# Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley









# Guide to the Land Use Permitting Process

Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board Gwich'in Land and Water Board Sahtu Land and Water Board Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board

July 2023

## **Revision History Table**

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Date	Section	Revision
	General	<ul> <li>Updated and revised terminology and definitions</li> <li>Updated references to new and updated LWB guidance documents</li> <li>Updated references and links to GNWT departments</li> <li>Corrected typographical and administrative errors</li> </ul>
	1.5 – Monitoring and Performance Measurement of this Guide	Updated LWB process for reviewing and revising the Guide
	3.1 – Pre-Application Information	<ul> <li>Updated contact recommendations for identifying lease holders on private lands (for engagement purposes)</li> <li>Added bullet about GNWT highway access permit</li> <li>Clarified expectations for applicants when contacting Land Use Planning Boards regarding conformity requirements</li> </ul>
	3.2 – Completing the Land Use Permit Application Form	<ul> <li>Updates to reflect administrative updates to the Application Form (revised July 2023):</li> <li>Inclusion of project name in contact information</li> <li>Addition of checkbox for indicating whether GIS Data is attached</li> <li>Addition of field to indicate when and how fees will be submitted</li> </ul>
	Application Form Item 1	• Clarified that the name of the permit holder must be the same as the name on other official supporting documents and authorizations
July 2023	Application Form Item 8	<ul> <li>Clarified that all water uses should be described</li> <li>Clarified that water use includes water returned to the source</li> <li>Added link to <i>Reference Bulletin: Water Use</i></li> </ul>
	Application Form Item 11	Updated information on agreement, notification, and contingency planning expectations for off-site waste disposal at municipal facilities
	Application Form Item 15	<ul> <li>For oil and gas projects, clarified that an Emergency Response Plan is not equivalent to a Spill Contingency Plan</li> <li>Added list of Spill Contingency Plan information requirements for small projects</li> </ul>
	Application Form Item 18	Clarified that security is not required from Indigenous governments for permits on their own land
	Application Form Item 19	<ul> <li>Clarified conformity confirmation requirements where <i>Tłįchǫ</i> <i>Wenek'e</i> (Land Use Plan) applies</li> <li>Added information about Traditional Knowledge requirements for Sahtu Lands</li> </ul>
	Application Form Item 20	<ul> <li>Clarified that separate fees should be submitted for each application</li> <li>Clarified that fees are to be sent to the Board's office</li> <li>Clarified that security deposit should not be included in an application package</li> </ul>

	4.0 Regulatory Process for a Land Use Permit	Added information about participant funding
	4.1 – Public Review	Clarified that applicant can submit comments on the draft permit during review
	6.1 – Amendments	<ul> <li>Clarified that any new activities must be within the scope of the existing permit</li> <li>Clarified proof of eligibility requirements for new land use areas and new activities, if applicable</li> </ul>
	6.3 – Renewals	Clarified that renewal applications for stand-alone permits should be submitted no more than four months in advance
	6.6 – Storage Authorizations	Clarified that storage authorizations will be contiguous
	Appendix C	Added links for hazardous waste registration and highway access     permit information
	General	<ul> <li>Updated terminology</li> <li>Updated references to new and updated LWB guidance documents</li> <li>Corrected typographical errors</li> </ul>
	3 – Applying for a New Land Use Permit	• Clarified that one application should be submitted for all project activities.
August 30,	3.2 – Completing the Land Use Permit Application Form	<ul> <li>Updates to reflect administrative updates to the Application Form (revised August 2021):</li> <li>Inclusion of company/organization name in contact information</li> <li>Addition of check-box option if contractor information is unavailable</li> <li>Addition of new field for preliminary screening exemption rationale</li> <li>Replaced reference to legislation with reference to Guide for fee information</li> </ul>
2021	3.2 – Completing the Land Use Permit Application Form	<ul> <li>Clarifications to requirements:</li> <li>Applicant identified should be the person/company that will be licensee</li> <li>Provide full legal name for applicant</li> <li>Include traditional place name for project location</li> <li>For off-site waste disposal, include all disposal location options</li> <li>Community government security exemption is for municipal projects</li> </ul>
	3.2, Item 17 – Impact- Mitigation Table 4.2 – Preliminary Screening 6.2 – Renewals	<ul> <li>Updated to reflect new field in the Application Form for preliminary screening exemption rationale.</li> <li>Clarified requirements regarding Impact-Mitigation Table if the project is expected to be exempt (partially or wholly).</li> </ul>
	4.2 – Preliminary Screening	Clarified that applicant is responsible for ensuring all project activities are included in the application.

	6.3 – Assignments and Name Changes	<ul> <li>Updated to reflect revised Assignment Application Form (as released in December 2020, with administrative updates in August 2021):</li> <li>Include traditional place name on Assignment Application Form</li> <li>Requirement for evidence of transfer of interests or access rights/permissions</li> <li>Requirement for closure cost estimate</li> <li>Ability to include multiple permits on one Assignment Application Form</li> </ul>
	6.5 – Storage Authorizations	<ul> <li>Updated to reflect revised Storage Authorization Application Form (as released in February 2021, with administrative updates in August 2021):</li> <li>Include traditional place name on Application Form</li> <li>Clarified requirement for Engagement Record</li> </ul>
	6.5 – Storage Authorizations	Clarified closure and reclamation, final clearance, and obligations with an active storage authorization in place
Sept. 16, 2020	New Guide	Complete replacement of 2011 Guide to the Land Use Permitting Process.

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#### **Definitions and Acronyms**

TERM	DEFINITION
AANDC	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (now CIRNAC)
applicant	A person who has filed an application with the Board.
application	Any application for or in relation to a land use permit or water licence submitted
	in accordance with the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA),
	the Waters Act, or their regulations, and includes a request for a Board ruling, a
	plan approval, or any step required to advance a Board proceeding.
Boards (LWBs)	The Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley, as mandated by the MVRMA.
	<ul> <li>Part 3 of the MVRMA establishes regional land and water boards with the power to regulate the use of land and water, and the deposit of waste, including the issuance of land use permits and water licences, so as to provide for the conservation, development, and utilization of land and water resources in a manner that will ensure the optimum benefit to the residents of the management area and of the Mackenzie Valley and to all Canadians.</li> <li>Part 4 of the MVRMA establishes the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB).</li> <li>Regional Land and Water Boards have been established in the Gwich'in, Sahtu, and Wek'èezhìi management areas and now form Regional Panels of the MVLWB.</li> </ul>
CIRNAC	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (formerly AANDC/INAC)
complete application	An application that has been deemed to contain the appropriate amount and type of information necessary to be considered by a Board (see section 3 for more details).
closure cost estimate	An estimate of the cost to close and reclaim a project.
CR	conformity requirement (Land Use Plans)
EA	environmental assessment
EIR	environmental impact review
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
GLWB	Gwich'in Land and Water Board
INAC	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada/Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
	(now CIRNAC)
Indigenous government	A government representing the rights and interests of a First Nation (as defined in
	section 2 of the MVRMA), Métis or Inuit organization, the Tłįchǫ First Nation, the
landouveer	Tłįcho Government, or the Déline Government
landowner	In respect of settlement lands, Tłįcho lands, Délįnę lands, or other private lands, the title holder: and in respect of any other lands, the minister of the Crown or the
	the title holder; and in respect of any other lands, the minister of the Crown or the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, as the case may be, who has
	administration and control of the lands. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As defined in section 1 of the <u>MVLUR</u>. The LWBs acknowledge that the general understanding of this term does not reflect the

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TERM	DEFINITION
local government	Any local government established under the laws of the Northwest Territories,
	including a city, town, village, hamlet, charter community, settlement or
	government of a Tłįchǫ community, whether incorporated or not, and includes the
	territorial government in the case where it is acting in the place of that local
	government in accordance with those laws. It also includes the Déline Got'ine
	Government in the case where it is exercising the jurisdiction and authority set out
	in 9.1 of the Délįnę Agreement. <sup>2</sup>
land use permit	An authorization required for an activity set out in sections 4 and 5 of the
	Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations, or a land use permit (Type C) required by
	Tłįchǫ law for use of Tłįchǫ lands, or by a Délįnę law for use of Délįnę lands,
	respectively, for which a Type A or Type B land use permit is not required.
LUPB	Land Use Planning Board
Mackenzie Valley	That part of the Northwest Territories bounded on the south by the 60 <sup>th</sup> parallel of
	latitude, on the west by the Yukon Territory, on the north by the Inuvialuit
	Settlement Region as defined in the Agreement given effect by the Western Arctic
	(Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act, and on the east by the Nunavut Settlement Area
	as defined in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act, but not including Wood
	Buffalo National Park.
Minister	The Minister of Environment and Climate Change (non-federal areas) or the
	Minister of Northern Affairs (federal areas), as the case may be.
MVLUR	Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations
MVLWB	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
MVRMA	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act
NWT	Northwest Territories
ORS	Online Review System
permittee	A person who holds a land use permit issued by a Board.
project	Any activity that requires a water licence or land use permit.
Review Board	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
road	(a) The area bounded by lines parallel to, and 30 m on either side of, the centre
	line of a highway established by an order of the Commissioner made pursuant to
	the Northwest Territories Public Highways Act or any other instrument;
	(b) a place, bridge, or other structure that the public is ordinarily entitled or
	permitted to use for the passage of vehicles during any part of the year; or
	(c) a sidewalk, pathway, ditch, shoulder, or parking area adjacent to an area
	referred to in paragraph (a) or to a place, bridge or other structure referred to in
	paragraph (b). <sup>3</sup>
security deposit	Funds held by the appropriate authority (the GNWT, CIRNAC, or other
	landowner) that can be used in the case of abandonment of a project to
	reclaim the site, or carry out any ongoing measures that may remain to be
	taken after the abandonment of the project.

various land management structures across the Mackenzie Valley; however, the legislated definition of 'landowner' includes both landowners and land administrators, so this term is used in this Guide for consistency with the legislation.

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 2}$  As defined in section 2 of the  $\underline{\rm MVRMA}.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As defined in section 1 of the  $\underline{MVLUR}$ .

TERM	DEFINITION		
SLWB	Sahtu Land and Water Board		
Traditional Knowledge	A cumulative, collective body of knowledge, experience, and values built up by a		
(ТК)	group of people through generations of living in close contact with nature. Builds		
	upon the historic experiences of a people and adapts to social, economic,		
	environmental, spiritual, and political change. <sup>4</sup>		
water licence	An authorization required as per Columns III and IV of Schedules D to H of the		
	Waters Regulations (for non-federal areas) and Columns III and IV of Schedules IV		
	to VIII of the Mackenzie Valley Federal Areas Waters Regulations (for federal		
	areas).		
WLWB	Wek'èezhìı Land and Water Board		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Individual organizations may have specific practices and protocols in place guiding use of traditional knowledge.

#### 1.0 Introduction

The Land and Water Boards (the LWBs or Boards) of the Mackenzie Valley regulate the use of land through the issuance of land use permits in accordance with the <u>Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act</u> (MVRMA) and the <u>Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations</u> (MVLUR).

#### 1.1 Purpose

This Guide outlines:

- When land use permits are required;
- How to complete a land use permit application form;
- What submissions are required with an application package;
- Steps and time frames in the permitting process; and
- Other types of land use permit applications and submissions.

The purpose of this Guide is to promote:

- Efficiency Simplify the land use permitting process for applicants by providing clear instructions and expectations;
- Certainty Ensure applicants understand the required information, level of effort, and timeframes associated with land use permitting, prior to and during the process;
- Consistency Ensure expectations and Board practices are consistent throughout the Mackenzie Valley, unless there are regional differences (e.g., there is a land use plan for the area); and
- Transparency Ensure that all parties involved in the land use permitting process have enough information to participate in a meaningful way.

The MVRMA and MVLUR are the authority in any case where there is a conflict or inconsistency between this Guide and the legislation. Additionally, links to various other relevant references are provided in this Guide to assist readers; however, these references may be subject to revisions following the publication of this Guide. Applicants and other readers should always ensure they are using the most recent versions of any references (e.g., legislation, guidelines, policies, land use plans, etc.).

#### **1.2 Authority**

Sections 65, 102, and 106 of the MVRMA grant the Board the authority to develop and implement guidelines.

#### 1.3 How This Guide Was Developed

This Guide was first published in 2013. The Application Processes Working Group, one of the Standard Procedures and Consistency Working Groups established by the LWBs in 2008, initially developed this document.

In 2015, under the Areas of Operation Initiative, the LWBs formed several teams to work on issues

identified as priorities related to various areas of operations. One of the teams established at this time, was tasked with updating this Guide, which was distributed for public review on August 1, 2019, with comments due by September 19, 2019.

At the same time, the Water Licensing Team developed the LWB <u>Guide to the Water Licensing Process</u>. During the development of both of these Guides, the Teams compared the practices of the Sahtu, Gwich'in, Wek'èezhìı, and Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Boards, and developed consistent practices on many issues, which are reflected in the Guides.

