



March 6, 2024

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Beth Cowan
Regulatory Specialist
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7TH FLOOR YK CENTRE, 4922 48TH ST
YELLOWKNIFE, NT, X1A 2L9

Dear Ms. Cowan:

Land Use Permit MV2023S0033 - Lockhart All-Season Road - Engagement Plan v1.1

In accordance with the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board's (MVLWB) November 30, 2023, Reasons for Decision¹, the Government of the Northwest Territories' Department of Infrastructure (GNWT-INF) is pleased to provide Engagement Plan Version 1.1 for the geotechnical investigation for the Lockhart All-Season Road (Land Use Permit MV2023S0033).

Upon issuance Land Use Permit MV2023S0033 the MVLWB directed GNWT-INF to revise Engagement Plan Version 1.0 for conformity. Engagement Plan Version 1.1 addresses this direction and revisions are detailed in the attached Conformity Table.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely

David-Scott McQuinn
Manager, Slave Geological Province Corridor
GNWT – Infrastructure

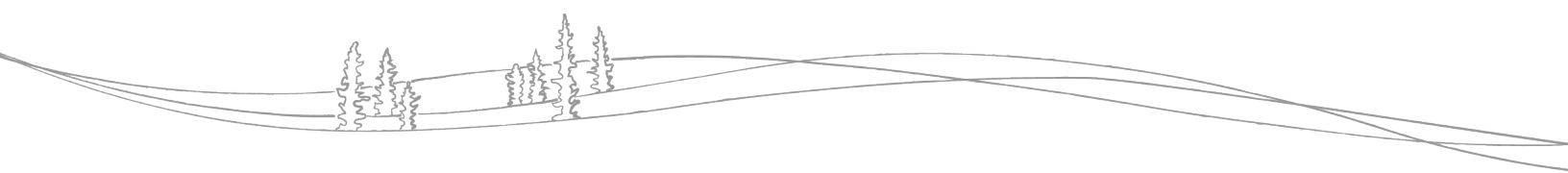
Attachments:

- Conformity Table
- Engagement Plan v1.1

¹ https://registry.mvlwb.ca/Documents/MV2023S0033/GNWT%20-%20INF%20-%20LASR%20%E2%80%93%20Issuance%20-%20Type%20A%20Land%20Use%20Permit%20-%20Dec%2015_23.pdf

Conformity Table

Document	Requirement	Revision
November 30, 2023 Reasons for Decision	The Board requires that the Permittee revise the Engagement Plan...to reflect updates as agreed to during this regulatory proceeding.	Section 4.1, Table 2 has been revised to include commitments made in response to Thçhç Government comments #2 and #6
	The Board requires that the Permittee revise the Engagement Plan...to reflect the Project activities.	Section 1.2 includes text about selection of Target Areas, drilling at Target Areas, and the construction, maintenance, and use of winter roads. Text clarifying that the final alignment of the LASR has not yet been established has also been included.
	The Board requires that the Permittee revise the Engagement Plan...to meet the Policy and Guidelines.	<p>The following have been included to meet the LWB Engagement Policy and Guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1.4 revised to include commitment to determine acceptable standards for working with Indigenous Knowledge Holders and Indigenous knowledge. • Section 3.0 includes a statement that the engagement methods and engagement effectiveness will be reviewed annually. • Section 3.1 revised to include opportunities for diverse perspectives during community meetings (e.g., Elders, youth).
	Include notification of upcoming archaeology surveys as an engagement trigger (TG comment 2).	Section 4.1, Table 2 includes engagement trigger for archaeological surveys.
	Include notification of winter road construction as an engagement trigger (TG comment 6).	Section 4.1, Table 2 includes engagement trigger for winter road construction.



Engagement Plan

Lockhart All Season Road Geotechnical Investigation

March | 2024



Version Control

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Infrastructure is responsible for the distribution, maintenance and updating of the Engagement Plan. Updates will be circulated to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and the Affected Parties. Version history is provided in the table below.

Version #	Section(s) Revised	Description of Revision	Issue Date
1.0	N/A	Submitted with Land Use Permit application	October 2023
1.1	1.2, 1.4, 3.0, 3.1, 4.1 (Table 2)	Revised per the MVLWB's direction in the November 30, 2023, Reasons for Decision	March 2024

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1 Introduction

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Infrastructure (GNWT-INF) is advancing the Lockhart All Season Road (LASR), which will consist of an all-season road extending from Tibbitt Lake to Lockhart Lake, replacing part of the existing Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road.

This Engagement Plan describes how and when GNWT-INF will engage with Affected Parties, including contact information, engagement triggers and means of communication.

