



Yellowknives Dene First Nation

P.O. Box 2514, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P8

June 22nd, 2010

Lynn Carter
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
P.O. Box 2130
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6
Fax: (867) 873-6610

Mackenzie Valley Land
& Water Board

File _____

JUN 24 2010

Application # MV2009X0028

Copied To LL / Reg

Dear Ms. Carter:

Re: Bathurst Inlet Development, Matthews Lake (MV2009X0028)

The Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) does not support this application as it currently stands. Given the lack of any consultation, YKDFN are requesting that the Board refer this application as per s.22(2)b of the *Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations*.

In the past the YKDFN has asked the applicant to meet with Chief and Council to engage in consultation. The applicant has repeatedly mentioned how consultation had previously occurred during the original applications, but there is no record of this occurring, either in the registry or with the various groups. In researching this claim, YKDFN contacted INAC, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and the applicant.

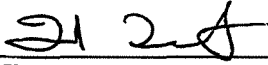
On July 17th, 2009 YKDFN asked the applicant if there had been any consultation between himself and YKDFN. He indicated that there had been and he would get back to us with the record – but no further information has been provided. The only record YKDFN has is that a document was faxed to the Land and Environment Office in 2001. The applicant also indicated that there had been a “full round of consultation from ITI” in regards to his tourism license. In researching this, YKDFN contacted Kevin Todd at ITI to follow up, but there is “no record of consultation with the YKDFN”. This line of thought which Mr. Warner’s routinely cites in his applications is that consultation with the ‘affected parties’ would have to have occurred in order to for him to receive his permits. This is not an acceptable assertion given the lack of documentation from all of the Parties.

The second issue YKDFN want to pursue is the perception that Seabridge Gold is attempting to permit its advanced exploration activities in a “piece-meal” manner. Documentation on the public registry indicates that Seabridge is interested in purchasing the structures covered by MV2009X0028. It is not clear why they are not the applicant. It is YKDFN’s understand that the process associated with with re-assigning a land use permit is a formality, with little opportunity for meaningful participation.

Given the level of activity occurring with the Seabridge Gold project, it is clear that they will be soon applying for advanced exploration activities in the area, with the eventual goal of moving to a full-fledge gold mine in the next few years. Beyond the institutional desire not to have to review multiple permit applications when a single one is more appropriate, there is also the consideration that by severing different aspects of the application into different permits, a comprehensive and thorough review is not possible. While taking each application on their own, the ‘big picture’ could be missed, and the test of significant environmental impacts or public concern may never be met when they otherwise would have.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Land and Environment at 766-3496.

Sincerely,



Chief Ted Tsetta
Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Ndilo)

Copy: Todd Slack, YKDFN – Land and Environment, Yellowknife, Fax: (867) 766-3497
Steve Ellis, Akaitcho IMA Implementation Office, Lutsel K'e, Fax: (867) 370-3209
Julie Jackson, Manager of Consultation Support Unit, INAC, Fax: (867) 669-2540



Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Lands Management / Land & Environment Office

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Lynn Carter FROM: YK DFN
 COMPANY: MVLWB DATE: June 22, 2010
 FAX NUMBER: 867-873-6610 TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 3

RE: Bathurst Inlet Development, Matthews Lake
(MVL2009X0028)

- URGENT
- FOR REVIEW
- PLEASE COMMENT
- PLEASE REPLY
- PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

COPY:

Steve Ellis @ 867-370-3209

Julie Jackson @ 867-669-2540