#### **1.4 Application of this Guide**

Once finalized, this document will be applied by the following LWBs to all projects that require a land use permit (see <u>section 2.1</u>):

- Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB)
- Gwich'in Land and Water Board (GLWB)
- Sahtu Land and Water Board (SLWB)
- Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB)

#### 1.5 Monitoring and Performance Measurement for this Guide

The Guide will be reviewed periodically to determine whether revisions are necessary. Information gathered through the application of the Guide in the permit application process, during regulatory proceedings, and through the subsequent implementation of relevant permit conditions will guide the frequency and nature of revisions to the Guide. The LWBs will seek input on proposed revisions through public reviews and, in some cases, may establish working groups; however, the LWBs may also make administrative updates to the Guide from time to time as necessary.

#### 2.0 When is a Land Use Permit Required?

The <u>MVLUR</u> set out the land use activities that require a land use permit outside and inside the boundaries of a local government. In general, the types of activities that may require a land use permit include:

- Using explosives;
- Using heavy vehicles and machinery;
- Storing large quantities of fuel;
- Moving earth or clearing land;
- Building and maintaining lines, trails, and rights-of-way;<sup>5</sup>
- Establishing campsites outside of territorial parks; and
- Constructing buildings.

The scope, magnitude, and location (within or outside local government boundaries) of the activities will determine whether a permit is required, and whether the permit will be Type A or B. More detail is provided in the tables in section 2.1 below, which summarize the specific land use permit criteria set out in sections 4 and 5 of the <u>MVLUR</u>. The land use permit criteria also apply in territorial parks and protected areas.<sup>6</sup> The GNWT's <u>ATLAS Map</u> can be used to determine whether the proposed project location is within local government boundaries, territorial parks, or protected areas. Applicants can also contact Land and Water Board (LWB) staff for assistance in determining whether a land use permit is required (see <u>Appendix</u> <u>A</u> for contact information).

If a proposed project is located on Tłįchǫ or Délįnę lands but does not require a Type A or B permit, the potential applicant must contact the Tłįchǫ Government or the Délįnę Got'įnę Government, respectively, to determine whether a Type C permit might be required (see <u>Appendix B</u> for contact information).

If a proposed project will be taking place in both non-federal and federal areas (including on private or settlement lands within these areas), only one permit is required because the <u>MVLUR</u> regulate the use of both non-federal and federal lands in the Mackenzie Valley.<sup>7</sup> In general, the land use permitting process is the same for these types of projects; however, the permit may have conditions that are specific to each area (e.g., security).<sup>8</sup>

In all cases, potential applicants should consider whether a water licence application is also required. For more information about when a water licence is required, please see the LWB <u>Guide to the Water</u> <u>Licensing Process</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Roads are not included in this list, because roads that meet the definition set out in the <u>MVLUR</u> do not require a permit (see <u>Definitions and Acronyms</u> section); however, construction of roads that do not meet this definition may require a permit. Applicants should contact LWB staff for assistance in determining whether a permit is required.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Not all activities set out in sections 4 and 5 or the <u>MVLUR</u> are allowed under the <u>Territorial Parks Act</u> and the <u>Protected Areas</u> <u>Act</u>. Applicants are encouraged to contact the GNWT to discuss proposed projects located in territorial parks or protected areas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> For non-federal areas, GNWT-ECC has been delegated certain powers, duties, and functions under the <u>MVRMA</u> through the <u>Delegation Instrument</u> with respect to securities and the designation of Inspectors for permits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See LWB <u>Reference Bulletin: Split-Interest Projects</u>.

Applicants should note that water licences and land use permits issued by the LWBs do not, in most cases, grant the licensee or permittee the legal right to access, occupy, or possess the land. Applicants must contact the appropriate landowner to obtain permission/authorization to access the lands (see <u>Appendix B</u> for contact information for landowners).

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#### 2.1 Activities That Require a Land Use Permit

As set out in sections 4 and 5 of the <u>MVLUR</u>, on land *outside* the boundaries of a local government, a Type A or B land use permit is required for the activities listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Activities that Require a Land Use Permit Outside Local Government Boundaries					
Activity	Type A Land Use Permit	MVLUR Reference	Type B Land Use Permit	MVLUR Reference	
Explosives	Use of a quantity equal to or exceeding 150 kg in any 30-day period	4(a)(i)	Use of a quantity equal to or exceeding 50 kg, but less than 150 kg, in any 30-day period	5(a)(i)	
Use of vehicles or machines	Use of a vehicle or machine of a weight equal to or exceeding 10 tonnes, other than on a road or on a community landfill, quarry site, or airport	4(a)(ii)	Use of a vehicle the net weight of which equals or exceeds 5 tonnes but is less than 10 tonnes, or the use of a vehicle of any weight that exerts a pressure on the ground equal to or exceeding 35 kPa, other than on a road or within a community landfill, quarry site, or airport	5(a)(ii)	
Machinery	Use of a self-propelled, power- driven machine for moving earth or clearing land	4(a)(iv)	-	-	
Machinery	Use of a stationary, power- driven machine, other than a power saw, for hydraulic prospecting, earth moving, or land clearing	4(b)(iv)	-	-	
Drilling	Use of power-driven, earth- drilling machinery the operating weight of which, excluding the weight of drill rods, stems, bits, pumps, and other ancillary equipment, equals or exceeds 2.5 tonnes	4(b)(i)	Use of power-driven, earth- drilling machinery the operating weight of which, excluding the weight of drill rods, stems, bits, pumps, and other ancillary equipment, equals or exceeds 500 kg but is less than 2.5 tonnes	5(b)(i)	

Table 1: Activities that Require a Land Use Permit Outside Local Government Boundaries					
Activity	Type A Land Use Permit	MVLUR Reference	Type B Land Use Permit	MVLUR Reference	
Storage of fuel <sup>9</sup> (single container)	Use of a single container for the storage of petroleum fuel that has a capacity equal to or exceeding 4,000 litres	4(a)(iii)	Use of a single container for the storage of petroleum fuel that has a capacity that equals or exceeds 2,000 litres but less than 4,000 litres	5(a)(iv)	
Storage of fuel (facility)	Establishment of a petroleum fuel storage facility with a capacity equal to or exceeding 80,000 litres	4(b)(iii)	Establishment of a petroleum fuel storage facility with a capacity equal to or exceeding 4,000 litres but less than 80,000 litres	5(b)(iii)	
Lines, trails, or rights-of-ways	Leveling, grading, clearing, cutting, or snowplowing of a line, trail or right-of-way (other than a road or existing access trail to a building) that exceeds 1.5 metres in width and 4 hectares, for a purpose other than the grooming of recreational trails	4(a)(v)	Leveling, grading, clearing, cutting or snowplowing of any line, trail or right-of-way (other than a road or existing access trail to a building) that exceeds 1.5 metres in width but does not exceed 4 hectares, for a purpose other than the grooming of recreational trails	5(a)(v)	
Campsites	Use of a campsite outside of a territorial park for a duration of or exceeding 400 person-days	4(b)(ii)	Use of a campsite outside of a territorial park for a duration of or exceeding 200 person-days but less than 400 person-days	5(b)(ii)	
Buildings	-	-	Construction of a building with a footprint of more than 100 m <sup>2</sup> and a height of more than 5 metres	5(a)(vi)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> As per section 7 of the <u>MVLUR</u>, any person establishing a fuel cache between 410 litres and 4,000 litres must provide written notice to the Board within 30 days. The notice must include the location, amount and type of fuel, the size of the containers, the method of storage, and the proposed date for removal of the fuel cache.

As set out in sections 4 and 5 of the <u>MVLUR</u>, on land *within* the boundaries of a local government, a Type A or B land use permit is required for the activities listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Activities that Require a Land Use Permit within Local Government Boundaries					
Activity	Type A Land Use Permit	MVLUR Reference	Type B Land Use Permit	MVLUR Reference	
Machinery	Use of a stationary, power- driven machine, other than a power saw, for hydraulic prospecting, earth moving, or land clearing	4(b)(iv)	-	-	
Drilling	Use of power-driven, earth- drilling machinery the operating weight of which, excluding the weight of drill rods, stems, bits, pumps, and other ancillary equipment, equals or exceeds 2.5 tonnes, for a purpose other than the drilling of holes for building piles or utility poles or the setting of explosives within the boundaries of the local government	4(b)(i)	Use of power-driven, earth- drilling machinery the operating weight of which, excluding the weight of drill rods, stems, bits, pumps, and other ancillary equipment, equals or exceeds 500 kg but is less than 2.5 tonnes, for a purpose other than the drilling of holes for building piles or utility poles or the setting of explosives within the boundaries of the local government	5(b)(i)	
Storage of fuel (facility)	Establishment of a petroleum fuel storage facility with a capacity equal to or exceeding 80,000 litres	4(b)(iii)	-	-	
Campsites	Use of a campsite outside of a territorial park for a duration of or exceeding 400 person- days	4(b)(ii)	Use of a campsite outside of a territorial park for a duration of or exceeding 200 person- days but less than 400 person- days	5(b)(ii)	

#### 2.2 Activities That Do Not Require a Land Use Permit

A land use permit is <u>not</u> required for:

- Activities in national parks and national historic sites administered by Parks Canada;<sup>10</sup> or
- The use of previously cleared land, now authorized for grazing or for agricultural purposes, after its initial clearing.<sup>11</sup>

Also, a land use permit is not required for the following activities (unless these activities require the use of equipment or material listed above under <u>section 2.1</u>):<sup>12</sup>

- Harvesting and the construction and occupation of cabins and camps for the purpose of harvesting, as defined in the *Tłįchǫ Land Claims and Self-Government Agreement*, the *Sahtu Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*, and the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*;
- Hunting, trapping, or fishing; or
- Anything done in the course of prospecting, staking, or locating a mineral claim.

Where an emergency threatens life, property, or the environment, a person may carry out any land use operation as necessary to cope with the emergency.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Please contact Parks Canada to determine whether other authorization(s) might be required.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See subsection 2(2) of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See subsection 2(3) of the MVLUR.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See section 17 of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

#### 3.0 Applying for a New Land Use Permit

This section of the Guide provides detailed information about how to complete the Land Use Permit Application Form (the Application Form), and what submissions are typically required along with the Application Form to make a complete application package. <u>Section 3.1</u> details information that applicants will need to prepare and gather prior to submitting an application package. <u>Section 3.2</u> provides step-by-step guidance on completing the Application Form, including information about additional documents that may be required to complete the application package. <u>Section 3.3</u> summarizes the application package requirements in a table that can be used as an application checklist.

The amount of information that the LWBs require in an application package **depends on the size, scale, and nature of the project being proposed**. Typically, a Type A permit application has more extensive information requirements than a Type B permit application, especially if the project also requires a water licence. For example, an applicant that wants to build a mine in a sensitive area is expected to provide more information than an applicant who wants to quarry in an area that has already been impacted. The LWBs also typically require more detail in a post-environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact review (EIR) information package than in an initial application package. For larger projects or projects that have undergone an EA or EIR, the Board may provide the applicant with an information request, listing specific information requirements. Regardless, the LWBs may request more information for any permit application in order to complete a preliminary screening of the project and/or to set the term and conditions for the permit.

If the applicant is applying for both a licence and a permit, the applicant must fill out both application forms; however, where identical attachments are required, such as a Waste Management Plan, the applicant can submit one document for both application packages.

The LWBs will only process applications that are complete, so all required information must be submitted. Note that if the proposed project requires a permit, the applicant must describe all project activities, including those that are below permitting thresholds – the preliminary screening will include all project activities (unless exempt – see section 4.2 for more information), and the permit will be developed for the project as whole, not only for the activities that exceed permitting criteria. Accordingly, applicants should generally only submit one permit application to cover all project activities.

The LWBs recommend that all potential applicants contact LWB staff while developing their application or post-EA/EIR information package (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information). LWB staff are available to provide guidance, which supports a more efficient regulatory process.