1.1 Project Contacts

The primary GNWT-INF contact:

David Scott-McQuinn
Manager, Slave Geological Province Corridor
Government of the Northwest Territories
7th Floor, YK Centre
4922 48th Street
PO Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9
Phone: (867) 767-9082 ext. 31022
Email: David-Scott_McQuinn@gov.nt.ca

1.2 Project Description

The Government of the Northwest Territories - Department of Infrastructure (GNWT-INF) is proposing to conduct Geotechnical Investigations to gather information in support the development of the Lockhart All Season Road (LASR) between Highway 4 (the Ingraham Trail) at Tibbitt Lake to Lockhart Lake.

The Geotechnical Investigations will consist of assessing potential hard-rock quarries and granular resources (collectively referred to as target areas) as material for the construction of an all-season road. Potential target areas that have been identified for further investigation between Highway 4 and Lockhart Lake from desktop evaluation and previous studies are provided in Appendix A. Additional potential target areas may be identified based on on-going engagement and studies.

Project operations that occur in the summer will include the use of heli-portable drills and will use existing camps in the area. No new roads or trails are required.

Project operations occurring in the winter will include the use of heli-portable drills and the construction of spur roads from the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road for the Project. Work will be supported by existing camps or by the creation of a mobile camp in addition to construction, maintenance, and use of winter roads. Generally, hard-rock quarries will be assessed by drill, while granular resources will be sampled by digging test pits. The assessment of each target area will include describing geochemistry, volumes, subgrade conditions, drainage, and ground temperature.

Monitoring equipment may be installed (e.g., such as ground temperature monitors) and may include monuments or other surface infrastructure. The development of fuel caches may be required to support testing pitting and drilling operations.

The final alignment of the Lockhart All-Season Road (LASR) has not yet been established, and GNWT -INF remains committed to continued engagement and consultation with all Affected Parties, and Indigenous Governments and Organizations with Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights. Information gathered from Geotechnical Investigations will be useful in informing additional engagement and consultation on different routing options as planning for the proposed LASR continues.

1.3 Engagement Goals

The goals of engagement are to:

- Confirm that existing land users and claimants to the land are aware of regulatory applications.
- Explain the LASR and its components, including development activities and timing.
- Explain the geotechnical investigations required as part of the LASR.
- Facilitate timely access to the LASR information.
- Identify concerns and how they can be jointly resolved.
- Incorporate engagement feedback, including Indigenous Knowledge (IK) into planning and regulatory process.
- Identify opportunities for employment and contracting opportunities.
- Strive to build and maintain positive long-term relationships.

1.4 Indigenous Knowledge

The GNWT-INF recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the NWT have unique knowledge about the local environment through their long and close relationship with the land. Indigenous Knowledge will play an important role in planning, construction and monitoring of the LASR.

GNWT-INF commits to engagement with communities and Indigenous governments to set up Indigenous Knowledge sharing agreements to aid in the determination of handling and use of the indigenous knowledge being shared. This work will lead to the collection of Indigenous knowledge information and working collaboratively with Indigenous communities and their governments to integrate Indigenous Knowledge in process will help to identify effects and associated mitigation measures for the project.

1.5 Guidelines and Policies

This document was prepared using the following documents:

- Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licenses and Land Use Permits (LWB 2018)
- Engagement and Consultation Policy (LWB 2023)
- Public Engagement Employee Guide (GNWT 2019)
- Weghàà Eleyatits’eedi: Tłı̨chǫ Government Guidelines for Proponents of Development (Tłı̨chǫ Government 2022)

2 Potentially Affected Parties

The Engagement Guidelines (LWB 2023) recommends that “proponents focus their engagement efforts towards parties that will likely be the most directly impacted.” This is done to focus engagement activities on those with the greatest interest and to avoid consultation fatigue. The potentially affected parties prioritized for engagement by GNWT-INF are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Contact Information for Affected Parties

Affected Parties	Contact Name	Contact Information
Akaįtcho Dene First Nations	Annie Boucher	executive.director@akaitcho.ca
Tłı̨chǫ Government	Violet Camsell Blondin	violet.camsellblondin@tliche.ca lands@tliche.ca
Yellowknives Dene First Nation	Ryan Miller	ryanm@ykdene.com
North Slave Métis Alliance	Alan Alex	alan.alex@nsma.net
Łutsel K’e Dene First Nation	Tas-Tsi Catholique	lkdfnlands@gmail.com
Deninu Kų́ę First Nation	Minnie Whimp	lands@dkfn.ca
NWT Métis Nation	Lorne Napier	lands@nwtmetis.ca
Fort Resolution Métis Government	Shawn Mckay	frmcenvironment@northwestel.net
Ingraham Trail Cabin owners’ Association	Jerry Vanhantsaem	ingrahamtrail.ownersgroup@gmail.com
NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines	Tom Hoefer	Executivedirector@miningnorth.com

3 Engagement Methods

GNWT-INF will employ several methods to engage potentially affected parties depending on the nature and/or urgency of the information to be communicated. Methods that may be employed are summarized below.

GNWT-INF will conduct annual reviews of the Plan confirm the engagement process and methods remain effective as the proposed LASR project progresses.

