is we're also responsible  
17 for some of the enforcement. So, once Paramount has  
18 their licence in place and they have certain  
19 obligations under that licence, our enforcement people  
20 who are on the line would be traveling up to site to  
21 take water samples, to look around the site to make  
22 sure that they're doing what they're -- what they're  
23 doing. So, that's kind of how GNWT is involved on the  
24 enforcement side too. So, I -- I hope that's --  
25 that's helpful.

1 MR. JAMES DUNTRA: Yeah, it is really  
2 helpful. Thank you for your information. I do you  
3 understand where it is now. And I think it's going to  
4 be a big challenge and going to be fighting mother  
5 nature or something, more that thing. Thank you for  
6 listening to me. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
8 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley. James, it is a  
9 pleasure. And thank you for stepping forward and  
10 offering your voice. And I would like to now offer  
11 that opportunity to other members of the public that  
12 are in the room.

13 If anybody would like to have James  
14 help them with translation, as I said, we will  
15 definitely offer compensation to James for his time  
16 and his efforts.

17 Is there anybody that would like to  
18 step forward at this time?

19 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Madam Chair, if I  
20 may. Terence, with Paramount. I -- I found the  
21 comments last night and this morning and during the  
22 break from members of the community really helpful. I  
23 think it's going to maybe change some of the things  
24 we've been doing on engagement for sure.

25 I think we need a wider distribution of



1 our -- our materials. It's -- it's always interesting  
2 when you receive feedback directly from community  
3 members, so it's been really enlightening for myself.  
4 So, we'll -- we'll definitely find ways to improve  
5 what we're doing.

6 As it relates to monitors, for our work  
7 in 2023 regarding the surge pond, we had monitors from  
8 ADKFN out during that work last year at Liard West.  
9 When we did the decommissioning work, we had monitors  
10 out.

11 I definitely recognize, and we  
12 recognize, the value that they can provide and -- and  
13 hope that they provide an information source to  
14 community members. Again, maybe that's not occurring  
15 to the degree that we had thought was happening.

16 So, again, it goes back to we'll --  
17 we'll definitely take the feedback we heard today and  
18 -- and maybe communicate that a little bit more  
19 broadly.

20 As it relates to, you know, the Crown's  
21 role, you know, in engaging with communities, I -- I  
22 think we've stated on the record on this file and on  
23 numerous files, you know, there -- there is  
24 opportunity for the GNWT and their staff to engage  
25 with not only this community, but, you know, other

1 communities regarding, you know, our activities.

2                   Oftentimes in -- in doing engagement,  
3 we can be perceived as bias as the Proponent. And I -  
4 - I think the Crown has -- has a role to play in, you  
5 know, also being a source of information and someone  
6 who is out on the landscape and giving communities  
7 another opportunity, maybe not under -- with the  
8 Proponent to be on the landscape.

9                   So, like I said, the -- the comments  
10 yesterday and -- and in the breaks and this morning  
11 have been -- have been really helpful.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
13 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
14 Thank you, Terence, for adding that. I appreciate  
15 your comments.

16                   I'd like to just go back to members of  
17 the public that are in the room and offer that  
18 opportunity for your moment to question the GNWT-ECC  
19 on their presentation. And sorry, did I get  
20 confirmation that there was anybody -- there's no one  
21 online. Okay.

22                   So, at this point, I'd like to allow  
23 Paramount the opportunity to question the GNWT.  
24 Please, go ahead, Paramount.

25                   MR. TERENCE HUGHES: I'm going to try

1 to -- Terence Hughes, Paramount. We're going to try  
2 to maybe follow as -- the path GNWT took in their  
3 presentation.

4 So, I -- I think I'll ask the first  
5 question. And then I'll turn it over to my colleagues  
6 online. And then maybe it'll come back to me on -- on  
7 a couple questions regarding security.

8 I guess -- you know, I think I heard,  
9 and I'm happy to be corrected, that, you know, GWT  
10 would like to see EQC directly in the licence, but  
11 also see that potentially changing based on outcomes.

12 So, is the GNWT, thought through the  
13 repercussions of perhaps the need for multiple  
14 amendments to this licence on EQC, opposed to having  
15 the EQC in plans which would be subject to review and  
16 public review as well instead of perhaps a process  
17 that will lead to multiple amendments through the life  
18 of the licence?

19 MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Rick Walbourne,  
20 GNWT. Yes. Thanks for that, Terence.

21 So, you are correct. Our  
22 recommendation, and it's a longstanding recommendation  
23 and legal position from the GNWT, that EQC need to be  
24 in the body of the licence as opposed to a plan.

25 Ideally, we would've had, you know, an

1 opportunity to discuss EQCs for this proceeding, which  
2 would limit the need for future amendments. But you  
3 are correct. If EQC are in the licence and they need  
4 to be changed, that would require a water licence  
5 amendment.

6           That being said, there is an  
7 opportunity for the Board to -- you know, you -- you  
8 can scope a water licence amendment accordingly. So,  
9 if there was one (1) parameter that needed to be  
10 changed, you would still need a water licence  
11 amendment, but it could be a very focused amendment.

12           The Board has an obligation to call for  
13 a public hearing, but we've seen often in certain  
14 cases public hearings aren't required if there's no  
15 interest from parties to pursue that path, so there  
16 could be options there.

17           But, yeah, you are correct. We -- we  
18 are recommending -- and we can provide further  
19 information to yourself or the Board on our position,  
20 which we've made -- put on the record in other  
21 proceedings about why that is necessary, but...

22           And I do understand the repercussions.  
23 To your point about amending a type 'A' water licence  
24 is not the easiest process. But, yeah, ideally, we  
25 would have all the information necessary to make those

1 decisions as part of this initial proceeding.

2 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
3 Paramount. Thanks for that. But I -- I think I also  
4 heard -- you know, and I -- I think we've said that we  
5 will provide something as part of the undertakings.  
6 And then additionally, I think I heard from your  
7 colleague, Richard, that the opportunity would be  
8 needed based on monitoring results.

9 So, regardless, I guess, of what gets  
10 set from the beginning, I -- I -- correct me -- like,  
11 GNWT would see based on results future results which  
12 aren't known that future amendments would be required  
13 to the licence based on their preferred approach?

14 MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Rick Walbourne,  
15 GNWT. Yeah, I -- I would almost say that is a worst-  
16 case scenario if we -- I -- I think the reference  
17 you're making is that, if with the current EQC we're  
18 seeing adverse impacts in the environment, that they  
19 may need to be considered in future.

20 So, I think that's just -- we're doing  
21 the best we can to try to come up with some limits  
22 right now based on the information, not knowing what  
23 the results might be.

24 So, I think that's more of a -- you  
25 know, a catchall in the event that these were not

1 sufficient. They could be looked at in future,  
2 possibly requiring amendment, but that would be if we  
3 were seeing negative impacts to the receiving  
4 environment.

5 As we've heard multiple times over the  
6 past couple days about the importance of this area, we  
7 want to be sure that the -- the water licence  
8 conditions are sufficient to protect that area.

9 I know if Richard had anything to add  
10 on -- on that part.

11 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Sure. Richard,  
12 on -- Richard Nesbitt, on behalf of the GNWT.

13 So, first of all, I do want to  
14 highlight that the GNWT have currently proposed a five  
15 (5) year data review period before a potential  
16 amendment to the EQC may be required in an attempt to  
17 balance some of the uncertainties that are currently  
18 within the licence -- or sorry, currently within the  
19 application and the regulatory burden that we  
20 understand we are trying to limit for the Proponent.

21 Regarding the unknown monitoring data  
22 that you had highlighted, we still maintain the  
23 position that the EQC that the GNWT have proposed are  
24 provided in the absence of sufficient data to follow  
25 the standard Board process.

1                   Following the standard Board process,  
2 there would be some greater clarity on what the  
3 monitoring data would produce in the future, given the  
4 use of more standardly derived EQC -- again, limiting  
5 the uncertainty to a Proponent that unexpected  
6 monitoring data would require amendments to EQC and  
7 trigger a greater regulatory burden.

8                   MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
9 Paramount. First, I want to apologize to our great  
10 tech support for leaving my mic on like a dummy. But  
11 now I'll turn it over to my colleagues online for a  
12 few questions and I'll -- I'll jump back in when we  
13 get to the security part.

14

15                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17                   MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
18 Paramount. Just got my camera working, so that's  
19 good. Figured out what I was doing wrong there.

20                   Just a -- a comment, and I think it was  
21 already addressed though by GNWT. The 4,000  
22 milligrams per kilogram was never stated to be a final  
23 closure criteria or intended to be. It was part of  
24 the remediation project. And so that, as the  
25 conceptual site model at Pointed Mountains refined,

1 there will eventually be a final closure criteria  
2 stated for that.

3                   Just to comment on the EQC. As I think  
4 Terrence just noted, we are -- have agreed to provide  
5 an undertaking for that. In our review, we - we  
6 believe that the proposed cadmium EQC is actually  
7 below the concentrations in background groundwater.  
8 So, I just wanted to provide that note now just as --  
9 you know, as one potential opportunity for refinement  
10 on those, but we will be providing more detail.

11                   And then I just wanted to ask a  
12 question. I think it's recommendation number 7. I  
13 was just -- there's a -- there's a recommendation  
14 there for five (5) years. I was just wanting to  
15 inquire as to how that was developed.

16                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
17 on behalf of the GNWT.

18                   A period of five (5) years was chosen  
19 as -- as an approximation for a sufficient length of  
20 time when data would be collected under a range of  
21 ambient environmental conditions and hopefully  
22 providing sufficient time for contact water from the  
23 site to migrate to the receiving environment and  
24 improvements in the receiving environment to be  
25 realized, or lack thereof.



1                   But we are certainly open to refining  
2 that timeline based on Paramount's input. Again, we  
3 would prefer that timeline to be refined with a  
4 greater understanding of the hydraulic connectivity  
5 and the lag times from any discharges at the site  
6 reaching the wetland. But again, we're certainly open  
7 to that timeline being refined and would be interested  
8 in whatever information Paramount is willing to  
9 propose.

10                   MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier.  
11 Thank you for that answer. It clarifies things for  
12 us. Recommendations number 13 and 14, both I think,  
13 are a monthly monitoring recommendation.

14                   And -- and same question on those, I  
15 guess: How was -- how was the conclusion that monthly  
16 would be the most appropriate determined?