#### 3.1 Pre-Application Information

For a project that requires a permit (see <u>section 2</u> to determine whether a permit is required), the applicant should complete the following prior to submitting an application to the Board (more details on many of the recommendations listed below are available in the related application requirements described in <u>section 3.2</u>):

- Contact LWB staff (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information);
- Conduct engagement and prepare an Engagement Record and Engagement Plan in accordance with the LWB <u>Engagement and Consultation Policy</u> and <u>Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders</u> of Water Licences and Land Use Permits. Engagement should be initiated well in advance of the submission of an application to allow affected parties sufficient time to review the information and discuss it with the applicant. This Plan and Record must be submitted as an attachment to the Application Form;
  - For assistance in notifying lease holders in the area (note that lease-holder information is not publicly available), contact the GNWT – Department of Environment and Climate Change (GNWT-ECC) (non-federal areas) or CIRNAC (federal areas), and Indigenous governments (private lands in either non-federal or federal areas);
- If applicable, obtain a Certificate of Registration from GNWT Corporate Registries (required for companies);
- Obtain or renew permission from the landowner, if necessary (e.g., obtain mineral exploration rights, quarry permits, timber permits, licences of occupation, leases, etc., and/or right of access);
- Contact Indigenous, federal, and territorial governments, and other parties to determine what other authorizations may be necessary to proceed with the project (see <u>Appendix C</u>);
- If applicable, contact GNWT Department of Infrastructure for guidance on obtaining a Highway Access Permit;
- If applicable, contact the Land Use Planning Board (LUPB) for assistance interpreting the conformity requirements in the relevant Land Use Plan;
- If applicable, contact the Tłįchǫ Government to discuss conformity of the project with the Tłįchǫ Wenek'e (Land Use Plan);
- Develop a closure cost estimate to understand how much security might be required;
- If proposing disposal of waste off-site within the NWT (including at municipal facilities), obtain written confirmation from the facility/facilities, stating that they will accept the waste;
- Contact GNWT-ECC for guidance on whether a Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan may be required;
- Contact the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre (PWNHC) to obtain relevant archaeological site
  data and identify archaeological site assessment needs. Please refer to the PWNHC's <u>Guidelines for
  Developers for the Protection of Archaeological Sites in the Northwest Territories</u>. In some cases, the
  requirement for an archaeological impact assessment may be included in permit conditions, so it is
  important that applicants are aware of the PWNHC's guidelines; and

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• Gather and prepare any other information needed to support the application.

#### 3.2 Completing the Land Use Permit Application Form

The Application Form and related resources can be found on each Board's website on the Apply for Permit/Licence page.<sup>14</sup> All applications must include a completed Application Form; additional pages or supporting documents should be attached to the Application Form where required to provide all of the information necessary for a complete application package. <u>Section 3.3</u> describes the LWBs' expectations regarding supporting documents. When preparing an application package, please refer to the LWB <u>Document Submission Standards</u> and <u>Standard Outline for Management Plans</u>. Applicants are encouraged to contact LWB staff prior to submitting an application for assistance in determining what information is required (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information).

The sequence of numbered statements below corresponds to specific numbered items in the Application Form. For each item, the required information, and/or references to supporting documents attached to the Application Form, should be provided in the grey fields. For items, or parts of items, that are not applicable, please indicate N/A.

Before proceeding to the numbered statements:

- Select the Board the application will be submitted to. If unsure which Board to submit the application to, please see the Active Authorizations Map on the Maps page<sup>15</sup> on any of the LWB websites, or contact LWB staff (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information). Transboundary applications should be submitted to the MVLWB. A project is considered transboundary if the boundaries and/or potential impacts of the project overlap the land and/or the waters managed by two separate LWBs (e.g., the land and waters regulated by the SLWB, and land and waters regulated by the MVLWB)—this also includes management areas outside of the Mackenzie Valley (e.g., the land and waters regulated by the Yukon Government, and land and waters regulated by the GLWB).<sup>16</sup>
- When applying for an amendment or renewal, enter the existing permit number.
- Indicate whether the permit application is accompanied by a water licence application for the project.

Note that if the activities authorized under an existing permit overlap with the activities in the new application, the applicant should contact LWB staff to discuss the best approach to consolidating overlapping permits.

#### Application Form Item 1: NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION – APPLICANT

Indicate the project name, and the full name, position, company/organization name (if applicable), mailing address, telephone number, and email of the person or company applying for the permit. Ensure the full and correct legal name of the person or company/organization is provided, since this will be the authorized permit holder, who will be liable for the project. This name must match the name on any supporting eligibility documents (see <u>Item 6</u>) and, if required, the Certification of Registration (see Item 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See Maps webpages: <u>GLWB</u>, <u>MVLWB</u>, <u>SLWB</u>, and <u>WLWB</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>See LWB <u>*Transboundary Policy*</u>.

below).

If the applicant is a company/organization, provide the name and position of the person who is applying on behalf of the company/organization. In all cases, this should be the same person who will be signing the Application Form (see <u>Item 21</u>). Please be advised that initials are not acceptable.

#### Application Form Item 2: NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION – APPLICANT'S HEAD OFFICE

Indicate the full name, position, mailing address, telephone number, and email of the organization's head office, if not the same as in item 1 above. Identify the organization's field supervisor for the project, if available.

Companies must be in good standing and registered with GNWT <u>Corporate Registries</u> to do business in the Northwest Territories, and must provide a copy of their current NWT Certificate of Registration in the application package.

Individual applicants that are not companies (e.g., an individual applying to build a road to a cabin), and territorial, federal, and community governments do not need this Certificate.

#### Application Form Item 3: NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION – CONTRACTORS AND SUB-CONTRACTORS

If available, provide the full names, responsibilities, and contact information for all contractors and subcontractors involved in the project. An additional table should be added for each contractor and subcontractor.

#### Application Form Item 4: LOCATION OF ACTIVITIES

For more information on the requirements set out below, please refer to the LWB <u>Geospatial Data</u> <u>Submission Standards</u>.

#### Traditional Place Name

Include the traditional Indigenous place name(s) for the project location.<sup>17</sup>

#### <u>Maps</u>

Include an overview map scaled at 1:250,000 or less to show the location of the project area, and a detailed map scaled at 1:50,000 or more, showing the locations, areas, and distances of:

• local geographic features, watercourses, and water sources;

- new and existing lines, trails, rights-of-way, and cleared areas proposed to be used;
- buildings, structures, campsites, landing strips, aircraft navigation aids, fuel and supply storage sites, waste disposal sites, excavations, and other works and places proposed to be constructed or used;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See the PWNHC's Place Names Database as a resource. A downloadable <u>Dene font package</u> is available on the PWNHC's Orthography Tools page. For projects on Gwich'in lands, see the Gwich'in Tribal Council's <u>Place Names Atlas</u>.

and,

 bridges, dams, ditches, railroads, roads, transmission lines, pipelines, survey lines, monuments, air landing strips, watercourses, traplines and cabins, and all other features or works that may be affected by the project activities.<sup>18</sup>

#### **Geographic Coordinates**

Provide geographic coordinates (latitude and longitude) of project features and the maximum and minimum project boundaries in degrees, minutes, and seconds, or in decimal degrees.

#### Map Sheet Number

Provide the map sheet number. For assistance, refer to the National Topographic (NTS) Map Sheet on the Maps page<sup>19</sup> of any of the LWBs' websites.

#### Geographic Information System (GIS) Data

GIS data should be submitted as an attachment to the Application Form – check the appropriate box to indicate whether GIS data is attached or not available. For small-scale projects, GIS data may not be required to consider an application complete, but it should be provided if available. Please contact LWB staff for assistance in determining whether GIS data is required (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information).

#### Land Types

Identify all land types where the project activities will take place, noting that it is possible to have the activities occur on more than one type of land. Please refer to the Maps page<sup>20</sup> on any of the LWB websites for guidance on identifying land types. Note that permitting criteria are different inside and outside local government boundaries (see section 2.1 for permitting criteria).

#### Application Form Item 5: ELIGIBILITY

Under the <u>MVLUR</u>, to be eligible for a permit, an applicant must hold an appropriate interest (e.g., mineral exploration rights, quarry permits, timber permits, licences of occupation, leases, etc.) and/or right of access (e.g., access agreement or authorization) for the proposed type of operation and from the appropriate landowner. The permit itself will authorize the permittee to use the land for the project activities, but in most cases, does not give the permittee the legal right to access, possess, or occupy the land – this right must be obtained from the appropriate landowner. Prior to applying, applicants must contact the landowner to determine what, if any, interests and/or rights of access are required. Please refer to the Maps page<sup>21</sup> on any of the LWB websites for assistance in identifying landowners. Contact information for landowners is provided in <u>Appendix B</u>.

Mark the appropriate reference to section 18 of the MVLUR that outlines the applicant's eligibility.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See subsection 19(3) of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> See Maps webpages: <u>GLWB</u>, <u>MVLWB</u>, <u>SLWB</u>, and <u>WLWB</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Ibid.

Paragraph 18(*a*) applies to proposed land-use activities that are in the exercise of a right to search for, win, or exploit minerals or natural resources. Applicants should mark:

- (*a*)(i) if the applicant holds the right;
- (*a*)(ii) if the applicant jointly holds the right (with one or more people) and has been designated as the manager of operations; or
- (*a*)(iii) if the applicant jointly holds the right (with one or more people) and has not been designated as the manager of operations.

Mark paragraph 18(*b*) for all other proposed land-use activities that involve rights to occupy the land other than to search for, win, or exploit minerals or natural resources.

#### Application Form Item 6: RIGHTS AND/OR CONTRACTS TO SUPPORT ELIGIBILITY

#### Authorizations in Support of Eligibility

List and attach confirmation of authorizations that support the applicant's eligibility as identified in Item 5 above. This must include proof of an appropriate interest and/or confirmation of access rights in writing from the landowner (see <u>Appendix B</u> for contact information for landowners). The name on these supporting authorizations must match the name of the permit holder (see <u>Item 1</u>) and, if required, the Certification of Registration (see <u>Item 2</u>).

If the landowner or rights holder has provided written confirmation that the interest or right is forthcoming, the LWBs may process a permit application (i.e., deem the application complete) while the applicant is pursuing the right of access or interest; however, the LWBs cannot issue a permit until the right of access or interest is granted. Please note that in some circumstances, the process to obtain the right of access or interest takes longer than the Board's process; as such, applicants are strongly encouraged to initiate the process to obtain the rights and/or interests required as early in the project planning phase as possible.

#### Other Authorizations Related to the Project

If the applicant holds water licences and other land use permits issued by the LWBs for the project, these should be referenced here, but copies of these authorizations are not required.

It is also the responsibility of the applicant to be aware of and comply with all other legal requirements (e.g., applicable legislation) within the jurisdiction in which the project activities will occur. Prior to applying, applicants should contact Indigenous governments/organizations, federal and territorial governments, and other parties to determine what other appropriate rights, authorizations, permissions, dispositions, and contracts may be required. In order to avoid delays following permit issuance, the applicant should obtain, or be in the process of obtaining, any additional requirements prior to submitting the application package.

Please refer to <u>Appendix C</u> for a list of other potential authorizations that may be required.

#### Application Form Item 7: PERMIT TYPE AND CRITERIA

The Type A and B permitting criteria for various types of activities are set out in sections 4 and 5 of the <u>MVLUR</u> and are summarized in the tables in <u>section 2.1</u>. In the table provided in the Application Form, identify the permitting criteria that are exceeded by the proposed project activities. Note that although not all project activities will exceed permitting criteria, if a permit is required, all project activities will be included in the permit. Also, if most project activities require a Type B permit, but at least one project activity requires a Type A permit, the project will require a Type A permit.

#### Application Form Item 8: PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Information required for this section can be included in the grey field provided; attachments should also be identified/referenced.

#### Project Description

Provide a complete description and summary of the project. Describe the purpose, nature, and location of all activities for all phases (e.g., construction, operation, modification, decommissioning, and closure and reclamation) of the proposed project. A separate project description may be attached to the Application Form if necessary.

If the project is located in an area that is in the process of being reclaimed, describe how reclamation activities have been considered.

#### Water Use

If water is proposed to be used for the project, but no water licence application has been submitted because the proposed activities are below licensing criteria,<sup>22</sup> describe all proposed water use(s) for the project, including the following information:

names and types of water source(s);

- purpose of water use(s); and
- quantity of water to be used (rates and/or volumes in m<sup>3</sup>/day).

Water withdrawn and returned to a water source after use (for example, water circulated from a water source to prevent pumps, lines, or other equipment from freezing) is still considered a water use and must be included in the proposed water use volume.

For more information about what is considered a water use, please see the LWB <u>Reference Bulletin:</u> <u>Water Use</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> See the LWB <u>*Guide to the Water Licensing Process*</u> for more information about when a water licence is required.

#### Drilling

If the project includes drilling activities, include the following information:

- the estimated maximum number of drill holes;
- the frequency of drilling (i.e., specify when drilling will occur during the year and over the life of the project);
- the number, type, and size of drills to be used; and
- a description of the general areas where drilling will be conducted within the project boundary.

Following issuance of the permit, the permittee will be required to submit coordinates for drill hole locations prior to commencing drilling (see <u>Standard Land Use Permit Conditions Template</u>).

#### **Hectares**

Include the total number of hectares to be used in each phase of the project and over the life of the project. This information is used to calculate land use fees and closure cost estimates for security calculations, so it should reflect the actual footprint of project activities rather than entire project boundary. Any discrepancy between this estimate and the number of hectares that are actually used over the life of the permit will be addressed through the final plan, which must be submitted before the permit can be closed (see <a href="section 5.4">section 5.4</a> for more information on final plans).

#### Application Form Item 9: CAMP

If the project includes a camp, describe the camp, including the following information:

- camp layout, including number, type, and dimensions (m<sup>2</sup>) of structures;
- location and distance from any watercourse(s); and
- number of people stationed in the camp and the duration of their stay (i.e., person-days). Explain, with rationale, any variations in the number of people that may be on site over the life of the project.

Person-days is the number of days required to complete the operation per calendar year (number of people x number of operating days per calendar year = number of person-days per calendar year).

