



NIRB file: 24XN038

December 18, 2024

Marjorie Kaviq Kaluraq
Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board
PO Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU
X0B 0C0

via email: info@nirb.ca

Dear Ms. Kaluraq:

Re: Screening Decision for West Kitikmeot Resources Corporation's proposed Grays Bay Road and Port project

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) has been following the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB) screening of the Grays Bay Road and Port project. We have reviewed the NIRB's December 4, 2024, Screening Decision Report for the Federal Minister's consideration. The report concludes that the project requires further assessment by the NIRB through a full environmental review..¹

Although the project is entirely within Nunavut, it may impact the environment and people in the Mackenzie Valley of the Northwest Territories. Some of the transboundary issues of concern identified by parties in the screening process, including groups and governments from the Northwest Territories, and the NIRB in its report include:

- Barren-ground caribou and their habitat, particularly calving and post-calving grounds, migration, and habitat fragmentation
- Transboundary and cumulative impacts on wildlife and wildlife habitat
- Indigenous harvesting
- Increased human access potentially leading to unsustainable harvests of species at risk (barren-ground caribou)
- Traditional land uses
- Community health and well-being
- Socio-economic considerations

¹ [Screening Decision Report Grays Bay Road and Port December 4, 2024](#)





The Review Board and NIRB have a history of collaboration on projects with transboundary impacts. We have a Memorandum of Understanding² and an Implementation Plan³ that outline some of the ways in which we can cooperate, coordinate and collaborate to better fulfill our respective mandates.

The Review Board fully supports a thorough and efficient assessment of the Gray's Bay Road and Port Project, including the potential for transboundary impacts, in line with land claim agreements and relevant legislation in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

The Review Board looks forward to further discussions with the NIRB on this matter. Please contact our executive director Mark Cliffe-Phillips at (867)766-7055 or mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'JoAnne Deneron'.

JoAnne Deneron
Chairperson, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

c. Dionne Filiatrault
Executive Director, Nunavut Impact Review Board

² [NIRB and MVEIRB Memorandum of Understanding 2022](#)

³ [Implementation Plan for the Memorandum of Understanding between NIRB and MVEIRB 2023](#)