17                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
18 on behalf of the GNWT.

19                   Monthly or seasonally is a fairly  
20 standard recommendation. It is intended to ensure  
21 that the open water concentrations in the open water  
22 season are appropriately characterized as conditions  
23 change over the season.

24                   Typically, a -- earlier in the season,  
25 springtime sample when there is greater precipitation,

1 when freshet is occurring, and greater dilution is  
2 experienced, is sought to be captured by that initial  
3 sample approximately a month or so later when  
4 conditions -- apologies. We've had a little technical  
5 issue here, but that seems to not have an impact on  
6 our communication ability.

7           The second sample would be collected  
8 when there is less dilution in the receiving  
9 environment and the effects of groundwater would be  
10 more prevalent and then again in the fall when -- when  
11 there is greater precipitation and dilution occurs  
12 once again.

13           Again, we are open to a suggestion by  
14 Paramount for a monitoring program. It's certainly  
15 why we've asked Paramount those questions earlier in  
16 these proceedings and are providing this as an initial  
17 recommendation to the Board. But again, encourage  
18 Paramount to provide a more fulsome response and  
19 potentially provide their own suggestion of what  
20 monitoring would be appropriate in the aquatic  
21 receiving environment.

22           MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
23 with Paramount. Thank you for those -- those  
24 clarifications. I think I just have one more  
25 question.

1                   Recommendation 28, the \$41.4 million  
2 security: Given that the opposition from ADK to the  
3 landfill was only very recently known to Paramount,  
4 why did GNWT develop two (2) security estimates some  
5 time ago rather than just a single one based on our  
6 application?

7                   MR. BILL PAIN: Bill Pain, GNWT.  
8 Thanks, Ian. Sorry.

9                   Our reasoning for doing that was we had  
10 no clarity or certainty from other parties on the  
11 susceptibility of the landfill. This was something  
12 that we asked at the technical session. There wasn't  
13 any clarity either way, so we were making the  
14 assumption that -- or we took that route so we weren't  
15 precluding a certain scenario.

16                   So, we provided both as an opportunity  
17 to keep the proceeding going so there wasn't hopefully  
18 a pause or a change in Paramount's responses to aid in  
19 information. So, it was -- honestly, it just -- based  
20 on -- we didn't have any understanding of if this  
21 landfill was going to be an option by other parties.  
22 Thanks.

23                   MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian Kier,  
24 Paramount. Thank you. I don't have any other  
25 questions at this time.

1 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
2 Paramount. Just a couple more questions security  
3 related.

4 Since 2014 devolution, GNWT has held  
5 security related to Paramount's operations in the  
6 Northwest Territories. I was wondering if the GNWT  
7 could describe to the Board our past performance in  
8 providing security relative to our operations.

9 MR. BILL PAIN: Bill Pain, GNWT.  
10 Thanks, Terence. I think you're looking for like kind  
11 of clarity on if we have had any issues or -- anytime  
12 the Board has directed Paramount to submit a security  
13 either under a water licence or land use permit,  
14 Paramount has done so.

15 There have been instances where the --  
16 the water licence or maybe the land use security -- I  
17 think it was the water licence -- to provide clear  
18 directions on when that security should be posted, but  
19 that wasn't Paramount's fault. But, yes, when we do  
20 ask for security, Paramount has been prompt in  
21 submitting that.

22 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Thanks for that.  
23 Terence Hughes, Paramount Resources.

24 As part of your security estimate, did  
25 you do any analysis on Paramount's ability to -- to

1 pay the costs referred to in the estimate, or did you  
2 do any analysis of us as a Proponent in -- given our  
3 financial standing and -- and things like that for the  
4 Board's consideration?

5 MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Rick Walbourne,  
6 GNWT. Thanks, Terence, for that. No, not  
7 specifically. It's GNWT policy to ensure that any  
8 site is secured for 100 percent liability.

9 There are clauses in the -- in the  
10 regulations and Act to allow for, you know, the  
11 financial position of the Company or past performances  
12 or other things like that, that the Board may consider  
13 I think when setting security.

14 But it's been our policy that, given  
15 that GNWT is a small area with a limited tax base and  
16 a limited ability to cover legacy contamination, and  
17 we have quite a few of those in the Northwest  
18 Territories already, it's our policy to make an  
19 estimate that is reflective to the best of our ability  
20 of the actual site liability, regardless of the  
21 specific company or finances.

22 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Thanks for that.  
23 Terence Hughes, Paramount. One last question I guess  
24 regarding security.

25 You know -- you know, obviously we

1 requested the confidentiality, so I'm not going to ask  
2 you to speak to like specific dollar amounts and  
3 rates, but are both of your securities based on the  
4 information on rates that you received from Paramount  
5 Resources from its, you know, operating history in  
6 this area, or are the rates you used based off the  
7 generic reclaim model?

8 MR. JAMIE VAN GULCK: Jamie Van Gulck,  
9 for the GNWT. The -- there's many line items in the -  
10 - the estimate for security, and for each line item a  
11 decision needs to be made as to what rate is applied  
12 to it.

13 At times where we could use Paramount's  
14 rates, we did. At times when Paramount's rates may  
15 not coincide with the typical way of us estimating  
16 security estimates using the reclaim model or if  
17 Paramount's rates were not -- were not clear as to  
18 where they came from, we may have used the reclaim  
19 default rates.

20 So, it's on a case-by-case basis for  
21 each line item, and in the security estimate, we have  
22 a detailed description for each line item where our  
23 assumptions and rates and quantities come from. So,  
24 you'd have to go into the estimate and look at each  
25 specific item to understand which rate was applied and

1 why.

2 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
3 Paramount. Thanks for that.

4 Can you describe the experience or  
5 background that the GNWT would have from operating  
6 reclamation projects in the region and how that  
7 would've informed where GNWT chose not to use rates  
8 that were provided?

9 MR. JAMIE VAN GULCK: Jamie Van Gulck,  
10 for the GNWT. A little bit of background on the  
11 reclaim unit rates. They were developed in  
12 conjunction with the federal government and the GNWT  
13 based on reclamation projects that are -- that  
14 occurred in the Canadian North.

15 I can't say how many of those rates  
16 were specific to this region, but they are considered  
17 to be representative of the activity works for  
18 Northern reclamation projects.

19 MR. RICK WALBOURNE: I'm sorry, Rick  
20 Walbourne, GNWT. Just to add to that, and I think --  
21 I believe already there's been a discussion on further  
22 information or response from Paramount on some of our  
23 security estimates so that this is highlighting why  
24 it's important to have both parties like on EQC and on  
25 security estimates.

1                   So, if there were specific instances in  
2 our estimate that Paramount believes are problematic  
3 for any reason, that's information that they can share  
4 to the Board.

5                   So, what happens at the end of the day  
6 is I've seen a lot -- and not to speak for the Board,  
7 but in there reasons for decision, there's often a  
8 table of specific costs per activities, what the  
9 Proponent suggested, what the GNWT or -- or CERNAC,  
10 whoever, presented, and then the Board weighs that  
11 evidence based on what the rationale is by each party  
12 and will select.

13                   So often, the security estimate decided  
14 by the Board may be a combination of Proponent  
15 estimate and government estimate based on specific  
16 evidence and argument that is made.

17                   So, Terence, that's just to highlight,  
18 if there were certain items that you felt were -- were  
19 incorrect or -- or weren't reflective of this region,  
20 please, you know, make that information known to the  
21 Board or -- or to us through the process, but that --  
22 that should all be considered.

23                   MR. TERENCE HUGHES:   Terence Hughes,  
24 Paramount.  Thanks for that, gentlemen.  And we don't  
25 have any further questions at this time -- or I don't.



1                   Maybe I'll just defer one more time to  
2 my colleagues online in case the recent conversation  
3 has sparked any further questions.

4                   MR. MARK MACDOUGALL:    Ian Kier,  
5 Paramount.  No further comments from me.

6                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Tanya MacIntosh,  
7 Chair of the McKenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

8                   With no further questions from  
9 Paramount, I'd like to offer the opportunity now to  
10 the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board staff,  
11 technical advisors, and legal counsel.  Please go  
12 ahead with your questions.

13                   MS. HEATHER SCOTT:    Thanks, Madam  
14 Chair.  It's Heather Scott, with Board staff.  Some  
15 lines of questioning regarding EQC.  So, I have some  
16 overall questions first and then some questions  
17 specific to the parameters and EQCs themselves.

18                   So, I think, based on ADKFN's line of  
19 questioning to the GNWT, I got a little more  
20 understanding about why you proposed some EQC, some --  
21 some proposed projects in Nunavut.

22                   I think Board staff are still trying to  
23 understand because some of your proposed EQC come from  
24 CCME protection of aquatic life guidelines and some I  
25 believe come from federal interim quality guidelines,

1 why for certain parameters -- I think arsenic, copper,  
2 nickel, and zinc -- you have gone to these projects in  
3 Nunavut instead.

4 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
5 on behalf of the GNWT. Sorry, can I get a little bit  
6 more clarity on the question?

7 I don't think we proposed any FEQGs, or  
8 Federal Environmental Quality Guidelines, in our  
9 submission.

10 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
11 Board staff. So, from my understanding, I guess for  
12 the EQC for selenium, it also aligns with the federal  
13 interim groundwater quality guidelines as well as CCME  
14 PAL, but I guess several -- I think several of your  
15 proposed EQC do align with CCME PAL, and then others  
16 are site specifically derived.

17 And I'm wondering, because those ones  
18 that have site-specific derivations also have existing  
19 water quality guidelines for surface water or  
20 groundwater, why you went to a site-specific example  
21 in Nunavut instead of guideline values.

22 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
23 on behalf of the GNWT.

24 I think again, highlighting some of the  
25 uncertainty in the assimilative capacity and the

1 behaviour of potential effluent in the receiving  
2 environment, we specifically selected criteria that  
3 had been demonstrated to be effective in a similar  
4 discharge scenario, and so wanted to use criteria  
5 where a precedent of their acceptability and  
6 effectiveness had been established. And if I didn't  
7 say, Richard on behalf of the GNWT.

8 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
9 Board staff. And when you say the effectiveness had  
10 been demonstrated, is that modeled effectiveness  
11 through the -- through proposing those EQC and the  
12 models that go along with that, or is that  
13 demonstrated in the receiving environment?

14 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
15 on behalf of the GNWT.