#### Application Form Item 10: ROADS AND ACCESSES

Indicate whether a road or access is to be pioneered (i.e., built for the first time) and whether it has been laid out or ground-truthed. Describe the route, construction, and maintenance of any new or existing road.

Note that winter road construction may require a land use permit if portions of the road are located on land and the proposed activities exceed land use permitting criteria (see <u>section 2</u>).

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#### Application Form Item 11: PROPOSED WASTE MANAGEMENT METHODS

#### Waste Management Plan

All applicants must submit detailed waste management information, identifying all types of waste that will be produced by the project, including quantity and quality, and describing the disposal methods that are proposed for each type of waste. For most applicants, this should be attached in a Waste Management Plan, developed in accordance with the LWB <u>Guidelines for Developing a Waste Management Plan</u>, which includes a template for the Plan. For small-scale projects, this information can be included within the grey fields provided on the Application Form; this information will be considered equivalent to a Waste Management Plan. The Plan will require approval from the Board (either at licence issuance, or following issuance if revisions are required).

For some projects, additional management plans and reports may be required to fully describe waste management activities. More information about additional management plan requirements is available in section 3 of the LWB <u>Guide to the Water Licensing Process</u>.

#### Off-site Disposal

If proposing to dispose of waste off-site within the NWT (including at municipal facilities), include written confirmation from the facility/facilities stating that they will accept the type and volume of waste. If disposal locations may vary, all options should be included. This confirmation can be attached to the Application Form or obtained while the applicant is undergoing the regulatory process. Applicants should use the grey field provided on the Application Form to reference the attachment or to describe when this information will be provided. Note that this information will be required before the Board can approve the Waste Management Plan, so project activities may be delayed if the confirmation is not submitted before the Board makes its decision on the permit.

Regardless of the initial agreement from a municipal facility, applicants should note that the ability of the municipality to accept and manage additional waste streams may change over time, so applicants that are relying on waste disposal at municipal facilities are expected to develop contingencies as part of their Waste Management Plan. Notification will also typically be required prior to commencing disposal at the facility.

#### Application Form Item 12: EQUIPMENT

Use the table provided to list the type, number, weight (in tonnes), and proposed uses of all equipment proposed to be used. Add additional rows where required. Generally, this list should include any motorized equipment (e.g., drills, pumps, bulldozer, pick-up truck, large generators, boats and motors, etc.). In order to allow reasonable flexibility in on-site equipment choices, specific makes and models of equipment are not required; however, it is important to ensure that the weight (and ground pressure, if applicable) is provided (see permitting criteria in section 2.1).

Ensure the equipment list provided here reflects the project information provided in other parts of the Application Form. The cost of removing this equipment must be reflected in the closure cost estimate (see

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<u>Item 18</u> below) and will be considered by the Board in development of any security requirements. The equipment list will also be considered in the review of potential environmental impacts (see <u>Item 17</u> below).

#### Application Form Item 13: FUEL

Use the table provided to identify all petroleum-based fuel types (e.g., diesel, gasoline, aviation fuel, propane, etc.) that will be used, and for each fuel type, provide the following information:

- Number of containers;
- Capacity of containers (e.g., litres, pounds);
- Type of container (e.g., barrel, tank, tidy-tank, jerry-cans etc.); and
- Proposed storage or staging location(s).

Please ensure the correct types of fuel are included to reflect the types of equipment listed in <u>Item 12</u> above. Add additional rows where required.

The information provided should reflect the maximum volumes that may be on the site at any one time, since it will be used to set maximum allowable volumes for fuel storage in a standard permit condition. This standard condition reflects the link between the security deposit and the liability on site, which depends in part on the maximum amount of fuel on site at any time. In addition, the potential for impacts from spills, including worst-case scenarios, is sensitive to the maximum amount of fuel on site at any time.

#### Application Form Item 14: METHODS OF FUEL TRANSFER

Describe all fuel transfer methods (e.g., electric or hand pumps, gravity fed, etc.) to other tanks, vehicles, and machinery, etc. Please ensure all methods for each type of equipment listed in <u>Item 12</u> and fuel listed in <u>Item 13</u> are included.

#### Application Form Item 15: SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

All applicants must describe spill contingency planning. Guidance is available in the INAC <u>Guidelines for</u> <u>Spill Contingency Planning</u>. For most applicants, this information will be attached in a Spill Contingency Plan developed in accordance with the INAC Guidelines.<sup>23</sup>

For small-scale projects, spill contingency information can be included in the grey field provided on the Application Form; this information will be considered equivalent to a Spill Contingency Plan. In general, small-project applicants should address the key areas of information required in a standalone Spill Contingency Plan:

• list the potential types, sources, and maximum volumes of potential spills (including any that are not included in the fuel list in the Application Form);

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> For oil and gas projects, the emergency response plan required by the oil and gas/energy regulatory agency is not equivalent to the Spill Contingency Plan required by the LWBs.

- describe potential impacts (e.g., could spills get into water);
- explain how spills will be contained and cleaned up;
- describe the spill response supplies available on site; and
- identify who will be in charge in the event of a spill and how spill response procedures will be communicated with other staff (e.g., part of safety training or orientation).

For very small projects, staff should contact LWB staff if unsure what is reasonable.

Whether provided in the Application Form or as a standalone plan, the Plan will require approval from the Board (either at issuance, or following issuance if revisions are required).

#### Application Form Item 16: PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE AND TERM

Indicate the time of year the project activities will occur (i.e., which months of the year). Explain any variations over the life of the project, up to and including closure and reclamation. Indicate whether seasonal or temporary shutdowns are anticipated. If activities are planned for a particular time of year, explain whether the activities could potentially take place at other times of year.

Indicate the proposed start and completion dates for the project. Note that maximum term for a permit is five years.<sup>24</sup> Prior to the expiration of the permit, permit holders can apply for a permit extension of up to two years.<sup>25</sup>

## Application Form Item 17: POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT AND PROPOSED MITIGATIONS

Unless the proposed project could be exempt from preliminary screening, using either the Impact-Mitigation Table in the Application Form, or the more detailed Table in <u>Appendix D</u>, identify and describe all potential impacts and proposed mitigations for the proposed activities. (Note that if the permit application is accompanied by a type A licence application, or if required by the Board, applicants must use the detailed Table in Appendix D.) The Table is not exhaustive and not all impacts in the Table will apply to all projects. All information provided should reflect the size, scale, and nature of the proposed project. Cumulative impacts and climate change must be considered.

For the identified potential impacts, describe proposed mitigations, including environmental management systems, treatment systems, and monitoring programs, and explain how the potential effects of climate change were considered. Indicate whether any of the mitigation measures have been developed as a result of input from affected parties and identify any best practices or guidance documents that will be used (e.g., GNWT's series of Northern Land Use Guidelines<sup>26</sup>). In many cases, appropriate mitigations have been developed and approved by the LWBs in the form of standard conditions (see <u>Standard Land Use Permit</u> and <u>Water Licence</u> Conditions Templates). Applicants are encouraged to consult

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Section 26(5) of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Section 26(6) of the MVLUR.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Links to these documents are available on each Board's Policies and Guidelines webpage: <u>GLWB</u>, <u>MVLWB</u>, <u>SLWB</u>, and <u>WLWB</u>.

these standard conditions and utilize them in proposed mitigations where appropriate.

For large or more complex projects, or as requested by the Board, applicants may need to provide more detailed information in management plans attached to the Application Form. More information about additional management plan requirements is available in section 3 of the LWB <u>Guide to the Water</u> <u>Licensing Process</u>.

The information provided about potential impacts and proposed mitigations will be used in the preliminary screening of the project and/or to develop permit conditions. If seeking an exemption from preliminary screening for part or all of the project (e.g., the project has already been screened or has undergone an EA or EIR), describe supporting rationale. If it is not entirely clear whether all or some of the proposed project activities are expected to be exempt, the applicant should fill out the Impact-Mitigation Table to avoid delays in the event that the Board determines that a preliminary screening is required. If only part of the project may be exempt, using the Impact-Mitigation Table, describe any proposed changes, as well as associated impacts and proposed mitigations. For more information about preliminary screenings, see <u>section 4.2</u>.

Further information about potential impacts is also available in the Review Board's <u>Environmental Impact</u> <u>Assessment Guidelines</u> and <u>Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Guidelines</u>.

#### Application Form Item 18: CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Where applicable, information required for this section can be included in the grey field provided; attachments should also be identified/referenced.

#### **Closure and Reclamation**

Describe closure and reclamation plans for the project, including any temporary closure(s) and seasonal shutdowns. The level of detail required will depend on the scale and nature of the project.

For small-scale projects, closure and reclamation plans can be described in the grey field provided on the Application Form. In most cases, this description will outline how the area will be returned to, as near as possible, its original state. In cases where the landowner or another interested party has requested reclamation to a different standard, please provide all relevant information and documentation for the Board's consideration.

For large or complex projects, this information should be attached to the Application Form in a conceptual Closure and Reclamation Plan, developed in accordance with the LWB/AANDC <u>Guidelines for the Closure</u> <u>and Reclamation of Advanced Mineral Exploration and Mine Sites in the Northwest Territories</u>. A template is provided in the Guidelines. While the Guidelines were developed for mineral exploration and mining, the information is applicable to other types of projects.

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#### Closure Cost Estimate

In most cases, the LWBs will require a permittee to post a security deposit following permit issuance. The timeframe for posting the security deposit will be specified in the permit conditions; however, it will usually be required before commencing project activities. The GNWT, federal, and community governments, and Indigenous governments for permits on their own lands, are not required to post security.<sup>27</sup>

The Board will set the amount of security based on the estimated costs of closing and reclaiming the project site, and the applicant's proposed closure plans for the project. To inform the Board's decision, the applicant must develop a closure cost estimate to include in the application package. Closure cost estimate templates are available on each Board's Apply for Permit/Licence webpage.<sup>28</sup> For most standalone land use permits, the Land Use Permit Security Worksheet will be suitable. For larger projects and projects that require both a permit and water licence, the applicant should work with the landowner (e.g., the GNWT, CIRNAC, and/or other landowners) in developing or updating the estimate (see <u>Appendix B</u> for contact information), and in these cases, use of the RECLAIM model will likely be recommended.

The LWBs encourage all applicants to contact LWB staff to commence the conversation on the closure cost estimate prior to submitting an application; LWB staff can assist in determining which closure-cost-estimate template is most suited to the activities being applied for (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information). Guidance on developing a closure cost estimate and information about security processes is also available in the LWB/GNWT/CIRNAC <u>Guidelines for Closure and Reclamation Cost Estimates for</u> <u>Mines</u>. While these Guidelines were primarily developed for mining and advanced mineral exploration, the processes and expectations described in the Guidelines are generally applicable to all projects.

If land use permit and water licence applications are being submitted together, the closure cost estimate must include a break-down of costs for land-related activities and water-related activities. If the project includes activities in both non-federal and federal areas, the closure cost estimate must be broken into two components, reflecting activities specific to the non-federal and federal areas.

#### Application Form Item 19: ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Where applicable, information required for this section can be included in the grey field provided; attachments should also be identified/referenced.

#### **Engagement**

Prior to submitting an application package, applicants must identify and contact any other parties potentially affected by the project, such as Indigenous governments/organizations, individuals occupying the land for traditional purposes, private landowners, lease holders (e.g., lodges, cabins, other licensees

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> The GNWT and the federal government are exempt from posting security under section 94 of the <u>MVRMA</u>. It is Board policy not to require security from community governments for municipal projects and from Indigenous governments on their own lands. Provincial and other territorial governments are not exempt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Apply for Permit/Licence webpages: <u>GLWB</u>, <u>MVLWB</u>, <u>SLWB</u>, and <u>WLWB</u>.

and permittees), and communities. Because lease-holder information is private, applicants should contact GNWT-ECC (non-federal areas) or CIRNAC (federal areas), and Indigenous governments (private lands in either non-federal or federal areas) for assistance in notifying lease holders.

All new permit application packages must include both an Engagement Record and an Engagement Plan. The LWBs' expectations regarding engagement with potentially affected parties, and the development of an Engagement Record and Plan, are set out in the LWB <u>Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders</u> <u>of Water Licences and Land Use Permits</u>. Templates for the Engagement Record and Plan are provided in the Guidelines. Copies of engagement materials (e.g., correspondence, information provided to parties) do not need to be provided but may be requested by the Board at any point.

Applicants may also contact LWB staff for assistance obtaining contact information and developing a list of minimum engagement requirements based on the proposed project location; however, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they have identified and contacted all potentially affected parties.

#### Land Use Plans

Three land use plans are approved in the Mackenzie Valley: the <u>Gwich'in Land Use Plan</u>, <u>Sahtu Land Use</u> <u>Plan</u>, and <u>Tłjcho Wenek'e (Land Use Plan</u>). These Plans outline what types of activities should occur, where they generally should take place, and the conditions necessary to guide land use proposals and development projects over time.