3.1 Presentations

Presentations provide the best opportunity for communication and dialogue. The use of visual aids can make meetings effective. Presentations may be held with a specific group or organization, or the public as a whole. During community meetings, and when appropriate, opportunities for

perspectives from all sectors of the community, including women, youth, and Elders will be encouraged. Translators will be provided where necessary. The advantage of public meetings is that participants all hear the same information and may benefit from participating in discussions including various organizations or perspectives. As presentations require more resources, planning, and time commitments by all parties, their application should reflect the importance of the issue.

3.2 Teleconferences

Teleconferences with affected parties are an efficient method of communicating information quickly and receiving feedback. Teleconferences can be organized to engage more than one party in the discussion, enabling a variety of perspectives to be presented and discussed collectively.

3.3 Workshops

Workshops may be used when information needs to be shared with a large number of people or if technical issues arise that require a deep understanding from affected parties. For workshops to be successful, translators will be provided where necessary. Key deliverables available to workshop participants include agendas, meeting notes, participant lists, presentation materials, lists of action items, and follow-up materials or commitments.

3.4 Letters

Electronic mail will be used to contact parties to provide information, arrange for teleconferences or meetings, or for routine communications. When electronic mail is not available or easily accessible by affected parties, letters delivered by post may be used.

3.5 Public Communication

In addition to the specific engagement methods for Affected Parties described above, GNWT-INF will continue efforts to communicate details about LASR to the public. A public service announcement and project backgrounder, as well as updates to social media on GNWT-INF Twitter and Facebook accounts, will be issued publicly when engagement for this project starts. As well, a project-specific webpage on the GNWT's online 'Have Your Say' engagement portal (<https://haveyoursay.nwt-tno.ca>) will be created and be publicly available during the engagement period. Media releases, fact sheets and social media may also be issued to announce significant milestones, communicate upcoming activities or in response to events. The LASR webpage provides background information and status updates at <https://www.inf.gov.nt.ca/en/SGP>.

4 Engagement Plan

4.1 Planned Engagement

The following tables illustrate triggers to engagement over the life of the Geotechnical Investigations authorization, and methods that will be used to actively engage parties. Table 2 includes the various engagement triggers and the primary method of engagement for each trigger.

Table 2: Engagement Triggers

Engagement Trigger	Primary Purpose	Primary Methods
Pre-submission engagement for permits (including extensions, amendments, and renewals)	Develop relationships and to understand and address concerns of affected parties.	Letters Presentations or Teleconferences if requested
Application submission for permits (including extensions, amendments, and renewals)	Dissemination of information of affected parties to allow for input.	Letters Presentations or Teleconferences if requested
Selection of Contractor	To inform affected parties of the successful proponent.	Letters
Prior to commencing operations	To inform communities and land users that works and activities are commencing. Discuss timing and any specific issues crews may face with operations based on information known at the time.	Letters
Notification of upcoming archaeology surveys	To inform affected parties, that archeological surveys will commence.	Letters
Notification of winter road construction	To inform affected parties and land users that winter spur roads may be constructed.	Letters
Any other time as required by the parties or MVLWB	Dissemination of information of affected parties to allow for input.	As required

4.2 Engagement Record and Issues Management

A summary of all engagement undertaken based on the engagement triggers described in Table 2 will be provided in the Engagement Record (Appendix A).

For engagement to be successful, parties must have an opportunity to be informed, provide feedback, and be confident that their input is being considered. This requires that issues raised by parties are documented, tracked, and responded to. The GNWT-INF will manage issues raised during engagement by documenting the issues raised during engagement, GNWT-INF response to the issues, and how the issue will be jointly resolved by all concerned.

5 References

- GNWT (Government of Northwest Territories). 2019. Public Engagement Employee Guide. Yellowknife, NT. Retrieved August 2022 from: Government of the Northwest Territories. 2019. Public Engagement Employee Guide. https://www.eia.gov.nt.ca/sites/eia/files/gnwt-public_engagement_guide.pdf.
- LWB (Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley). 2018. Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licenses and Land Use Permits. June 2018. Yellowknife, NT. Retrieved October 2021 from: <https://mvlwb.com/sites/default/files/documents/wg/MVLWB%20Engagement%20Guidelines%20for%20Holders%20of%20LUPs%20and%20WLs%20-%20Oct%202014.pdf>
- LWB. 2023. Engagement and Consultation Policy. January 2023. Yellowknife, NT. Retrieved February 2023 from: <https://mvlwb.com/resources/lwb-policies-and-guidelines>
- Tłıchǵ Government. 2022. Weghàà Ełeyatıts'eedi: Tłıchǵ Government Guidelines for Proponents of Development. Tłıchǵ Government Department of Culture and Lands Protection. Behchokò, NT.

APPENDIX A: Engagement Record

Please refer to Version 1.0 of this Engagement Plan for the most recent Engagement Record.