16 By 'effectiveness', I mean the EQCs  
17 having been met at the project examples that I  
18 highlighted in our response to the ADKFN had resulted  
19 in acceptable impacts or no impacts in the receiving  
20 environment once the effluent had reached the -- the  
21 surface aquatic receiving environment.

22 And we are not relying on model results  
23 in this case, again because we don't understand what  
24 the model -- what a model would provide in the  
25 Paramount context.

1 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
2 Board staff. Okay. I understand that. I think I'm -  
3 - Board staff still wants some clarity.

4 Given the very different receiving  
5 environments, I think given the very different  
6 effluents we're talking about -- I think you talked  
7 about waste rock piles, landfills on a mining --  
8 mining sites in Nunavut versus oil and gas site in  
9 Southwestern NWT -- so I'm trying to understand the  
10 comparison and why you would specifically choose that  
11 project II think because guidelines exist elsewhere.

12 For example, the Board and GNWT worked  
13 on guidelines for hydrocarbon contaminated soil  
14 treatment facilities that were written for  
15 contaminants such as Paramount's dealing with on their  
16 site. And -- and that guideline has proposed Fisher's  
17 criteria.

18 So, I'm wondering why the GNWT turned  
19 to this -- to criteria from a very different project  
20 in Nunavut with a very different receiving environment  
21 and different effluent, quite frankly, rather than a  
22 guideline in the NWT that used reference from federal  
23 guidance for contaminated soil. Thank you.

24 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on  
25 behalf of the GNWT.

1                   So again, I think we were dealing with  
2 the uncertainty, and certainly while the influent and  
3 the sources of the contamination with the projects  
4 referenced in Nunavut will differ from what is going  
5 to be experiment -- experienced at Paramount, the  
6 effluence will be present in mixture.

7                   And so, trying to understand the  
8 potential risks of an effluent with mixture toxicity,  
9 or the potential for mixture toxicity, we relied on  
10 specific examples where similar mixtures or of the key  
11 COPCs had been encountered and then again had not had  
12 a deleterious effect on the receiving environment.

13                   If, in Paramount's response or review  
14 of the GNWT's EQC and their proposed EQC, they feel  
15 that there are more appropriate guidelines for their  
16 project based on their experience operating in this  
17 particular area, then we would be happy to consider  
18 those among other parties in the review of those  
19 proposed EQC.

20                   MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
21 Board staff. Thank you for that. Sorry, I'm just  
22 going through my questions here.

23                   I think because, although proposed from  
24 this project in Nunavut, there are CCME PAL guidelines  
25 included in the proposed EQC,

1                   Can the GNWT indicate why they chose  
2 guidelines based on CCME PAL rather than federal  
3 interim groundwater quality guidelines, given that the  
4 discharge that you've proposed is to land at least 250  
5 meters from surface water body?

6                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT:     Richard Nesbitt,  
7 on behalf of the GNWT.

8                   In part, it's because we are  
9 anticipating the actual discharges of contact water to  
10 first be subject to acute toxicity testing, and so  
11 surface water, that the protection for aquatic life  
12 guidelines are, in our view, appropriate to ensuring  
13 that the effluent is not acutely lethal to aquatic  
14 life.

15                   And then following that base  
16 requirement, we maintained the surface water  
17 protection of aquatic life guidelines, and also  
18 knowing that the receptor of concern will be in the --  
19 the surface water environment of the wetland and  
20 eventually for Fisherman Lake as well.

21                   MS. HEATHER SCOTT:     Thank you.  
22 Heather Scott, Board staff. I think you sort of  
23 answered this question, but one of my questions was:

24                   For some of the parameters where a  
25 numerical criteria was not proposed, you do propose

1 that toxicity be -- toxicity testing be the  
2 requirement. And again, yeah, I was wondering why  
3 that would be applied to discharges to land rather  
4 than an aquatic environment.

5 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
6 on behalf of the GNWT. In part, it's a precautionary  
7 approach, understanding that there are uncertainties  
8 with where the discharge will occur.

9 We're somewhat concerned that the land  
10 discharge could have a preferential flow path and  
11 directly reach the surface water. There is also some  
12 uncertainty with the potential attenuation in the  
13 groundwater.

14 And if there is little to no  
15 attenuation, although we certainly expect there to be  
16 some given the approach we have put forwards, the  
17 surface water protection of aquatic life guidelines  
18 were used as a conservative or a precautionary  
19 approach.

20 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
21 Board staff. Thank you for that. I just had a  
22 question about the parameters of potential concern  
23 that you included in -- in your EQC proposal.

24 I think in your intervention, you --  
25 you say you turned to the 2017 assessment where

1 Paramount identified those.

2 I'm just wondering if you did any other  
3 determinations or passes of data to identify any other  
4 parameters of potential concern.

5 Again, looking to the Board and GNWT  
6 guide -- guidelines for hydrocarbon contaminated soil  
7 treatment facilities, those discharge criteria in the  
8 guidelines include aluminum, beryllium, iron,  
9 manganese, mercury, thallium, uranium, and those were  
10 not included.

11 Just wondering if you did any scanning  
12 for POPCs beyond the 2017 assessment.

13 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
14 on behalf of the GNWT.

15 Part of the reason that we are looking  
16 to have an adaptive trigger for the EQC that we've  
17 currently proposed is that we understand that there  
18 are still some significant uncertainties in what the  
19 full suite of parameters of concern may entail.

20 The Proponent did reference that 2017  
21 report as a good starting point. It's the same reason  
22 from our understanding why the 4,000 milligrams per  
23 kilogram chloride soil criteria has shown up in the  
24 licence.

25 So, understanding that it's a starting



1 point, and understanding that the -- there's a  
2 supplemental phase two ESA coming, we would prefer to  
3 rely on potentially expanding the EQC list based on  
4 that forthcoming data that's going to ideally better  
5 capture the potential risks from the site.

6 But again, if Paramount can suggest a  
7 broader suite or a refined suite of EQC, then we would  
8 encourage that as a part of their response to the  
9 Board's undertaking for them.

10 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
11 Board staff. Thank you.

12 I'm just trying to understand because I  
13 think otherwise you're -- GNWT has taken a very  
14 precautionary approach because a lot of information is  
15 forthcoming, yet have limited the number of parameters  
16 that the EQC apply to.

17 So, I'm wondering why a broader set of  
18 parameters for EQC has not been proposed, using that  
19 same precautionary approach this time?

20 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
21 on behalf of the GNWT. That's absolutely a fair  
22 point.

23 I think we were, again, focusing on the  
24 information that had been provided by the Proponent in  
25 a more consolidated fashion right now. But we can

1 certainly consider a broader parameter suite in our  
2 closing arguments based on what Paramount provides in  
3 their proposed EQC.

4 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Thank you.  
5 Heather Scott, Board Staff. I think -- I can  
6 appreciate that GNWT is trying to propose one set of  
7 EQC to cover all the bases for all discharges right  
8 now.

9 But Board Staff did look at the water  
10 quality that Paramount collected, specifically for the  
11 oxidation pond. And we noted that the water quality  
12 is generally good and met CCME PAL guidelines but the  
13 two (2) parameters that showed exceedances in 2023  
14 were iron and aluminum. But there was no EQC proposed  
15 for those two (2) parameters.

16 So, we're just wondering if -- why --  
17 why those two (2) parameters weren't considered for  
18 EQC or if you do think based on the water quality  
19 Paramount presented that EQC for the oxidation pond  
20 are -- are required. Thank you.

21 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Just a moment,  
22 please.

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
2 on behalf of the GNWT. Again, I think we were relying  
3 on the overall site assessment provided by Paramount  
4 in that 2017 report.

5 Perhaps noting what you have just  
6 highlighted, Paramount could consider aluminum and  
7 iron in their suite of EQC when they propose those to  
8 the Board. And we could provide our thoughts  
9 following your -- the information you've highlighted  
10 in our review of that Undertaking in our closing  
11 arguments.

12 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Thank you.  
13 Heather Scott, Board Staff.

14 I think two (2) of the parameters or  
15 two (2) of the EQC you've proposed require -- hardness  
16 -- hardness is a factor in determining what the  
17 criteria should be.

18 I'm wondering what hardness you use to  
19 determine the proposed EQC.

20 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
21 on behalf of the GNWT.

22 We provided the EQC, again, based on  
23 projects where the use of those EQC had demonstrated  
24 success in the aquatic receiving environment. We  
25 proposed the EQC irrespective of hardness

1 understanding that we do not understand what the  
2 hardness will likely be in all sources of contact  
3 water around the site that will be discharged.

4 I don't think given the information we  
5 have right now that a hardness is appropriately used  
6 to derive the EQC and certainly a hardness variable  
7 EQC would not be warranted again, with the limited  
8 information that we currently have.

9 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
10 Board Staff. Thank you. I think that concludes -- or  
11 wait -- no, I think it -- yeah.

12 Okay, GNWT Intervention number 4. So  
13 GNWT has recommended that until such time that revised  
14 EQC are developed by Paramount, the licence required  
15 the development of an adaptive management plan  
16 trigger, based on water quality monitoring within the  
17 wetland, at a water quality station adapted from the  
18 wetland assessment.

19 So, our question is along the lines  
20 that the Board generally applies EQC to point source  
21 discharges of waste. However, there's no point source  
22 discharge to the wetland.

23 So, can GNWT clarify the link between  
24 the development of a revised EQC and monitoring in the  
25 wetland?

1 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
2 on behalf of the GNWT. Given the current  
3 understanding of the effects' pathway, the wetland  
4 would be the aquatic receiving environment.

5 This follows, from our understanding, a  
6 very similar approach to aquatic effects monitoring  
7 programs where impacts -- or monitoring in the aquatic  
8 receiving environment and any detected impacts  
9 therein, could trigger a revision of the EQC and water  
10 management practices or -- or waste management  
11 practices, in this case, onsite.

12 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Thank you.  
13 Heather Scott, Board Staff. And I forgot to turn my  
14 microphone off, apologies. Thanks for that.

15 I think you answered this earlier, but  
16 your Intervention spoke to a five (5) year re-  
17 evaluation, specific to chloride, but this speaks to a  
18 revised EQC. Perhaps can develop at a later date.

19 What is -- when is GNWT proposing that  
20 the revised EQC are developed?

21 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
22 on behalf of the GNWT.