Where an approved Land Use Plan applies, the Board must confirm conformity with the applicable Land Use Plan in order to issue a permit.<sup>29</sup> To inform the Board's decision, the permit application must include a conformity table that demonstrates how the proposed project meets the conformity requirements (CRs) or land protection directives of the applicable Land Use Plan. Where the <u>Tłjcho Wenek'e (Land Use Plan)</u> applies, this must be in the form of written confirmation of conformity from the Tłįcho Government.

Applicants are encouraged to approach the applicable Land Use Planning Board or the Tłįchǫ Government's Department of Culture and Lands Protection, as the case may be, for assistance in interpreting the CRs or directives of the applicable Plan prior to submitting a permit application to the Board. If requesting exemptions or exceptions from specific CRs or directives, a copy of the Land Use Planning Board or Tłįchǫ Government's decision on the exemption, exception, amendment, or variance must be included in the application package.

#### Traditional Knowledge

For projects located in the Sahtu, applicants must submit TK or provide written notification from the Sahtu District Renewable Resources Council that a TK Study is not required for the project.<sup>30</sup> The TK Study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> See section 61 of the MVRMA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> See the Acts and Regulations webpage on any of the LWB websites to access the <u>Implementation Guide for the Sahtu Land</u> <u>Use Plan</u>.

- a) Information from the families, clans, or individuals that use/d the area;
- b) Maps indicating trails, migration routes, burial sites, sensitive areas, traditional areas for harvesting plants and animals, camp sites, and/or traditional boundaries; and
- c) List of people talked to, dates of meetings, and questions asked.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contract the local Renewable Resources Council to conduct a TK Study for the application. The Study can be submitted under confidential cover for the SLWB's consideration.

In other management areas, the LWBs strongly encourage proponents to submit TK with their application package.

#### Studies Undertaken to Date

Provide a list of studies that have been undertaken to date to support the proposed project and where possible, include a copy of each study. This may include baseline data studies, traditional knowledge studies, studies or data supporting proposed treatment technologies or mitigation measures, and/or feasibility studies.

#### Application Form Item 20: FEES

Fee amounts should be entered into the grey fields on the Application Form. Federal and territorial governments do not pay application or land-use fees;<sup>31</sup> all other applicants must include the appropriate application and land-use fees as outlined below.

- The application fee for all applications is \$150.
- For projects in non-federal areas, there are no land-use fees.
- For projects in federal areas, the application fee includes up to two hectares (ha) of land use. This is a flat fee, so the application fee is \$150 whether applying to use half a hectare or two hectares.
- For projects in federal areas, land-use fees are \$50 per hectare (rounded up to the nearest full hectare) for any land used beyond the two hectares that are included in the application fee. For example, an applicant proposing to disturb 5 ha will submit \$300 (\$150 application fee including two ha, plus \$50/ha x 3 ha). Ensure that the fees are consistent with the information provided in the project description (see <u>Item 8</u>).
- For administrative and tracking purposes, separate fee payments should be submitted for each permit and licence application.

All fees are payable to the Receiver General for Canada. All fees should be mailed to the Board's office<sup>32</sup> as soon as possible when an application package is submitted; applications cannot be deemed complete until those fees, or proof that the fees have been sent, is received by the Board. Fees must be received prior to issuance of a permit – on the Application Form, indicate how and when fees will be delivered to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> See section 20 of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 32}$  See the Contact Us page on the applicable LWB website for the LWB mailing address.

the Board.

Note that security deposits are not to be submitted with an application package and should only be submitted as set out by the Board in the permit.

#### Application Form Item 21: SIGNATURE

Please ensure an original signature is included from the applicant (as identified in <u>Item 1</u>). Print the applicants full name before signing and dating the application. Initials are not sufficient. Documents can be submitted electronically by scanning the signature page or by including an electronic signature as per the LWB <u>Document Submission Standards</u>.

#### **3.3 Application Package Checklist**

As described in <u>section 3.2</u>, applicants must submit various documents in support of the application. The number and type of supporting documents depends on the nature and scale of the proposed project. The following table lists the requirements and can be used as a checklist for completing the application package. **The LWBs will only process applications that are complete, so all required information must be submitted.** 

Applicants that are seeking exemption from preliminary screening for some or all of the project activities should ensure this is described in the covering letter and in the Application Form (see item 17 in section 3.2). See section 4.2 for more information about preliminary screenings and exemptions.

	Table 3: Application Package Checklist				
Information Or Document		<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>May be Required</li> </ul>	Section In This Guide		
	Application Form	•	<u>3.2</u>		
	Proof of Registration/Incorporation	o (Required for companies)	<u>3.2, item 2</u>		
	Maps	•	<u>3.2, item 4</u>		
	GIS Data	o (May not be required for small-scale projects, but should be provided if available)	<u>3.2, item 4</u>		
	Proof of Appropriate Interest and/or Access Rights	•	<u>3.2, item 6</u>		
	Copies of Other Authorizations	0	<u>3.2, item 6</u>		
	Waste Management Plan	<ul> <li>(Small-scale projects may include information in the Application Form)</li> </ul>	<u>3.2, item 11</u>		
	Off-Site Disposal Agreement	o (Required if off-site disposal is proposed)	<u>3.2, item 11</u>		
	Spill Contingency Plan	• (Small-scale projects may include information in the Application Form)	<u>3.2, item 15</u>		
	Closure and Reclamation Plan	• (Small-scale projects may include information in the Application Form)	<u>3.2, item 18</u>		

Closure Cost Estimate	<ul> <li>(Not required for government and municipal applicants)</li> </ul>	<u>3.2, item 18</u>
Engagement Record	•	<u>3.2, item 19</u>
Engagement Plan	•	<u>3.2, item 19</u>
Land Use Plan Conformity Table/Statement	o (Required if a Land Use Plan applies)	<u>3.2, item 19</u>
Traditional Knowledge	o (Required for all SLWB applications)	<u>3.2, item 19</u>
Studies Undertaken to Date	0	<u>3.2, item 19</u>
Other Management Plans	0	Section 3.3 of the LWB <u>Guide to</u> <u>the Water Licensing Process</u>
Application Fees	<ul> <li>(Federal and territorial governments do not pay application fees)</li> </ul>	<u>3.2, item 20</u>
Land Use Fees	o (Required in federal areas only) (Federal and territorial governments do not pay application fees)	<u>3.2, item 20</u>

The LWBs have guidelines for the development of Engagement Plans, Waste Management Plans, Hydrocarbon-Contaminated Soil Treatment Facility Management Plans, Spill Contingency Plans, and Closure and Reclamation Plans as noted in section 3.2. For any other required plans, see the general LWB <u>Standard Outline for Management Plans</u>.

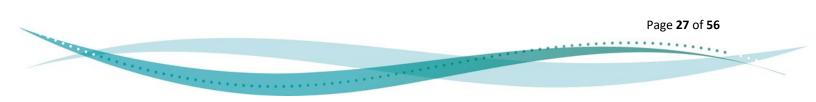
Any plans or manuals that are submitted with the application should include a version number. The first version of any plan or manual submitted to the Board should be Version 1.0. For amendment or renewal applications, the applicant may reference previous version of plans available on the Board's public registry if no changes are proposed. If new versions of previously submitted plans are included with renewal or amendment applications, the version number will depend on the status of the previous version of the plan.

#### 4.0 Regulatory Process for a Land Use Permit Application

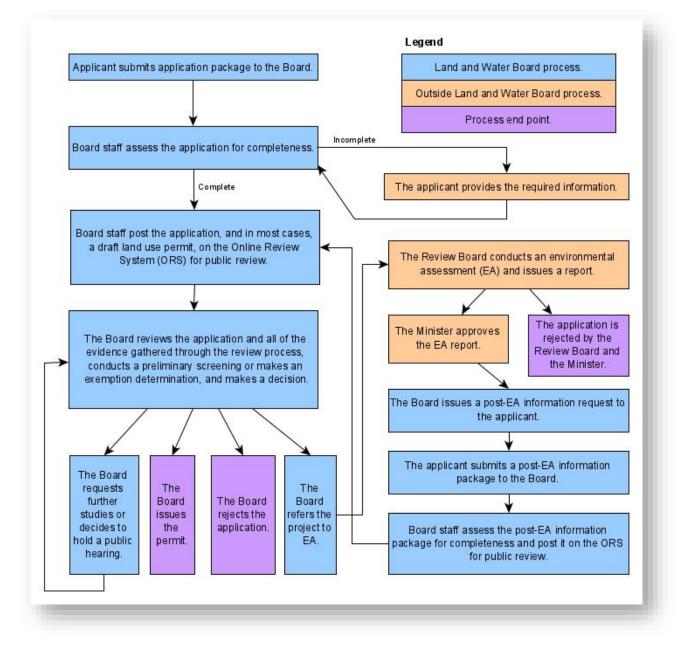
The process for Type A and B land use permit applications is summarized in the flowchart in Figure 1 below. The flowchart does not include every step in the process – for more information about process steps and timelines, see the detailed descriptions in sections 4.1 to 4.3.

If a land use permit application is accompanied by a water licence application, the Board will typically process the applications together. In this case, a notification or work plan will be distributed to inform parties about the steps and timelines for the regulatory process, which may vary from the description provided below. For more information about the water licensing process, please see the LWB <u>Guide to</u> <u>the Water Licensing Process</u>.

The LWBs do not administer participant funding for regulatory proceedings. Limited funding may be available through CIRNAC for major project proceedings – parties seeking funding are encouraged to contact CIRNAC directly at <u>aidefinanciereparticipants-participantfunding@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca</u>.







#### 4.1 Public Review

When the Board receives a land use permit application, LWB staff conduct a completeness check to ensure all of the components of the application package have been submitted and conform to Board policies and guidelines (see <u>section 3.3</u> above). LWB staff will make the completeness determination within ten days of receiving the application.

If the application is not complete, LWB staff will contact the applicant with a list of the additional information required. **The Board will not begin the regulatory process until the application is complete**.

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Once the application has been deemed complete, it is posted to the Board's public registry, and distributed for public review through the Board's <u>Online Review System</u> (ORS). A draft land use permit, developed from the LWB <u>Standard Land Use Permit Conditions Template</u>, will usually be included in the public review of the application package.

The distribution list for an application is based on the location of the project and will include:

- affected communities and Indigenous governments/organizations;
- landowners;
- appropriate departments and agencies of the federal and territorial governments;
- Renewable Resource Boards;
- departments and agencies with responsibilities for heritage resources;
- the Review Board; and
- other interested parties (e.g., companies, businesses, or individual members of public, civic, or social organizations who have indicated an interest in the potential project).

The specific distribution list for the application is available on the ORS Item for Review.

Applicants and reviewers must be registered to be able to participate in ORS public reviews. New users can register on the ORS Login webpage. For more information on registering and using the ORS, please see the User Manual, or contact LWB staff for assistance (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information). Note that the LWBs also accept review comments by mail, fax, or email, and LWB staff will post these comments to the ORS.

By submitting comments on the application (via the ORS or otherwise), reviewers become parties to the regulatory proceeding for the application and must abide by the LWB <u>*Rules of Procedure*</u>.

The Board must allow a reasonable period for reviewers to provide comments to the Board with respect to the application and draft permit. Review periods may vary depending on the scope, scale, and location of a proposed project. The applicant can provide comments on the draft permit during the review period, and will always be provided an opportunity to respond to reviewer comments on the application and the draft permit following the public review comment deadline.

Late submissions will generally not be accepted or be considered by the Board in making a decision unless an extension has been granted. Extension requests, with rationale, must be submitted to the Board in writing prior to the submission deadline.<sup>33</sup> If an extension is granted, all parties will be notified of the extension and any resulting changes to the work plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> See the LWB <u>Rules of Procedure</u>.

### 4.2 Preliminary Screening and Environmental Assessment

Before the Board can issue a permit, the proposed project must meet the requirements of Part 5 of the <u>MVRMA</u>, which establishes the Review Board and the environmental impact assessment process. Unless the project is exempt, this means that a preliminary screening, EA, or EIR for the project needs to be completed.

The first step in the established environmental impact assessment process is a preliminary screening to determine whether the project might have significant adverse impact on the environment or might be a cause for public concern. The preliminary screening is the Board's mechanism for referring the project to EA if necessary, and the Board will conduct a preliminary screening prior to issuing a permit. When conducting the screening, the Board will take into consideration all of the information provided by the applicant and reviewers.

A project, or specific project activities, may be exempt from screening under the <u>Exemption List</u> <u>Regulations</u>; under section 157.1 of the <u>MVRMA</u>; or for national security or emergency purposes. If the project, or specific project activities, could be exempt for any of these reasons, the Board will need to make an exemption confirmation. For projects that have previously been screened or undergone an EA or EIR, applicants should clearly explain in the Application Form why the project, or parts of the project, should be exempt. Any changes to the project may need to be screened and could be referred to EA.