23 Just to be clear, we're not proposing  
24 specifically that revised EQC be developed. We are  
25 proposing a five (5) year monitoring period after

1 remediation activities have been completed, or those  
2 EQC are adopted for all contact water to determine  
3 whether or not they are appropriate.

4           The five (5) year period tries to  
5 consider the uncertainty in the migratory timelines  
6 between any discharges from the site and the receiving  
7 environment and hopes to also provide an opportunity  
8 for a range of ambient environmental conditions,  
9 dilution in a simulative capacity, to be encountered  
10 before triggering the potential need to revise EQC to  
11 ensure better protection of the aquatic environment.

12           MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott  
13 Board Staff. Sorry, I'm just trying to figure the  
14 sequencing.

15           I would think five (5) years post  
16 remediation, there wouldn't be the active discharges  
17 any longer -- like, I feel -- I feel as though we've  
18 heard from Paramount that the active discharges are  
19 associated with the management of water from  
20 excavations on site, possibly by a remediation pad,  
21 the oxidation pond. Can you just clarify that  
22 suggested time?

23           MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
24 on behalf of the -- the GNWT.

25           So, I think in response to the ADKFN,

1 we had highlighted that these EQC would apply to a  
2 variety of locations.

3                   So, for using the ADKFN'S example of a  
4 soil stockpile, runoff discharges from those locations  
5 would then have EQC applied to them. And once those  
6 EQC are applied and the discharges are beginning to  
7 occur and the water from the site is controlled, that  
8 would trigger the beginning of that five (5) year  
9 evaluation period.

10                   But, again, there's uncertainty and we  
11 are, I think, as Ian had suggested, there may be some  
12 room for reconsideration of that timeline. And it  
13 sounds like Paramount may be providing their own  
14 thoughts on that particular item.

15                   MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
16 Board Staff. I believe those are all my questions and  
17 I think that's -- okay, we have a few more questions.  
18 Thank you.

19                   MR. ANDY WHEELER: Andy Wheeler,  
20 Board Staff. Thanks for those responses. Just going  
21 to GNWT's recommendation 7.

22                   This is discussing residual COCs in the  
23 aquatic receiving environment and that five (5) year  
24 evaluation period, and perhaps the need to excavate  
25 more soil from the surge pond to a more stringent

1 threshold.

2                   We're just trying to get an  
3 understanding of whether that five (5) year re-eval,  
4 is GNWT proposing a standalone re-evaluation report  
5 for that? Or -- or do you foresee that being wrapped  
6 into one of the standard plans required by water  
7 licences, like the Water and Wastewater Management  
8 Plan or the CRP?

9

10                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

11

12                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard, on  
13 behalf of the -- the GNWT. I don't think we have a  
14 strong position, but more of a, like a standard re-  
15 eval period. Not part of the -- the ICRP.

16                   MR. ANDY WHEELER: Okay. Thanks for  
17 that. On to the next one, which is Intervention 9.

18                   This is discussing pre-remediation  
19 monitoring information for surface and groundwater and  
20 that that information come in a plan that's submitted  
21 ninety (90) days following issuance of the licence.

22                   Just looking for clarification that the  
23 GNWT is proposing when this pre-remediation monitoring  
24 would begin.

25                   MR. BILL PAIN: Bill Pain, GNWT.



1 Thanks, Andy.

2                   The intention of this, obviously, while  
3 Paramount completes and figures out how the  
4 remediation is going to be fully done with the site  
5 through the final closure plan right -- or interim  
6 closure plan, this monitoring is supposed to take in  
7 effect.

8                   So, if we say ninety (90) days with an  
9 effective of issuing to the licence, but we would  
10 expect that this monitoring would be commenced now.  
11 So, the plan should be hopefully already kind of being  
12 drafted by the Proponent.

13                   MR. ANDY WHEELER:    Okay.  Thanks,  
14 Bill.  Andy Wheeler, Board Staff, that answers the --  
15 our question.

16                   I bring your attention now to GNWT  
17 Recommendation 14, and that's similar.  This  
18 recommendation though speaks to proximal surface water  
19 bodies.  So, the same question there:  Is GNWT  
20 proposing monitoring would begin immediately in these  
21 proximal surface water bodies?

22                   MR. RICHARD NESBITT:    Richard on  
23 behalf of -- Richard Nesbitt, on behalf of the GNWT.

24                   Ideally a monitoring plan that -- with  
25 sites that would be maintained both prior to

1 remediation and post remediation would be established  
2 in short order. And that monitoring would occur as  
3 soon as possible, as soon as feasible, to (AUDIO CUTS  
4 OUT) dataset a more robust dataset for comparison of  
5 water quality borne after remediation. So, ideally,  
6 as soon as possible.

7

8

(BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 MR. ANDY WHEELER: Andy Wheeler, Board  
11 Staff. Thanks for that response, Richard.

12 Okay. Now to GNWT Recommendation 23.  
13 The Board has received -- well, it's not just  
14 Intervention 23, sorry, it's also Intervention 16,  
15 that's why I'm combining them together.

16 And the Board has received two (2)  
17 recommended timelines regarding design and  
18 construction plans or referred to as Engineered Design  
19 Reports in the GNWT's Intervention.

20 Prior to the construction of these  
21 features, one twelve (12) months in advance and for  
22 the landfill I believe it's twenty-four (24) months in  
23 advance that this be submitted.

24 We just note that our standard  
25 expectation for submission timelines for design and

1 construction plans is ninety (90) days prior to  
2 construction. So, we're just hoping you can  
3 illuminate your position on why it would be twelve  
4 (12) or twenty-four (24) months in advance rather than  
5 ninety (90) days. Thanks.

6 MR. LEE ROSS: Lee Ross, GNWT.  
7 Thanks, Andy. You are correct. We do have an  
8 Engineering Design Report for each major project  
9 component, except for the landfill, twelve (12) months  
10 prior to active remediation. And then we do have the  
11 Engineer and Design Report for the landfill twenty-  
12 four (24) months.

13 The reason for that was due to the  
14 complexity of the landfill and concern and having time  
15 to fully go over the landfill and consider all the  
16 components of that. But, specifically, for the ninety  
17 (90) day versus twelve (12) months question, maybe  
18 I'll pass it to Jamie to talk about that.

19 MR. JAMIE VAN GULCK: Jamie Van Gulck  
20 for the GNWT. If I could just get some clarity on the  
21 ninety (90) day term and condition.

22 Am I right in that term and condition  
23 is the Construction Summary Report and not the Design  
24 Report?

25 MR. ANDY WHEELER: Andy Wheeler, Board

1 Staff. I'll do my best. The Standard Water Licence  
2 Conditions speak to design and construction plans.  
3 So, a plan that would detail how the -- how the  
4 feature would be designed and then subsequently built.  
5 And the -- and that submission timeline is ninety (90)  
6 days prior to construction.

7 Reports, generally, in the Standard  
8 Water Licence Conditions would be following --  
9 following construction, and I believe they're referred  
10 to As-Built Reports in the Standard Conditions. So,  
11 hope that helps clarify.

12 MR. JAMIE VAN GULCK: Thanks. Jamie  
13 Van Gulck, for the GNWT. That standard condition  
14 wasn't considered in selecting these timeframes of  
15 twelve (12) months or twenty-four (24) months.

16 I can say that there -- there can be  
17 challenges in completing a -- a review and approval  
18 process of a design report. And that for structures  
19 that are of, for lack of a better word, higher  
20 importance or higher environmental risk, there can be  
21 a -- a need to have various rounds of -- of review to  
22 address stakeholder interest or concerns.

23 And so, the extra time does provide for  
24 that opportunity from a -- a more practical  
25 implementation stage perspective. If -- if a

1 proponent was to submit a plan ninety (90) days and  
2 expect approval after those ninety (90) days and that  
3 doesn't happen, then that can compromise the  
4 construction schedule. So, this provides some extra  
5 mitigation or flexibility for that.

6 MS. HEATHER SCOTT: Heather Scott,  
7 Board Staff. So, understanding that rationale, just  
8 trying to understand the twenty-four (24) months  
9 proposal that -- like considering, for example, a  
10 Board standard process for a water licence application  
11 is nine (9) months.

12 So, can you provide some metrics to  
13 that twenty-four (24) month proposal? Like, why  
14 exactly two (2) years would be required prior to  
15 construction or reviews?

16 MR. JAMIE VAN GULCK: Jamie Van Gulck,  
17 for the GNWT. Our interest was to make sure that  
18 there is sufficient time to go through a review and  
19 approval process.

20 We are open to having an adjustment to  
21 that timeframe from twenty-four (24) months to  
22 something else, if that's -- that -- that's  
23 reasonable.

24 I -- I have apprehension that ninety  
25 (90) days is sufficient time though. So, I can't

1 provide any further metrics. We -- we had picked a  
2 number and that's what's there.

3 MR. ANDY WHEELER: Andy Wheeler, Board  
4 Staff. Thanks for that information, Jamie.

5 I think that concludes our line of  
6 questioning, Madam Chair,

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
8 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

9 Just to confirm no questions from legal  
10 counsel? I'd like to ask the Board members if they  
11 have any questions?

12 Okay, that concludes the questions for  
13 GNWT-ECC and I'd like to take a lunch break. And so,  
14 the time is 12:10.

15 I would ask that everyone please be  
16 back in their seats at 1:10, and we will reconvene  
17 with ECCC's presentation and move forward with the  
18 agenda. Thank you everyone so much. See you in an  
19 hour. Mahsi.

20

21 --- Upon recessing at 12:10 p.m.

22 --- Upon resuming at 1:12 p.m.

23

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
25 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

1 Thank you, everybody, for -- for your consideration of  
2 the time and getting back within the hour.

3                   There has been a request for one (1)  
4 more question to GNWT, and I would like to offer that  
5 opportunity. And so, Paramount, please go ahead with  
6 your question.

7                   MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Thanks. Terence  
8 Hughes, with Paramount Resources. Yeah, just during  
9 the responses to our inquiries on security, GNWT made  
10 a reference to a policy in seeking full security for  
11 projects.

12                   I was wondering if that policy could be  
13 made available.

14                   MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Rick Walbourne,  
15 GNWT. Yeah, I can commit to an undertaking, either  
16 providing a formal policy or an official policy  
17 statement from the GNWT on security.

18                   So, whichever most formal way I can get  
19 that back, I will take that.

20                   DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher, for  
21 the Board. So, that'll be Undertaking number 5.  
22 Thanks.