The Board will make the screening determination and/or exemption confirmation as soon as adequate information is available, which can be at any point prior to the Board's issuance decision, but for permit applications that are not accompanied by a water licence application, the Board will usually make this determination at the same time as its issuance decision. Based on the screening, the Board will decide whether to continue the permitting process or refer the project to the Review Board for an EA. Note that if the Board decides not to refer the project to EA, it can still be referred by the Review Board or by other parties.<sup>34</sup>

Following the Board's decision on a preliminary screening, the decision is forwarded to the Review Board, and a ten-day pause period begins, allowing the Review Board and other referral organizations a formal period to review the Board's decision and consider whether to refer the project to EA if the Board has not. If no other organizations refer the project to EA during this period, the Board will issue the permit after the pause period is complete.<sup>35</sup>

If a project (or part of a project) is referred to the Review Board for an EA, the permitting process for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> See subsections 126(2) and 126(3) of the <u>MVRMA</u> for a list of organizations that can refer projects to the Review Board. Applicants should be aware that these organizations can make a referral before or after the Board has completed its preliminary screening.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> For more information, see subsections 125(1.1), 125 (1.2), (3), and (4) of the <u>MVRMA</u>, and the Review Board's <u>Reference</u> <u>Bulletin: The Ten-Day Pause Period for Preliminary Screenings</u>. During the pause period, the Board could issue a permit that would not come into effect until after the pause period; however, to avoid confusion, especially in the event that a referral is made during the pause period, the Board will not issue the permit during the pause period.

application is put on hold until the EA is complete. After the EA is complete, and the Minister has released a decision on the Report of EA, the Board will send the applicant an information request outlining the information that must be included in the applicant's post-EA information package. The information request will be project-specific and reflect EA measures and changes to the project. If the applicant decides to change the project following the completion of the EA, the post-EA information package should highlight the proposed changes, since the changes will need to undergo a preliminary screening.

Once a complete post-EA information package has been received, the Board will recommence the permitting process. Note that the legislated 42-day timeline (see section 4.3 below) for the Board's decision begins again once the Minister has released a decision on the Report of EA; however, in most cases, the Board will need to consider whether more time is required.<sup>36</sup>

After a permit is issued, amendment requests may require preliminary screening if the proposed project changes have not already met the requirements of Part 5 as described above, so applicants should ensure that all project activities are included in the initial permit application. If applicable, applicants are also encouraged to include reasonably likely project options (e.g., larger project boundaries, potential drilling locations, alternate waste disposal options), so that they can be included in the initial screening; noting, however, that this may affect the closure cost estimate, which informs the security requirements.

For more information about preliminary screenings and environmental assessments, please refer to the Review Board's <u>Guideline for Preliminary Screeners</u> and <u>Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines</u>.

# 4.3 Board Decision

Within 42 days of receiving a <u>complete</u> permit application,<sup>37</sup> the Board will review all of the evidence on the record and decide whether to:

- a) issue a land use permit with conditions;
- b) conduct a hearing or require that further studies or investigations be made;
- c) refer it to the Review Board for environmental assessment; or

d) refuse to issue the permit if the project does not meet the requirements of applicable land use plans and/or Tłįchǫ laws, or for any other reason as provided for in legislation.

If the Board requires a hearing or further study, or if the project is referred to EA, the 42-day timeline will re-commence after the hearing/studies have been completed, or after the Minister releases a decision on the Report of EA.

For permit applications that are not accompanied by a water licence application, the Board often makes its preliminary screening determination at the same time as its issuance decision, and the ten-day pause

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> In this case, the Board may need to apply paragraph 22(2)(b) of the <u>MVLUR</u> to allow more time for the applicant to provide the additional information required in the post-EA information package.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> See paragraphs 22(2) and 23(b) of the <u>MVLUR</u>. Because the Board requires adequate time to meet its obligations, the Board processes all Type B applications under subparagraph 23(b)(iii) of the <u>MVLUR</u>. This means that all Type B applications are processed in the same manner as Type A applications.

period will come into effect after the Board forwards its decision to the Review Board (see <u>section 4.2</u>). The Board will not issue the permit during the pause period, so applicants should ensure this additional time is accounted for in the project schedule.<sup>38</sup>

If no other organizations refer the project to EA during the ten-day pause period, the Board will issue the permit after the pause period is complete. The Board's decision, including its reasons for decision, will be circulated to the applicant and the distribution list, and posted to the public registry. If the Board decides to issue the permit, the permit will be attached to the Board's decision letter.

For permit applications that are accompanied by a water licence application, the Board will typically process the applications together. In this case, the Board's preliminary screening determination is often made prior to its issuance decision, so the pause period may already be complete. For more information on water licensing processes and timelines, please see the LWB <u>Guide to the Water Licensing Process</u>.

Following issuance, any security required must be posted and accepted in accordance with permit conditions prior to commencing project activities. The Board will include instructions on posting security in its issuance decision letter. The Board's decision letter may also contain direction regarding any other permit conditions that must be met prior to the commencement of activities.

The permittee should be aware that the permit will be in force as of the effective date set out on the cover page of the permit, even if the permittee does not commence activities until a later date.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> For more information, see subsections 125(1.1), 125 (1.2), (3), and (4) of the <u>MVRMA</u>, and the Review Board's <u>Reference</u> <u>Bulletin: The Ten-Day Pause Period for Preliminary Screenings</u>. During the pause period, the Board could issue a permit that would not come into effect until after the pause period; however, to avoid confusion, especially in the event that a referral is made during the pause period, the Board will not issue the permit during the pause period.

#### 5.0 Post-Issuance

#### 5.1 Inspections

Inspections of projects operating under both Type A and B permits are conducted by territorial or federal Inspectors.<sup>39</sup> These inspections are undertaken throughout the life of the project and at the conclusion of a project to evaluate compliance with legislation, regulations, and the conditions of the permit.

Inspection reports are provided to the permittee and the Board and may require the permittee to undertake and report on corrective actions. Non-compliance may also result in temporary or complete shutdown of the project through a suspension or cancellation of the permit by the Board, or an activity cessation order by the Inspector.<sup>40</sup>

### 5.2 Plans, Reports, and Other Submissions

Permit conditions may require various submissions (including new or revised versions) to the Board, either for approval by the Board or for information purposes. Where an identical submission (e.g., a Waste Management Plan) is required by both a licence and a permit for the same project, one document can be submitted to satisfy both authorizations. Permittees should refer to the LWB <u>Document Submission</u> <u>Standard Outline for Management Plans</u> when preparing these submissions.

Prior to making submissions to the Board, permittees must ensure that they have conducted engagement as described in their approved Engagement Plan.

When submitting management plans, manuals, and programs, permittees should include a version number. Reports generally do not require a version number, though a date should be included, especially where the report is for a recurring purpose. Numbering will depend on the reason for the submission. Version 1.0 will always be the first iteration of a plan (often submitted with the application). Version 1.1 (and any subsequent versions of Version 1.0) would result from Board direction on Version 1.0 (e.g., clarifications or corrections provided in response to review comments). Once the Board has approved Version 1.0 (as 1.0, 1.1 or 1.2, etc.), the next update to the document would be Version 2.0 – generally when the permittee submits an updated plan as required by permit conditions (e.g., to reflect proposed changes). To avoid confusion about which version is being considered by the Board at a given time, subsequent versions should only be submitted as directed by the Board or the permit conditions – permittees should not submit new versions in direct response to review comments or during a proceeding. When in doubt, please contact LWB staff prior to making a submission (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information).

Following permit issuance, permittees should use and maintain the specific names of plans and other submissions as set out in the permit conditions. This avoids confusion in terms of permit compliance, document history tracking, and public registry organization.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> <u>GNWT-ECC</u> or CIRNAC, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> See sections 35 and 36 of the MVLUR.

All submissions will be posted on the public registry, and submissions that require Board approval (e.g., Waste Management Plan, Spill Continency Plan, etc.) will be posted on the ORS for public review. After the public review period, the permittee will be provided with an opportunity to respond, and the review comments and responses are then provided to the Board for its consideration.

If the Board determines that the submission meets the permit requirements, and any issues raised during the review are resolved, the Board approves the submission. If the Board determines that the submission does not satisfy permit requirements, or issues raised during the review period are not adequately resolved, the Board notifies the permittee that the submission needs to be revised or that further information is required and indicates when a revised version is to be submitted.

When proposing changes to the project, the permittee should consider how the proposed changes will affect any submissions required under the permit. For small projects where the applicant included waste management, spill contingency, and/or closure and reclamation information directly in the Application Form rather than in stand-alone plans, the permittee will need to submit stand-alone plans for Board approval if they are proposing changes to these activities – these requirements will be set out in the permit conditions.

Note that if major changes to activities, facilities, or operations are set out in revised submissions, the Board will review the preliminary screening to determine whether the proposed changes need to be screened. If the changes must be screened, or changes to the permit conditions are required, an amendment process will be required (see <u>section 6.1</u> below).

# 5.3 Seasonal/Temporary Closure

Temporary closure is a state of care and maintenance, where the permittee intends to resume activities in the near future. The closure could be seasonal, planned, or unanticipated, and could be a partial or sitewide closure. Temporary closure should be addressed in the Closure and Reclamation Plan, which should set out how the permittee will maintain the programs and facilities necessary to protect humans, wildlife, and the environment. If regular seasonal shutdowns are described in the application package, specific conditions regarding seasonal shutdowns may be included in the permit.

Prior to initiating the temporary shutdown or closure, the permittee must notify the Board and the Inspector. This notification should identify all licences and permits that will be included in the closure. The permittee must also notify the Board and the Inspector prior to resuming project activities.

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During the closure, the permittee is expected to continue to conduct environmental monitoring and reporting, and to ensure that adequate staff and resources are available to look after the site. Generally, during the closure period, the permittee must:

- Conduct monitoring as set out in the permit or in approved plans or programs;
- Submit revised plans, manuals, programs, etc. if needed to reflect reduced or suspended operations; and
- Apply for amendments to submission dates, monitoring, or other permit conditions if not planning to meet requirements.

If there is also a water licence for the project, the licensee must continue to submit Annual Water Licence Reports, Surveillance Network Program reports, and Water Use Fees (see the LWB <u>Guide to the Water</u> <u>Licensing Process</u> for more information).

# 5.4 Final Plans and Final Clearance

Unless a new permit has been issued, a permittee may not continue project activities after a permit has expired; however, the permittee remains responsible for all obligations and liabilities that arise under the permit and the MVLUR until the Board has cleared and closed the permit.<sup>41</sup> In order for the Board to clear and close a permit, the permittee must submit a final plan to the Board within 60 days of either the expiry of the permit or the end of the permitted activities (whichever comes first).

A final plan must include:42

- A map, normally at a scale of 1:50,000, showing the location, the area, and distances of all project activities, including:
  - lines, trails, rights-of-way, and cleared areas that were used by the permittee during the project, specifying those that were cleared by the permittee and those that existed before the project began;
  - buildings, structures, campsites, landing strips, aircraft navigation aids, fuel and supply storage sites, waste disposal sites, excavations, and other works and places that were constructed or used by the permittee for the project; and
  - bridges, dams, ditches, railroads, roads, transmission lines, pipelines, survey lines, monuments, air landing strips, watercourses, traplines and cabins, and all other features or works that were affected by the project.

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- GIS data;
- A summary of the hectares utilized in each aspect of the project; and
- A calculation of land use fees for any federal lands used.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> See subsection 29(6) of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> See subsections 29(1) and (2) of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

Please refer to the LWB <u>Geospatial Data Submission Standards</u> for further information on map and GIS requirements.

If a final plan is associated with an application for a renewal or a new permit to continue the activities under the existing permit, the plan should describe the current status of the permitted activities (e.g., land use activities are ongoing, and closure and reclamation of the site is not complete). The permittee must clearly explain whether all of the activities authorized under the existing permit are included in the renewal or new permit application. If the existing permit has not expired, the permittee must submit a discontinuance request for the existing permit (see <u>section 6.5</u>). The Board can then consider the final plan and the discontinuance request at the same time.

Final plans are not circulated for public review, but the Inspector will conduct a final inspection to verify the plan before it is considered by the Board. The Board's final clearance decision letter will identify any land use fees that are outstanding or will be refunded. After the Board grants final clearance, the permittee can request a security deposit refund from the applicable landowner(s). Unless the project is on-going under a new permit, the permittee is no longer responsible for obligations arising under the permit or the MVLUR after the Board has issued the final clearance.<sup>43</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> See subsection 29(6) of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

### 6.0 Other Types of Requests and Applications

After a permit is issued, the permittee can:

- Request to amend any of the permit definitions and conditions (section 6.1);
- Request to extend the term of the permit before the permit expires (section 6.2);
- Apply to renew the permit (<u>section 6.3</u>);
- Apply to assign the permit to another party (section 6.4);
- Request to discontinue the permit (section 6.5); or
- Apply to store items required for future land use activities after the permitted land use has been completed (section 6.6).

Prior to submitting any of these applications or requests to the Board, the permittee should ensure that they conduct engagement as described in their approved Engagement Plan. In most cases, an Engagement Record should be submitted with the application or request. Please refer to the LWB <u>Engagement and</u> <u>Consultation Policy</u> and <u>Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land</u> <u>Use Permits</u> for engagement requirements for these applications and requests.

Further information about these types of applications and requests is set out in the following sections.

### 6.1 Amendments

An amendment is a change to a **condition** of an existing land use permit, **not** a change to its **scope**. If the amendment includes proposed new activities, they must be within the scope of the existing land use permit. If a desired change to a project is not within the scope of the land use permit, the permittee must apply for a new permit. For example, if the proposed new activities require a different type of right (e.g., a quarry permit from the GNWT) that was not previously required for the project, a new permit will usually be required. In this case, the permittee can apply for a new permit to address only the new activities (see <u>section 3</u>), or request a discontinuance of the existing permit (see <u>section 6.5</u>) and apply for a new permit that covers all of the existing and new activities. LWB staff can assist in determining which approach is most appropriate for the project (see <u>Appendix A</u> for contact information).

There is no application form for permit amendments. To request an amendment, the permittee must submit a written request to the Board, including the following information:

- The definition(s) and/or condition(s) that the permittee wishes to amend;
- The nature of the proposed amendment (i.e., the proposed changes to the conditions, if known);
- The reasons for the proposed amendment (e.g., a description of the proposed project changes);
- Proof of eligibility for any proposed new land use areas (e.g., new mineral claims or quarry permits) (see section 3.2, Item 6);
- A description of potential environmental impacts and proposed mitigations associated with the proposed amendment (see section 3.2, Item 17 and Appendix D);
- An Engagement Record for the amendment;

• An updated closure cost estimate, if applicable (see section 3.2, Item 18); and

• Updated versions of any plans that may be affected by the amendment (see <u>section 5.2</u>).

Where an approved Land Use Plan applies, the request must include a statement or table explaining how the proposed amendments meet the land use CRs of the applicable Land Use Plan(s). Where the *Tłicho Wenek'e* (*Land Use Plan*) applies, include written confirmation of conformity from the Tł<sub>i</sub>*cho* Government. (See section 3.2, Item 19).

An amendment request may require a preliminary screening, unless it is exempt from Part 5 of the <u>MVRMA</u> (see <u>section 4.2</u> for more information about preliminary screening). Permittees must submit sufficient information with the request for reviewers to understand the impacts of the requested amendment and the proposed mitigation measures.

There is no application fee for an amendment request; however, the request must include applicable land use fees for any additional federal lands used (see <u>section 3.2, Item 20</u>). If the Board approves the amendment request, note that additional security may be required to reflect the changes.

The Board's process and timelines for amendments includes a public review and is the same as the process for new permit applications (see <u>section 4</u>).

# 6.2 Extensions

A permittee may request one extension to a land use permit for up to two years.<sup>44</sup> If the request is for less than two years, the permittee cannot subsequently request a second extension for the remainder of the two years.

The request for an extension should be received at least 90 days prior to the expiry of the permit to allow time for the extension request to be processed. The Board can only consider an extension request if it is received prior to the permit expiry date.

To request an extension, the permittee must submit a written request to the Board, including the following information:

- The reason for the extension request;
- The length of time the permittee is requesting for the extension;
- An Engagement Record for the extension; and
- Any other information which would support the extension request, including the status of the project.

An extension must be a continuation of the permitted activities, so it will be exempt from preliminary screening. If new activities are proposed, the permittee must request an amendment (see section 6.1) or apply for a new permit (see section 3).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> See subsection 26(6) of the MVLUR.

The Board's process for extensions includes a public review and is the same as for new permits (see <u>section</u> <u>4</u>); however, the timelines may be shorter in some cases. The existing permit conditions will be maintained.

### 6.3 Renewals

A renewal is a new application for a project that has been permitted previously and has not been modified. The difference between a renewal and an extension is that a renewal involves the issuance of a new land use permit (for a term of up to five years), whereas an extension is the addition of time (to a maximum of two years) to the term of an existing permit.

Expired permits can be renewed; however, if a permittee intends to operate continuously, they must apply for a renewal at least 60 days, but no more than four months,<sup>45</sup> prior to the expiry of the existing permit to allow enough time to complete the review process.

The renewal application requirements are the same as for new applications, and the Application Form is the same<sup>46</sup> (see <u>section 3</u>). In the Application Form, the applicant may reference information that has already been submitted under the existing permit by providing the title, date, relevant section, page numbers, and where possible, hyperlink to the Board's public registry, of the document(s) being referenced. The applicant should attach updated versions of any documents that have been changed (see <u>section 5.2</u> for more information on plans and other submissions).

The permittee should ensure that the renewal application clearly covers all of the activities that are authorized under the existing permit. In most cases, to avoid having two active permits for the same activities, the renewal permit will replace the existing permit, which will be discontinued (see <u>section 6.5</u>). In the renewal application, permittees should clearly state the intent to discontinue the existing permit. This allows the Board to consider the renewal application and the discontinuance request at the time same, which facilitates the transfer of any associated security deposit.

Like extensions, renewals are exempt from preliminary screening, because they have already met the requirements of Part 5 of the <u>MVRMA</u>. On the Application Form, applicants should clearly state that they are applying for a preliminary screening exemption and confirm that the project has either not been modified<sup>47</sup> or falls under section 157.1 of the <u>MVRMA</u>. The Board will make a determination on the screening exemption prior to issuing the new permit. (See <u>section 4.2</u> for more information about preliminary screening.)

The Board's process and timelines for renewal applications include a public review and are the same as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> This timeline does not apply when the permit renewal application accompanies a licence renewal application, in which case the licence and permit renewal applications should be submitted together. See the LWB <u>*Guide to the Water Licensing Process*</u> for more information on licence renewal timelines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> The Application Form can be found on each Board's website on the Apply for Permit/Licence page: <u>GLWB</u>, <u>MVLWB</u>, <u>SLWB</u>, and <u>WLWB</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> See the <u>Exemption List Regulations</u> for more details.

for new permit applications. The conditions in the new permit will be based on the existing permit conditions; however, the conditions may be updated to reflect the most recent version of the LWB <u>Standard Land Use Permit Conditions Template</u>. The Board will also review and possibly revise the security requirements.

# 6.4 Assignments and Name Changes

# <u>Assignments</u>

A permittee (assignor) may apply to transfer the rights associated with their existing permit, even if the permit has expired, to a new party (assignee). Prior to applying, it is very important that the assignee understands that in accepting the assignment of a land use permit, they accept responsibility for:

- Meeting all the conditions of the permit, including payment of security, which must be posted with the Minister before the assignee can commence activities; and
- All liabilities incurred as a result of the assignor's actions to date under the permit.

Permittees should also ensure that the assignment is reflected in any other authorizations issued by other organizations.

The assignment application package must be submitted at least 45 days prior to the proposed assignment date and must include:

- A complete Assignment Application Form, signed by both the assignor and assignee;<sup>48</sup>
- If the assignee is a company, proof that the company is eligible to conduct business in the NWT (i.e., current Certificate of Registration from GNWT <u>Corporate Registries</u>);
- Proof that the assignee is eligible to hold the permit (see section 3.2, item 4);
- An Engagement Record for the assignment;
- A closure cost estimate (see section 3.2, item 18);

- The assignment fee of \$50;<sup>49</sup> and
- Any other information that would support the proposed assignment, including project status.

Multiple permits can be included in one assignment application package; however, note that there are separate Assignment Application Forms and fees for licences and permits, and the assignment fee is required for <u>each</u> authorization that will be assigned. Permittees with multiple authorizations are encouraged to clearly state which of their active authorizations they are applying to assign, and if applicable, to provide rationale for why others should not be assigned.

The assignee will be required to post security with the Minister prior to the commencement of activities. When issuing the assignment, the Board will review, and possibly revise, the security requirements under the existing permit. To assist this review, the assignee must submit a current closure cost estimate with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> The Assignment Application Form can be found on each Board's website on the Apply for Permit/Licence page: <u>GLWB</u>, <u>MVLWB</u>, <u>SLWB</u>, and <u>WLWB</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> As per section 20 of the MVLUR, the GNWT and the federal government do not pay assignment fees for permits.

the application.

The assignment application will be exempt from preliminary screening. If assignee intends to propose changes to the project or the permit, the assignment must be approved first, and then the assignee can apply for an amendment, which may need to be screened (see <u>section 4.2</u> for more information about preliminary screening).

The Board's process for assignments includes a public review and is the same as for new applications (see <u>section 4</u>); however, timelines may be shorter in some cases. The Board may approve the assignment with all of the original permit conditions or with amended conditions (e.g., update the amount of security).<sup>50</sup> If the permit has expired, the permit conditions will not change; however, the new permittee will be responsible for all liabilities as noted above.

If the Board does not authorize the assignment, the original permittee remains responsible for all liabilities under the permit.

### Name Changes

A name change is when a corporate entity changes the name of its company, which is different than assigning a permit to another company. If the permittee is performing a simple name change, the permittee must submit a letter of request and a certificate of name change from GNWT <u>Corporate</u> <u>Registries</u>.

There are no fees or applications forms for name changes, and engagement is not required. Name change requests are not circulated for public review before being considered by the Board.

Permittees must also ensure that the name change is reflected in security documents and any other authorizations issued by other organizations.

### 6.5 Discontinuances

A permittee who wishes to discontinue the project at any time prior to the expiry of the permit can request **an amendment to the expiry date** by submitting a written request to the Board. This type of request must be submitted at least ten days prior to the proposed expiry date.<sup>51</sup> If the project (or part of the project) is located on private lands, the permittee must also notify the landowner.<sup>52</sup> Similarly, the permittee is encouraged to notify the landowner for projects on territorial or federal lands. (See <u>Appendix B</u> for contact information.)

Discontinuance requests are not circulated for public review; however, the Board will contact the Inspector prior to considering the request. If the Board approves the request, the Board will issue an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> See section 38 of the MVLUR.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> See subsection 37(2) of the MVLUR.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> See subsection 37(1) of the <u>MVLUR</u>.

amended permit with the new expiry date.

A final plan (see <u>section 5.4</u>) will be required within 60 days of the completion of the project or the expiration of the permit (whichever occurs first). In many cases, the permittee should submit the final plan along with the discontinuance request; however, this will depend on proposed new expiry date and the timeline for completing the project. Permittees are encouraged to discuss their plans with an Inspector.

# 6.6 Storage Authorizations

A permittee may apply for Board authorization to store any items used in connection with the project for up to one year following expiration of a permit.<sup>53</sup> Otherwise, after the project is complete, the permittee must remove all structures, temporary buildings, machinery, equipment, materials, fuel drums and other storage containers, and any other items used in connection with the project.

The storage authorization application package must include:

- A complete Storage Authorization Application Form;<sup>54</sup>
- Written agreement from the landowner to allow the proposed storage;
- An Engagement Record for the proposed storage; and
- Any other information that would support the proposed storage, including project status.

There are no fees associated with storage authorization applications.

Although the Board can approve storage authorizations for expired permits, the permittee should submit the application at least 45 days prior to the expiry of the permit to avoid any potential charges that may be incurred if the storage authorization is not in place prior to the expiry of the permit. Storage authorizations do not typically undergo public review prior to being considered by the Board.

A permittee may apply for a storage authorization up to two times, each for a maximum of one year. Storage authorizations will be contiguous, so for a second storage authorization, the effective date will be the day after the expiry date of the first one, regardless of when the second authorization is applied for or issued.

Unless a new storage authorization is approved or a new permit is issued, the permittee must remove all structures, temporary buildings, machinery, equipment, materials, fuel drums and other storage containers, and any other items being stored prior to the expiry date of the storage authorization.

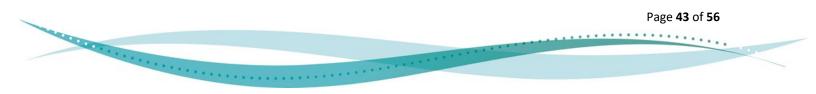
A permittee may request final clearance for the permit while a storage authorization is in place; however, note that a permit may be required to complete closure and reclamation activities if permitting criteria

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> See section 16 of the MVLUR.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> The Storage Authorization Application Form can be found on each Board's website on the Apply for Permit/Licence page: <u>GLWB</u>, <u>MVLWB</u>, <u>SLWB</u>, and <u>WLWB</u>.

will be exceeded (see <u>section 2</u>), and the permittee remains responsible for all obligations and liabilities under the permit and the MVLUR until the Board has granted final clearance (see <u>section 5.4</u>).

Storage authorizations cannot be assigned.