23                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
24 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

25                   Paramount, are there any further

1 questions?

2 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
3 Paramount. No. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
5 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
6 At this time, I would like to offer the opportunity  
7 for ECCC to do their presentation. And when you are  
8 ready, please go ahead. Thank you.

9

10 PRESENTATION BY ECCC:

11 MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):  
12 Okay. Good afternoon, Madam Chair, Board members,  
13 other community members, Board staff, and the parties  
14 that have joined us today. My name is Mitchell  
15 Johnson. And I'm a senior environmental assessment  
16 officer with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

17 And then with me presenting today on  
18 the more technical slides is Sarah Forte, our water  
19 quality analyst.

20 In this presentation, we're going to  
21 summarize our department's final interventions along  
22 with any relevant updates since it was submitted to  
23 the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board on February  
24 28th, 2025.

25 So, to start off, I'm going to go



1 through just a brief overview of Environment and  
2 Climate Change Canada's mandate, and then briefly  
3 touch upon the relevant Acts and regulations for our  
4 involvement.

5                   And then for each topic, Sarah is going  
6 to touch on just the -- just an update on what they  
7 are, the status of our concerns, and then if there's  
8 been any updates to our concerns associated with the  
9 response to interventions or through the discussion of  
10 this process.

11                   So, with that, under the Department of  
12 Environment Act, the powers, duties, and functions of  
13 the Minister of Environment and Climate Change extend  
14 to matters such as the preservation and enhancement of  
15 the quality of the natural environment, the  
16 coordination of the relevant policies and programs of  
17 the government of Canada, migratory birds, and other  
18 nondomestic flora and fauna, meteorology, and the  
19 enforcement of these rules and regulations.

20                   The Environment and Climate Change  
21 Canada's mandate is governed by several Acts,  
22 including the Department of the Environment Act, the  
23 Canadian Environmental Protection Act, the pollution  
24 prevention provisions of the Fisheries Act, the  
25 Migratory Birds Convention Act, and the Species at

1 Risk Act.

2 So, with that sort of brief summary of  
3 those items, I'm going to turn it over to Sarah to  
4 move on to our -- our final interventions.

5 MS. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): Thanks,  
6 Mitchell. Sarah Forte, with Environment and Climate  
7 Change Canada. So, as Mitchell mentioned, I'll go  
8 through each of the five (5) comments.

9 The first one is on the scope of the  
10 licence. So, though it's clear this is a remediation  
11 project, many of the details have not yet been  
12 developed.

13 Paramount's presentation yesterday  
14 referred to all Project activities, including Phase II  
15 environmental site assessment and monitoring, as  
16 potential proposed activities, so there's a lot of  
17 uncertainty.

18 And without site-specific information  
19 and remediation details, it's difficult to evaluate  
20 which licence conditions would be necessary or  
21 appropriate.

22 Environment and Climate Change Canada  
23 recommends that the Board consider matching the scope  
24 of the licence to activities which have been  
25 sufficiently described to be regulated and activities

1 for which standard conditions are appropriate. Next  
2 slide, please.

3 Our second comment is on the oxidation  
4 pond and Effluent Quality Criteria. The only  
5 containment pond remaining onsite is referred to as  
6 oxidation pond, and it previously served as a sewage  
7 lagoon.

8 Currently, the pond holds between 300  
9 and 400 cubic meters of water, which showed some  
10 stratification when it was sampled in June 2023.

11 Paramount's intervention response  
12 specifies they have not had to do active water  
13 management in the past to keep this pond from  
14 overtopping. This suggests there's exfiltration  
15 occurring, which is possible since the pond is  
16 unlined. Next slide, please.

17 This recommendation had two (2) parts.  
18 And for the first, based on the information provided  
19 in Paramount's intervention response, it seems that  
20 the update requested should be relatively simple.  
21 However, that information also brings to light the  
22 fact that the pond is leaky, and this should be  
23 considered for any future proposal use of the pond for  
24 surface water management during remediation.

25 The second part of the recommendation

1 was for Effluent Quality Criteria should they be  
2 required. The Government of the Northwest Territories  
3 Department of the Environment and Climate Change have  
4 proposed criteria.

5                   We asked for one (1) clarification  
6 question earlier today and have two (2) additional  
7 suggestions for the Board's consideration. The first  
8 which actually Heather alluded to earlier, too, was  
9 that we noticed the list of parameters with Effluent  
10 Quality Criteria did not include all the contaminants  
11 of potential concern that were identified through  
12 various environmental site assessments.

13                   So, depending on what is to be  
14 discharged, it may also be appropriate to add Effluent  
15 Quality Criteria for iron, aluminum, sulfate,  
16 manganese, fluoride, uranium, and nitrate, or nitrite.

17                   And specifically, the first two (2)  
18 parameters, iron and aluminum, were present at  
19 elevated concentrations in the oxidation pond water.

20                   The second suggestion relates to  
21 guidelines used to set criteria. The criteria  
22 proposed by the Government of the Northwest  
23 Territories include values found in other licences as  
24 well as Canadian Council of Ministers of the  
25 Environment water quality guidelines for the

1 protection of aquatic life for -- both for short-term  
2 and long-term exposure.

3           If we're taking the protection of  
4 aquatic life route, Environment and Climate Change  
5 Canada would like to note that federal environmental  
6 quality guidelines have recently been developed for  
7 certain parameters and incorporate the latest  
8 understanding of parameter toxicity to aquatic life.

9           Guidelines are available for parameters  
10 already in the proposed list, including for hexavalent  
11 chromium, benzene, toluene, and ethyl benzene.  
12 They're also available for xylene, iron, and aluminum,  
13 which are not in the proposed parameter list but have  
14 in identified as contaminants, potential concern.

15           So, it might be worth considering these  
16 guidelines when setting Effluent Quality Criteria.  
17 Next slide, please.

18           Our third comment is about monitoring,  
19 which has also been spoken about throughout the  
20 meetings. Monitoring is necessary for all projects to  
21 understand site conditions, track how they're  
22 evolving, and check if Project activities are causing  
23 changes.

24           For monitoring to be effective, it's  
25 important to measure the right things. The sample

1 locations, sampling parameters, and frequency should  
2 be selected to detect potentially changing site  
3 conditions and different Project stages typically  
4 require different monitoring.

5                   Though Paramount have done annual  
6 surface water and groundwater monitoring in 2021,  
7 2022, and 2023, the monitoring program details had not  
8 been discussed or agreed on, and this creates things  
9 such as -- dissolved organic carbon was not one (1) of  
10 the parameters tested, but since it is used in  
11 calculating guidelines for the protection of aquatic  
12 life for metals, like aluminum, iron, and zinc, we  
13 have to use less accurate estimates to evaluate  
14 possible effects from parameter concentrations of  
15 those metals.

16                   So, including dissolved organic carbon  
17 in the list of monitoring parameters would allow for a  
18 more thorough understanding of Project impacts to  
19 water. That's just one (1) example of the benefits of  
20 -- of determining conditions ahead of time. Next  
21 slide.

22                   And, as I mentioned, usually a Surface  
23 and Groundwater Monitoring Plan would have been  
24 presented and discussed during the water licence  
25 proceedings, but Paramount has deferred developing a

1 Monitoring Plan for inclusion in the yet to be  
2 submitted Closure and Reclamation Plan.

3           Since monitoring should continue at  
4 site and include the 2025 field season, Environment  
5 and Climate Change Canada recommends that Paramount  
6 submit a Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Plan  
7 as soon as possible.

8           And elements that we expect to see in  
9 the plan include sample locations, sample link  
10 frequency, infield measurements to be taken during  
11 sampling, parameters to be analyzed in the laboratory,  
12 quality assurance and quality control measures to be  
13 implemented, and methods to evaluate and report on the  
14 results. Next slide, please.

15           Comment Number 4 recommended setting a  
16 timeline for the update of the Waste Management Plan.  
17 Paramount has committed to making corrections to the  
18 plan to address four (4) of our previous comments made  
19 during the technical review. And the four (4) topics  
20 are the ponds remaining onsite, disposal of water from  
21 the surge pond, Sewage volumes and management, as well  
22 as a reference to a type B licence

23           Environment and Climate Change Canada  
24 recommends that these changes be made before work is  
25 carried out onsite. Next slide, please.

1 Environment and Climate Change's final  
2 comment is about the wetland assessment. The 2023  
3 wetland assessment describes monitoring done near the  
4 shores of Fisherman Lake. This slide lists three (3)  
5 deficiencies identified in the assessment.

6 Because of these shortcomings, impacts  
7 to the wetland are not fully described or understood.  
8 For example, the assessment compares data from  
9 assessment transects with data from control transects  
10 to define the magnitude of impacts. However, the  
11 control transects are located in areas that are likely  
12 also impacted, so they are not an -- accurate  
13 background references and impacts are likely  
14 underestimated. Next slide, please.

15 Paramount stated that the wetland  
16 assessment was to aid in potentially developing an  
17 appropriate Risk Management Plan and future ecological  
18 risk assessment for the site and associated wetland.  
19 Environment and Climate Change Canada recommended that  
20 the deficiencies identified in the wetland assessment  
21 be corrected in future work.

22 In their response to interventions,  
23 Paramount has committed to addressing the points  
24 raised by Environment and Climate Change Canada in the  
25 Wetland Monitoring Program of an Adaptive Management



1 Plan.

2                   Though the proposed use of the wetland  
3 assessment seems to have changed, we are satisfied if  
4 future work monitoring and assessing the wetlands  
5 includes unimpacted control locations, analysis of the  
6 full suite of metal to cover all parameters of  
7 potential concern, and an interpretation of all  
8 toxicity test results.

9                   And last slide, which is a thank you to  
10 everybody for their attention and patience.

11                   MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):  
12 Thanks. Mitchell Johnson, ECCC. I just wanted to  
13 add. We appreciate being given the opportunity to  
14 voice our concerns associated with the application.  
15 And we're happy to take questions now.

16

17 QUESTION PERIOD:

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
19 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
20 Thank you for your presentation, ECCC. And now I will  
21 open up to the Interveners and ask them for their  
22 questions to your presentation.

23                   I would like to start with ADKFN. If  
24 you have questions, please go ahead. Thank you.

25                   MR. MARKK MACDOUGALL: Mark

1 MacDougall, Acho Dene Koe First Nation. Thank you,  
2 Madam Chair. And -- and thank you, ECCC, for your  
3 presentation and -- and comments. And they're quite  
4 helpful to -- to furthering our understanding of this  
5 Project.

6 We just have one (1) question for you.  
7 So, in ECCC 1 of your intervention, you -- you asked  
8 the Board to reflect on whether sufficient information  
9 has been provided in the application process for  
10 Project activities to -- to assess the application.

11 I -- I want to turn that question  
12 around to -- to yourselves given ECCC's mandate. Does  
13 each CCC feel like it has been provided with  
14 sufficient information from the Applicant to determine  
15 whether the approval of this licence as currently  
16 understood may interfere with any applicable Act,  
17 regulation, policy, or guideline under ECCC's mandate?  
18 Thank you.

19 MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM): Do  
20 you want to take a stab at this, Sarah?

21 MS. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): Yeah, I  
22 can do that. Sarah Forte, with Environment and  
23 Climate Change Canada.

24 So, I -- I think you're correct in  
25 saying that there's -- there's not a lot of

1 information on the details of what they're going to  
2 do. And so, what we have reviewed so far, there's  
3 nothing to indicate that they would not be respecting  
4 the -- and -- and specific, we're looking at the  
5 pollution prevention measures of the Fisheries Act.

6 And there's nothing to indicate they  
7 would not be respecting that. But they are required  
8 to respect that regardless of whether they have a  
9 licence or not.

10 MR. MARK MACDOUGALL: Mark MacDougall,  
11 ADK. Thank you for that. Madam Chair, we have no  
12 further questions. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'd like to ask the  
14 next Intervener, GNWT-ECCC, if they have any questions  
15 for ECCC. Thank you.

16 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Thank you, Madam  
17 Chair. Richard Nesbitt, on behalf of the GNWT. Thank  
18 you for your presentation, Environment Canada.

19 You folks highlighted, similar to the  
20 line of questioning posed by the Board to the GNWT,  
21 additional parameters of concern associated with the  
22 oxidation pond, including aluminum, iron, and uranium.

23 Would Environment and Climate Change  
24 Canada expect Paramount's response to the EQC  
25 undertaking posed by the Board to include those

1 parameters in their response?

2 MR. SARAH FORTE (by ZOOM): Sarah  
3 Forte, with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

4 Yes. So, this -- we made this  
5 recommendation to the Board to consider adding that,  
6 but we -- we could definitely extend it to Paramount.  
7 And when they submit their undertaking, we'll have a  
8 chance to comment on -- on what they propose.

9 MR. RICHARD NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt,  
10 on behalf of the GNWT. We have no further other  
11 questions. Thank you very much to Environment Canada  
12 for your presentation and the context it provided for  
13 both us and the Board.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'd like to move on  
15 to the next Intervener and ask Paramount -- or I guess  
16 not the Intervener, the Applicant, and ask Paramount  
17 for their questions to ECCC. Thank you.

18 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
19 Paramount. I'm not sure it's a question directly  
20 related to ECC, but I'm going to pose it and allow the  
21 Chair, and maybe the Board staff, and ECC to decide  
22 who -- who can help best with it.

23 I think what we've heard in the  
24 questioning from Board staff to GNWT-ECC and in the  
25 presentation from ECCC is additional contaminants for

1 the EQC to -- to be added.

2                   And I think GNWT's just suggested that  
3 it be added to our undertaking, which would've been  
4 more of a response to the parameters that they  
5 proposed.

6                   So, I guess in drafting the  
7 undertaking, will all of what's being requested of  
8 Paramount through the subsequent conversation and  
9 presentations be documented in that one (1)  
10 undertaking? Or do we need to request a second  
11 undertaking.

12                   Is -- ECC is currently presenting -- is  
13 their request an undertaking from Paramount, or how is  
14 that going to be managed and documented?

15

16                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18                   DR. KATHEY RACHER: Okay. Kathy  
19 Racher here, for the Board. I think that the  
20 undertaking will not specify the parameters that  
21 Paramount should consider for EQC. I think what we --  
22 we were just talking about -- I mean, we already have,  
23 like, a policy and guidance on -- on how we set EQC  
24 that are protective and achievable, et cetera.

25                   We could reference that. But it's

1 really up to Paramount to suggest what they think is  
2 appropriate for Effluent Quality Criteria. You can  
3 read the transcripts and -- and look at what these --  
4 Environment Canada and GNWT have said, but we're not  
5 going to tell you what you need to come up with EQC  
6 for; that's really up to you and based on your  
7 experience and knowledge of the site.

8 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
9 Paramount. Thanks. Paramount Resources does not have  
10 any further questions for ECCC.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: In case I missed it,  
12 I wanted to thank ECCC for their presentation. And  
13 I'd like to now offer this opportunity to members of  
14 the public that have shown up here in person. If they  
15 have any questions directed to ECCC regarding their  
16 presentation, this is your opportunity to come speak.

17 There will be opportunities later to  
18 offer your own perspectives after this presentation  
19 and questioning is done.

20 There are microphones over here, and so  
21 I just want to give a moment to see if anyone is  
22 interested in doing that. Has anybody shown up  
23 online? Okay.

24 I'd now like to offer the opportunity  
25 for questioning to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water

1 Board staff, Board technical advisors, and legal  
2 counsel. Please go ahead.

3 MS. ERICA JANES: Erica Janes, with  
4 Board staff. We don't have any questions. Thanks.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: And to confirm,  
6 legal counsel. Okay.

7 I'd now like to offer the opportunity  
8 to the Board members. There are no questions from the  
9 Board members as well.

10 So again, thank you, Environment and  
11 Climate Change Canada, for your presentation and for  
12 taking the questions. Your time and effort is much  
13 appreciated. Just give me a moment here, please.

14

15 (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
18 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

19 This wasn't written directly into the  
20 agenda, but it was actually given to me in my speaking  
21 notes. So, there was a little bit of a moment here  
22 that we had to have to just understand what was  
23 happening.

24 I'd like to offer this opportunity to  
25 members of the public to come and present to the Board

1 and to the members around the table if they do -- if  
2 they wish to.

3 This is your opportunity to state your  
4 perspectives, offer your knowledge, and inform the  
5 Board of potential evidence that we should be  
6 considering.

7 With that being said, I'd now like to  
8 just see if there are members of the public that are  
9 in the room that would like to take that opportunity  
10 to come speak to us.

11

12 (BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. So, nobody  
15 has indicated -- oh, yeah. We do have one gentleman  
16 that is coming forward. So, I ask that you please  
17 state your name and if I can, I might ask you to spell  
18 it out for me if I can't hear you.

19 MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE: Hello. I'm  
20 Frankie. So, what they going to do with that  
21 contaminated soil? Are they going to bury it or what  
22 they're going to with it? That's my question.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
24 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

25 Frankie, can I get you to state your



1 last name, please?

2 MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE: Frankie  
3 Klondike.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. So, if I  
5 may, can I direct that question to Paramount, please.

6 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
7 Paramount Resources.

8 Our application is currently before the  
9 Board and, you know, subject to the outcomes is to  
10 bury some of the contaminated soil in an engineered  
11 containment cell that we also refer to as a landfill.

12 MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE: So the -- the  
13 rest, the one contaminated really bad, they should  
14 ship that one out. That one's not bad. They can bury  
15 it. It'd be okay. But the one that's contaminated  
16 really bad and should just ship out that one and be --  
17 I don't know that it'll be okay 'cause that creek,  
18 that lake just right close to the -- where Amoco plant  
19 before.

20 So, if it rain, still the water goes to  
21 the lake. So that's how we worry about it all the  
22 time. So that's why we don't like it. So that's why  
23 they have to clean that place, it'll be okay. That's  
24 how we told them before, but they never did nothing.  
25 So that's really my question.

1 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
2 Paramount Resources.

3 I do understand the frustration that  
4 the site has been there a long time, and we have  
5 proposed a plan to -- to clean up the sites and  
6 conditions that need to be met and criteria that need  
7 to be met.

8 We did some work cleaning up the site  
9 last summer with getting rid of the -- the surge pond  
10 and things of that nature. And then hopefully, with  
11 issuance of this permit and licence, we can move  
12 forward with the rest of our proposed activities.

13 MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE: How about the  
14 one beside the airport? Have a big shop there and  
15 then that -- there's a big -- just like a big hole  
16 growing up there, and all that can (INDISCERNIBLE),  
17 they'd be right beside the airport. There's one back  
18 way by the tree line, and there's one right beside the  
19 -- the road on your -- this -- that's my phone. And  
20 there's another one there, so I wonder if they checked  
21 that one, so.

22 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
23 Paramount. We've identified the airstrip as a place  
24 that needs some remediation. I think some  
25 investigations have been done at the airstrip. And if

1 Ian wants to add greater information, my colleague,  
2 he's online. He might speak.

3                   We recognize that further  
4 investigations need to be done at a number of -- of  
5 the sites in the project area. I think what we've  
6 heard from yourself and other members of the community  
7 over the last night and today, some -- some local  
8 knowledge of unfortunate past practices by the former  
9 owners and operators that will maybe help guide us in  
10 -- in some of our further investigation work.

11                   Ian, did you want to add anything?  
12 Sorry. Terence Hughes, from Paramount Resources.

13                   MR. IAN KIER (by ZOOM): Ian here,  
14 with Paramount. I was just -- I was just going to say  
15 Terence is correct. There has been a number of  
16 environmental investigations conducted at the -- at  
17 the airstrip area, and there are future investigations  
18 still planned there to -- to finish that work.

19                   MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE: Yeah, because I  
20 worry about it because when we growing up and there's  
21 still that big barrel there that has it. The rest  
22 went down to the creek. It went to the lake.

23                   My little brother was just born. He  
24 was born, and then -- then the doctor said, oh,  
25 everything's okay. Nothing wrong with the baby. So,

1 my mom took him back to the lake and right at the end,  
2 that lake, that's where my dad was staying.

3 (INDISCERNIBLE) that creek come out.

4 And then my mom didn't know he got the water from the  
5 lake. And then two (2) days later, my other brother  
6 is getting sick, and then they didn't know what's  
7 wrong with him. So -- so after that, getting worse.

8 So, they took him to Liard and they  
9 never made it. And they got -- the doctor or nurse  
10 said, oh, something happened to his stomach. That's  
11 what I'm worried about because if they cleaned the  
12 water -- that campsite, everything will be -- if they  
13 did clean, it'll be okay.

14 And it could have been my brother's  
15 bigger than me was he's still alive now. But Amoco,  
16 they never did nothing for my family, so that's why I  
17 don't like it.

18 That's what happened to my other  
19 brother because mostly the water went -- that acid  
20 went down to the creek and my mom didn't know, so give  
21 him the water, make milk for the little baby brother,  
22 and my little brother's gone. After maybe two days  
23 later, he's gone. He passed away. So that's why I  
24 don't like it because if they'd cleaned that really  
25 good, we'll be really -- we'll be happy about it.

1                   So that's why just if -- if they take  
2 all the dirt out of there, it'll be okay. So that's  
3 why we don't like it because Amoco did -- they never  
4 did nothing for us. When my other brother passed  
5 away, never even one cent. We never seen no one cent  
6 from them, not even -- not even a penny or nothing.  
7 They never give us nothing when they did all that oil  
8 site over there. So -- so that's what is my question,  
9 so.

10                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Tanya MacIntosh,  
11 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

12                   Mr. Klondike, I appreciate you coming  
13 back to speak, and I saw you listening through the  
14 day, and your time, your effort in -- in sharing your  
15 knowledge and experiences is important for everyone  
16 sitting around this table.

17                   It's -- it's why we made such a huge  
18 effort to come to Fort Liard so that we can hear --  
19 hear you, hear your voices, hear your concerns, and  
20 have that put on the evidence record.

21                   Mr. Klondike, would you be okay if I  
22 ask the people around the table if they have any  
23 questions of you?

24                   MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE:    Okay. No --  
25 no problem.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: ADKFN, do you have  
2 any questions?

3 GNWT, do you have any questions?

4 ECCC, do you have any questions?

5 MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):  
6 Mitchell Johnson, ECCC. No, we don't have any  
7 questions at this time, but thank you for sharing your  
8 thoughts.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Paramount, do you  
10 have any questions?

11 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
12 Paramount Resources.

13 Mr. Klondike, Paramount has a document  
14 that shows the cabins and the locations of cabins  
15 around Fisherman Lake. That information we have, but  
16 we don't feel that that's our information to share  
17 with others.

18 We think that information could be  
19 provided to the parties and -- and to the Board. I  
20 think they asked some questions about how many cabins  
21 and maybe where those cabins are.

22 So, what are your thoughts about  
23 sharing, like, the locations of cabins and who those  
24 cabins belong to? And I -- I ask you, because one of  
25 the cabins is yours.

1 MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE: Not that old  
2 cabins. It's only about one (1), two (2) cabins still  
3 standing up from way back. Must be around '70, must  
4 be still around -- maybe way back. I don't know how  
5 long been still some cabin there.

6 And then when we stay -- where we stay,  
7 where we're growing up, that cabin's all down. So,  
8 they took it down because they don't want to stand it  
9 up. So, some few, my grandpa and my uncle and there's  
10 still -- he can walk over there.

11 You can see the cabin, where it is, but  
12 the rest is where we were growing up and we're just- I  
13 don't know. We all grew up there, our whole -- whole  
14 family. That's where we all grew up. That's where we  
15 get. So, some few cabins still up, yeah. Okay.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Paramount, were you  
17 able to get the response that you needed?

18 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: We'll try to find  
19 -- we'll work with the community to -- you know, maybe  
20 outside of this process to see, you know, what their  
21 thoughts on information being disclosed publicly as we  
22 thought perhaps it might've been a part of this  
23 process today. But we'll -- we'll approach ADKFN  
24 about the information that we have.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,

1 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

2 I'd now like to offer the opportunity  
3 to our Board staff, technical advisors and legal  
4 counsel if they have any questions of Mr. Klondike.  
5 Board members...?

6 There are no more questions for you,  
7 Mr. Klondike. I thank you so much for your  
8 participation and speaking for those that are unable  
9 to speak, you have left a message. Thank you. Mahsi.

10 MR. FRANKIE KLONDIKE: No, that's all  
11 the questions I got. So just want to know just  
12 basically what they're going to do with that soil  
13 contaminate. That's all I want to hear, see what  
14 they're going to do with it. We know about, we'll be  
15 okay. So, they're going to bury it. They'll be --  
16 that's why we don't like it. So, any more questions  
17 there?

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
19 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley. Mahsi cho, Mr.  
20 Klondike.

21 I would now like to offer the  
22 opportunity to other members of the public that are in  
23 the room. If you wish to come speak and offer your  
24 perspectives, your -- your information to add to the  
25 evidence base, your comments are welcome at this



1 point. And I invite anyone that is in the room to  
2 please come speak at one of the microphones so that it  
3 can be put on the record.

4                   Is there anybody that would like to  
5 take that opportunity? Okay. And I am understanding  
6 that there's still nobody online from members of the  
7 public, so I'm going to move forward with the agenda.

8                   Tanya MacIntosh, Chair of the Mackenzie  
9 Valley Land and Water Board. At this time, I would  
10 like to ask if there are any final questions of  
11 clarification for any party before moving forward.  
12 And this I'm asking specifically to Board staff,  
13 technical advisor, and legal counsel.

14

15                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
18 Chair of the McKenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

19 And the same question: Are there any final (AUDIO  
20 CUTS OUT) Board members? There are not.

21                   So, at this time, there is opportunity  
22 in the agenda for what is called reply by the  
23 Applicant, which is Paramount, only if needed. And  
24 this opportunity is for the Applicant to provide  
25 further evidence based on questions asked during the

1 public hearing.

2                   Paramount, do you have a final reply to  
3 make?

4                   MR. TERENCE HUGHES:   Terence Hughes,  
5 Paramount Resources. We're fine submitting further  
6 evidence as part of the undertakings and as part of  
7 our closing statements and further submissions as the  
8 rest of the regulatory proceedings.

9                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Tanya MacIntosh,  
10 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

11                   I'll ask the executive director, Kathy  
12 Racher, to review the undertakings that have been  
13 recorded for this public hearing. Kathy, when you're  
14 ready, please go ahead.

15                   DR. KATHY RACHER:   Kathy Rachel, for  
16 the Board. So, we've recorded five (5) undertakings  
17 and I'm just going to go through who -- who they were  
18 directed to and what the subject matter is.

19                   But please understand that we will have  
20 some detailed wording for each undertaking that we  
21 will send out by April 14th to the relevant parties.  
22 And if any party is like, well, that's not what I  
23 understood, you can definitely get back to us about  
24 that before answering.

25                   So, Undertaking number 1 was to

1 Paramount and it was to provide references to  
2 guidelines used for determining criteria used for the  
3 placement of material in the landfill. And that  
4 undertaking came from ADKFN.

5                   Under -- sorry -- Undertaking number 2  
6 was to Paramount from the GNWT looking for distances  
7 of contact water discharge locations to surface water.  
8 And this question was specifically about evaluating  
9 whether the recommendation of discharges to land 215  
10 meters to the nearest water body -- nearest body of  
11 surface water was appropriate.

12                   Undertaking 3 was to Paramount from  
13 Board staff asking for their list of EQC for all  
14 potential discharges to land. And we've got some  
15 language in there about what discharges we were  
16 talking about, referencing our water and wastewater --  
17 or waste and wastewater management policy, et cetera.  
18 So, we'll pass that on -- the details of that on to  
19 you and make sure that that is what you were  
20 expecting.

21                   Undertaking number 4 was to Paramount,  
22 also from Board staff, and this was about options  
23 analysis for land filling contaminated waste, so to  
24 provide a standard guidance -- a standard or guidance  
25 to do an alternatives assessment as part of the CRP.

1                   And the last one was for GNWT-ECC from  
2 Paramount, looking for a policy statement -- policy or  
3 policy statement on security practices for water  
4 licences.

5                   So, I think I've captured all five (5)  
6 undertakings. And as I said, the details, et cetera,  
7 will be sent to parties on no later than April 14th  
8 with the response deadline of April 24th.

9                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
10 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
11 Thank you, Kathy, for the review of the undertakings.

12                   At this time, I would like to now start  
13 with the closing statements, and the order of  
14 procedure will be ADKFN, GNWT-ECC, and then Paramount.  
15 And so, I would now like to offer the opportunity for  
16 ADK to do their closing statements. Please go ahead.  
17 Thank you.

18

19 CLOSING STATEMENTS FROM ADKFN:

20                   MR. MARKK MACDOUGALL: Thank you.  
21 Mark MacDougall, ADK. Madam Chair, it's been my  
22 privilege to present views on this project on behalf  
23 of Acho Dene Koe First Nation.

24                   We've been fortunate enough to -- to  
25 hear from Chief Hope yesterday as well as several

1 members from the community regarding their thoughts,  
2 concerns about contaminants at Pointed Mountain and  
3 the concerns that exist regarding the proposed  
4 abandonment and reclamation method, as well as  
5 optimism about what could be -- what could be when the  
6 site is finally cleaned up.

7           We support the efforts to abandon and  
8 reclaim this site to this. I'm glad that this is  
9 something that we all agree with, and we're working to  
10 figure out the best way to accomplish this. I'm also  
11 glad that we appear to have consensus that the goal is  
12 to leave the site in a way that is safe for the  
13 environment and safe for future generations. Where we  
14 disagree is the road that takes us there.

15           The development of Pointed Mountain was  
16 done at a different time, a time before we had Section  
17 35 of the Constitution Act and the many court cases  
18 that define what Section 35 means. Nor did we have  
19 UNDRIP.

20           However, in making decisions about the  
21 proposed water licence, we do have the benefit of all  
22 of these today. As a result, we have a choice to make  
23 regarding a conscious decision about the future of  
24 Pointed Mountain site that reflects the rights,  
25 interests, and values of Acho Dene Koe First Nation

1 and those who will rely on the land for generations to  
2 come.

3                   In hearing the concerns that were  
4 articulated by the community members yesterday and  
5 today, my hope is that the Board recognizes that  
6 decisions made today not only hold the potential to  
7 have biophysical impacts, but also impacts to the  
8 emotional and mental wellness of Acho Dene Koe First  
9 Nation members. To this, it's clear we cannot accept  
10 leaving contaminated material at Pointed Mountain.

11                   I also want to be clear, comments  
12 implying that the waste is Acho Dene Koe First  
13 Nation's are not welcome. Paramount is the owner of  
14 this waste, and it's their responsibility to clean it  
15 up.

16                   In seeking a pathway forward, we  
17 recognize that there remains a lot of work to do. And  
18 we ask all parties assembled around table today and  
19 others to put our collective heads together to  
20 identify solutions to ensure Pointed Mountain is left  
21 in a condition that is safe, ensuring that we do not  
22 place burden on future generations.

23                   So, with that, I would like to thank  
24 the Board, my fellow Interveners and, of course, the  
25 Applicant for -- for the constructive conversations

1 that we've had today. And I really appreciate the  
2 opportunity to share our views. Mahsi cho.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
4 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

5 Thank you, Mark, for your closing  
6 statements on behalf of ADKFN. Your time and efforts  
7 have been appreciated.

8 I'd now like to offer the closing  
9 statements opportunity to GNWT-ECC. Please go ahead  
10 when you're ready.

11 MR. RICK WALBOURNE: Thank you, Madam  
12 Chair. Rick Walbourne, GNWT.

13 Firstly, I'd just like to thank the  
14 community of Fort Liard and ADKFN for hosting us this  
15 week. And just thanks to all the Interveners for their  
16 presentations and discussion. And to Board -- Board  
17 Staff, Pido, for all your efforts. And for all the  
18 caterers in the back, thank you for keeping us going  
19 for a couple of days.

20 GNWT would like to reiterate, we are  
21 open to working with Paramount on all aspects of the  
22 project, especially regarding final closure criteria  
23 and securities.

24 We've had several discussions with  
25 Paramount throughout this hearing process, the Water

1 Licence process. Although there are still some areas  
2 of difference, we believe we have resolved several  
3 issues during the discussions and that we appreciate  
4 efforts made by the Company in this regard.

5                   However, GNWT still has several  
6 outstanding concerns related to the project and a lack  
7 of detail regarding its plan and strategies.

8                   This does make it difficult for parties  
9 to make clear recommendations to the Board. And, to  
10 some extent, we are deferring critical aspects of the  
11 approval to a future date, which we don't feel is  
12 typical -- which is not typically the process in the  
13 NWT.

14                   We will provide additional information  
15 during the draft Water Licence process, as well as in  
16 our closing arguments and continue to work with  
17 Paramount. And we will provide further clarification  
18 in the Undertaking that was requested of us.

19                   So, with that, mahsi to everyone and  
20 just wish everybody safe travels returning home.  
21 Thank you very much.

22                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
23 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

24                   Mahsi cho to GNWT-ECC to your team,  
25 again, for your time and your effort and all your



1 considerations that were put forward. Thank you for  
2 your closing statements.

3 I would now like to offer the  
4 opportunity to ECCC to have their closing statements.  
5 Please proceed when you're ready. Thank you.

6 MR. MITCHELL JOHNSON (by ZOOM):  
7 Mitchell Johnson with ECCC.

8 Just on behalf of Environment and  
9 Climate Change Canada, we would like to thank the  
10 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, panel members,  
11 Elders, community members, Paramount Resources and the  
12 fellow Intervenors.

13 Thank you to the technical assistance  
14 team for keeping us online connected to the Hearing  
15 for the duration.

16 We would also like to thank the Fort  
17 Liard Community and ADKFN for their hospitality.  
18 Although none of us from ECCC were able to attend in  
19 person, we appreciate the invitation to Fort Liard to  
20 participate in those proceedings.

21 And thank you again to everyone who did  
22 participate in these proceedings and we look forward  
23 to future collaboration and participation on this.  
24 Thank you.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,

1 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

2 Thank you so much, ECCC for your  
3 closing statements, for your participation and for all  
4 that you bring forward in your time and efforts. So  
5 mahsi cho.

6 And now I'd like to offer the same  
7 opportunity to Paramount for their closing statements.  
8 Paramount when you're ready, please go ahead.

9 MR. TERENCE HUGHES: Terence Hughes,  
10 Paramount Resources. I think as Paramount we  
11 appreciate the challenges that come along with the  
12 Pointed Mountain file of a project that existed long  
13 before the MVRMA and the current regulatory context  
14 that we exist in today.

15 Since becoming the owner of the former  
16 project site, we have endeavored to work with the  
17 Board and work with affected parties and Interveners  
18 and to try to find a path that would allow for fulsome  
19 information to be shared, while at the same time  
20 receiving feedback that long-term project closure  
21 goals and processes were wanted to be described.

22 That has led us to the application,  
23 that is why we are here today, and currently before  
24 the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. To be  
25 clear, to reiterate that application is for a, you

1 know, a landfill is -- is part of our application.

2                   You know, it's unfortunate that parties  
3 have waited to this point of the process related to  
4 that concept to -- to -- and to voice concerns and not  
5 even concerns, but a -- a rejection perhaps of -- of  
6 the concept by one of the parties.

7                   You can appreciate that that makes the  
8 remaining process difficult. We definitely recognize  
9 that there are information gaps. You know, I know  
10 there is frustration with how long this process has  
11 taken. And we asked for additional time so that we  
12 could present more information and -- and that request  
13 was denied so that timelines could be adhered to, I  
14 suppose.

15                   So, we appreciate that it is an  
16 imperfect situation, but we are trying to get a  
17 licence in place that will allow us to then move  
18 forward with the further necessary steps to get the --  
19 the area cleaned up.

20                   The concern I think I would have from  
21 the last couple of days is this process. Although,  
22 you know, an experience is time consuming and uses a  
23 lot of resources that otherwise could be used for  
24 cleaning up sites.

25                   And a -- a number of parties to the

1 process have suggested conditions to the licence that  
2 may see multiple -- the potential for multiple  
3 amendments to the licence.

4           You know, it has been the experience of  
5 Paramount who's operated in the Mackenzie Valley since  
6 the MVRMA came into existence, that over time, there  
7 are a number of plans required. All those plans are  
8 subject to review. All of those plans are subject to  
9 multiple versions and that there will be, and continue  
10 to be, multiple opportunities for affected parties,  
11 communities and Interveners to provide comments on the  
12 current site conditions, the work done to date, future  
13 monitoring, current monitoring.

14           So, I am not -- Paramount is unsure  
15 that trying to capture all of that in the licence,  
16 given the other tools that are available and continue  
17 to be created, if I may say, through the life of the  
18 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, that capturing  
19 everything in a licence, at once, may not be  
20 appropriate given the optionality and flexibility the  
21 plans associated with the licence will allow.

22           The last subject matter I'll touch on  
23 is security. In our, I guess our final presentation  
24 I'll -- we will -- or our final submissions to the  
25 Board, we'll -- we'll provide it in writing.

1                   But, you know, as I stated, Paramount  
2 has held security related to approvals under the MVRMA  
3 for close to thirty (30) years.

4                   We're a publicly traded company. We'll  
5 -- you can see how we're doing every quarter. You  
6 know, I do think -- I would hope that the Board, you  
7 know, as required under the legislation, will -- will  
8 look at those things that we present and consider them  
9 in the security of the licence.

10                  I would also hope that in the  
11 comparison of the GNWT's estimate and Paramount's  
12 estimate, that it is considered that Paramount is, has  
13 been, and will continue to be an active operator of  
14 reclamation projects in this region; is best informed  
15 on rates, is best informed on overhead, is best  
16 informed on local capacity, is best informed on  
17 regional capacity.

18                  With that, I will now switch to more  
19 positive. I'd like to thank everybody for coming. I  
20 haven't been to Fort Liard in over ten (10) years, so  
21 it's very nice to be back.

22                  I want to thank all the community  
23 members for their comments, not only during the formal  
24 process, but during the breaks. A number of  
25 individuals have come up to me and I've had great

1 discussions with those of being -- you know everybody  
2 around the table probably more informative than the  
3 work we've done around the table.

4 I want to thank -- I'm going to just  
5 look at my phone real quick. I want to thank  
6 Christina Powder (phonetic) who did the catering. She  
7 did a tremendous job.

8 I want to thank Pido Productions and I  
9 want to thank all my colleagues who have assisted me  
10 through the last couple days.

11 So, with all that said, thank you,  
12 Chair and Board members for coming and thank you for  
13 running a -- a very fair process the last couple of  
14 days. It is appreciated. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
16 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

17 Mahsi cho, Terence, for your  
18 participation and your willingness to be in Fort  
19 Liard. I think it made a big difference and an  
20 impact. I also want to thank you for your closing  
21 statements, your time and effort. Mahsi cho.

22 I appreciate everyone's contributions  
23 here and I thank you for your willingness to try and  
24 squeeze in the time. It looked like we ended up  
25 having a bit more than anticipated, but the flight

1 delay was unexpected.

2                   Before we adjourn, please remember that  
3 there is still a lot of work to be completed before  
4 the Board reviews the record, makes its decision and  
5 sends the Water Licence to the Minister.

6                   The next steps in the work plan were  
7 described by Kathy Racher prior to the closing  
8 statements. And the work plan, version 5.0, is  
9 available on the Public Registry or from Board Staff.

10                   In closing, we would like to thank all  
11 of the presenters and participants, the Interveners  
12 and members of the public. The Board appreciates the  
13 efforts made by Paramount -- Paramount and the  
14 Interveners to prepare for this process, including all  
15 the evidence provided to us to help make a decision.

16                   We would also like to thank our  
17 transcriber, Wendy Woodworth, Pido Productions  
18 technician Ryan Dempster, our catering service,  
19 Christina Powder, and all the -- and all their work  
20 for this Hearing is much appreciated.

21                   I'd like to thank the Board members for  
22 their dedication and hard work.

23                   And, of course, many thanks to our  
24 staff and legal counsel.

25                   Finally on behalf of the Board, I would

1 like to thank you all for your participation in this  
2 Hearing process in a respectful manner.

3 I would like to now ask for a final  
4 prayer and I typically try and look for members of the  
5 community that are willing to do that. I don't know  
6 if anyone that has shown up would like to or feels  
7 comfortable to offer that prayer.

8 But, if not, our -- one of our Board  
9 members is willing to take that on. I'm not seeing  
10 anyone step up to the microphone, so I would now like  
11 to ask Camilia Zoe-Chocolate to do our closing prayer.

12

13 (CLOSING PRAYER)

14

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Tanya MacIntosh,  
16 Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.  
17 This Public Hearing is now adjourned. Mahsi cho.

18

19 --- Upon adjourning at 2:22 p.m.

20

21 Certified Correct,

22

23 \_\_\_\_\_

24 Wendy Woodworth, Ms.

25



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