Appendix A - Land and Water Board Contact Information

For more information, please contact:



SAHTU



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Gwich'in Land and Water Board www.glwb.com 867-777-4954

Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board <u>www.mvlwb.com</u> 867-669-0506

> Sahtu Land and Water Board www.slwb.com 867-598-2413

Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board www.wlwb.ca 867-765-4592



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#### **Appendix B - Contact Information for Landowners**

### <u>Tłįcho Lands</u>

**Tłįchǫ Lands Protection Department** Tłįchǫ Government Box 412 Behchokǫ, NT X0E 1X0 Phone: (867) 392-6381 Fax: (867) 392-6406

#### <u>Sahtu</u>

Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated PO Box 105 Délįnę, NT X0E 0G0 Phone: 867-589-4719 Fax: 867-589-4908 https://www.sahtu.ca/ <u>Gwich'in Private/Settlement Lands</u> **Gwich'in Tribal Council** Land Administration & Resource Management P.O. Box 1509 Inuvik, NT X0E 1X0 Phone: (867) 777-7900 Fax: (867) 777-7919 <u>https://gwichintribal.ca/</u>

Déline Got'ine Government PO Box 156 Déline, NT XOE 0G0 Phone: (867) 589-4224 Fax: (867) 589-4230 https://www.deline.ca/en/government/

#### **GNWT-Administered/Controlled Areas**

GNWT – Department of Environment and Climate Change Box 1320 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9 Phone: (855) 698-5263 Fax: (867) 669-0905 https://www.ecc.gov.nt.ca/en

#### Federal Areas

Resource & Land Management Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada P.O. Box 1500 4th Floor, Gallery Building Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3 Phone: (867) 669-2522 Fax: (867) 669-2700

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### **Appendix C - Other Potential Authorizations**

The following guidance documents or websites list other potential authorizations for various land use activities:

Activity	Guidance Documents
Water Use and Deposit of Waste	LWB Guide to the Water Licensing Process
Hazardous Waste	Hazardous Waste Generator and Carrier Information and Registration Forms
Access: Roads and Trails	<u>Northern Land Use Guidelines - Access: Roads and Trails</u> (see section 2.2 Permitting)
Access: Public Highways	Highway Access Permit Information and Application Form
Camp and Support Facilities	<u>Northern Land Use Guidelines - Camp and Support Facilities</u> (see section 2.1 Permitting)
Pits and Quarries	<u>Northern Land Use Guidelines - Pits and Quarries</u> (see section 2.2 Permitting Requirements)
Seismic Exploration	<u>Northern Land Use Guidelines - Northwest Territories Seismic Operations</u> (see section 2.1 Permitting)
Mineral Exploration	Acquiring Mineral Rights in the Northwest Territories GNWT Mining Recorder's Office
Oil and Gas	Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations – Operating Requirements Page National Energy Board - Applications and Filings Home Page
All Projects	GNWT-ECC - Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plans
All Projects Near Water	Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Review Information for Projects Near Water

Please note that the links above may not describe all of the authorizations that are required. Applicants are encouraged to contact the following responsible authorities for more information:

Northern Projects Management Office: <u>NPMO's Services</u>

Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Central and Arctic Region Offices

Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations: Contact Information

National Energy Board: Contact Information

Transport Canada: <u>Contact Information</u>

Parks Canada: Contact Information

Environment and Climate Change Canada: Contact Information

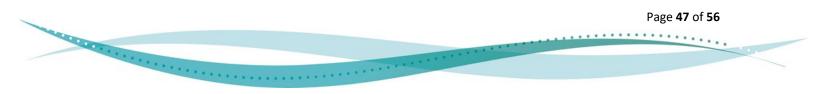
Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Climate Change: Contact Information

Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Climate Change: Permits and Licences

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Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Infrastructure: <u>Contacts for Regional Offices</u> <u>for Highway Access Permit</u>



### Appendix D - Impact- Mitigation Table

Using the Impact-Mitigation Table below, identify all proposed activities, potential impacts, and possible mitigations that are relevant to the proposed project. Applicants for type A water licences must fill out the detailed Table below; other applicants may choose to use either the simplified Table in the Application Form, or the detailed Table below, unless the Board provides specific direction on which Table the applicant must use. Note the Table is not exhaustive and not all impacts in the Table will apply to all projects. All information provided should reflect the size, scale, and nature of the proposed project. Cumulative impacts and climate change must be considered.

For the identified potential impacts, describe proposed mitigations, including environmental management systems, treatment systems, and monitoring programs, and explain how the potential effects of climate change were considered. Indicate whether any of the mitigation measures have been developed as a result of input from affected parties and identify any best practices or guidance documents that will be used. In many cases, appropriate mitigations have been developed and approved by the LWBs in the form of standard conditions (see <u>Standard Land Use Permit</u> and <u>Water Licence</u> Conditions Templates). Applicants are encouraged to consult these standard conditions and utilize them in proposed mitigations where appropriate.

ABIOTIC COMPONENTS				
Land				
Extent of land area to be disturbed (m <sup>2</sup> or ha) Are sensitive land features present? If so, indicate the type(s): karsts, eskers, ice patches, mineral licks, hot and warm springs, glacial refugia,				
other Extent of sensitive land areas to be disturbed (m <sup>2</sup> or ha)				
Potential Impacts	<b>Activity</b> Use an "x" to indicate which apply	X	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.	
<ul><li>Soil contamination</li><li>Soil compaction</li></ul>	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat Stripping of overburden Bulk soil sampling			

Further information on potential impacts is also available in the Review Board's <u>Environmental Impact</u> <u>Assessment Guidelines</u> and <u>Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Guidelines</u>.

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<ul> <li>Destabilization/erosion</li> <li>Change in soil structure</li> <li>Inability to support vegetation</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	Trenching, diamond drilling, geotechnical borehole drilling Cut and fill Oil and gas exploration well drilling Directional drilling (underground) On-site storage or disposal of wastes (domestic garbage, sewage, waste petroleum products, drilling waste and hydraulic flowback fluids, hazardous wastes, etc.) Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals Transfer, storage, and use of explosives Use of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides Use of motorized and heavy		
	equipment		
	Other		
	Water	<u> </u>	
	Groundwater		
Is groundwater present? If so, indicate the type(s): shallow, deep, fresh, saline			
Potential Impacts	Activity Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.
	Withdrawal of groundwater		
<ul><li>Water table alteration</li><li>Infiltration changes</li></ul>	Trenching, diamond drilling, geotechnical borehole drilling		
<ul> <li>Changes in water quality</li> <li>Temperature changes</li> </ul>	Installation of groundwater monitoring wells Directional drilling (underground)		
• Other	Oil and gas exploration well drilling		
	Clearing of timber, brush, or		
	vegetation mat		
	Stripping of overburden		
	Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals		
	Other		
	Permafrost		
Is permafrost present? If so, indicate the type(s): continuous or discontinuous			

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	A		Detential Draiget Impacts and
Potential Impacts	<b>Activity</b> Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.
<ul> <li>Loss or change in extent</li> </ul>	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat		
Changes in seasonal	Stripping of overburden		
fluctuations Change in persistence	Construction of structures (buildings, water or waste management facilities, etc.)		
	Construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance, and operation of lines, trails, or rights-of- way Trenching, diamond drilling, geotechnical borehole drilling Other		
	Surface Water		
indicate the type(s): lake, river, stream, wetland (bog, marsh,			
swamp, fen), seasonal, year-roun Potential Impacts	a Activity Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the
	Activity Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	<b>Proposed Mitigations</b> Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each
<ul> <li>Potential Impacts</li> <li>Water flow or level changes (permanent, temporary, seasonal)</li> <li>Drainage pattern changes</li> </ul>	Activity         Use an "x" to indicate         which apply         Withdrawal of water from a         watercourse         Retaining, storing, or diverting         water         Construction and use of a         watercourse crossing (bridge,	×	<b>Proposed Mitigations</b> Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce
<ul> <li>Water flow or level changes (permanent, temporary, seasonal)</li> </ul>	Activity         Use an "x" to indicate         which apply         Withdrawal of water from a         watercourse         Retaining, storing, or diverting         water         Construction and use of a		<b>Proposed Mitigations</b> Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce

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	1		
	Stripping of overburden		
	adjacent to a watercourse		
	Excavation or stockpiling of		
	earth or gravel adjacent to a		
	watercourse		
	Use of motorized or heavy		
	equipment adjacent to, within,		
	or through a watercourse		
	Transfer, storage, and use of		
	petroleum products and/or		
	chemicals near a watercourse		
	Use of fertilizers, pesticides, or		
	herbicides		
	Other		
	Air		
If applicable, indicate the type(s)			
of air pollutants: aerosols,			
particulate matter, noxious gases,			
volatile organic carbons,			
hazardous air pollutants, dust,			
other			
Indicate the estimated maximum			
dispersal distance		T	
Potential Impacts	Activity		Potential Project Impacts and
	Use an "x" to indicate	Х	Proposed Mitigations
	which apply		Using the list at left, describe the
			potential impact(s) of each
			identified Project activity and the
			proposed measure(s) to reduce
			each of these impacts.
	Burning of fossil fuels		
Changes in air quality	Mobilization and operation of		
<ul> <li>Harm to living things</li> </ul>	equipment for construction and		
<ul> <li>Increased greenhouse gases</li> </ul>	operational activities		
• Other	Release of underground gases		
	Increased road traffic		
	Other		
	BIOTIC COMPONEN	rs 🔄	
	Vegetation		
If vegetation will be removed or			
compacted, indicate type(s): trees,			
shrubs, thickets, muskeg, Species			
at Risk plants, may-be-at-risk plant			
species, other			
Extent of vegetation to be removed or compacted (m <sup>3</sup> or ha)			

Potential Impacts	<b>Activity</b> Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.
<ul> <li>Direct loss of vegetation</li> <li>Loss of Species at Risk or maybe-at-risk plants</li> <li>Change in species composition</li> <li>Introduction of non-native (invasive) species</li> <li>Effects on plant health (dust, metals, toxins)</li> <li>Increased risk of fire</li> <li>Compaction of vegetation</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat Stripping of overburden Construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance, and operation of lines, trail, or rights-of-way Construction of structures (buildings, water or waste management facilities, etc.) Reclamation activities (levelling, contouring, placement of fines or woody debris, re- vegetation, fertilization) Use of motorized and heavy equipment Burning of fossil fuels Increased road traffic Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals Excavation or stockpiling of earth and/or gravel Other		
	Terrestrial Wildlife Habi	tat	
If sensitive wildlife habitat is present, indicate type(s): Species at Risk (SAR), Canadian Important Bird Areas, migratory birds, keystone species, wildlife corridor Extent of sensitive wildlife habitat to be removed or disturbed (m <sup>3</sup> or ha) If wildlife habitat will be removed or disturbed, indicate type(s): ungulates, furbearers, carnivores, small mammals, birds, insects, sensitive wildlife habitat (as noted above) Extent of wildlife habitat to be removed or disturbed (m <sup>3</sup> or ha)			

Potential Impacts	<b>Activity</b> Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.
<ul> <li>Direct loss or removal of habitat, dens, or nests</li> </ul>	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat Stripping of overburden		
<ul> <li>Loss or removal of keystone species and/or SAR habitat</li> <li>Fragmentation of wildlife</li> </ul>	Construction of structures (buildings, water or waste management facilities, etc.)		
<ul> <li>Fragmentation of wildlife corridor</li> <li>Direct injury or mortality</li> <li>Disturbances to key lifecycle stages: breeding, feeding, nesting, staging</li> </ul>	Construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance and operation of lines, trails, or rights-of-way Increased traffic risk to wildlife		
<ul> <li>Effects on population abundance</li> </ul>	Increased human presence		
<ul> <li>Change in species diversity</li> <li>Effects on wildlife health (toxins, metals, etc.)</li> <li>Changes to migratory</li> </ul>	Noise (use of heavy equipment, blasting, crushing, drilling) Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals		
<ul> <li>movement patterns</li> <li>Changes to predator-prey relationships</li> <li>Human-wildlife conflicts</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	On-site storage or disposal of wastes (domestic garbage, sewage, waste petroleum products, drilling waste and hydraulic flowback fluids,		
	hazardous wastes, etc.) On-site disposal of domestic wastes (burning, burying)		
	Other Aquatic Habitat		
Indicate types of aquatic species: Species at Risk, fish, mammals (furbearers), amphibians, aquatic macroinvertebrates, insects, aquatic macrophytes			
Extent of aquatic habitat removed or disturbed for breeding, feeding, nesting, staging (m <sup>3</sup> or ha)			

Potential Impacts	<b>Activity</b> Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.
<ul> <li>Breeding disturbances</li> <li>Change in species diversity</li> <li>Effects on health (toxins, metals, sediment, etc.)</li> <li>Changes to migratory movement patterns</li> <li>Changes to predator-prey relationships</li> <li>Effects on population abundance</li> <li>Change in species diversity</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat near a watercourse Stripping of overburden adjacent to a watercourse Blasting near a watercourse Construction and use of a watercourse crossing (bridge, ford) Watercourse alteration (ditch construction, channeling, training, installation of culvert) Use of motorized or heavy equipment adjacent to, within, or through a watercourse Withdrawal of water from a watercourse Retaining, storing, or diverting water Construction of dams and impoundments Direct or indirect disposal of waste into water		
	Other		
	CULTURAL COMPONEI		
Are harvesting areas present? If so, indicate type(s): Community Harvesting Areas, Special Harvesting Areas, Group Trapping Areas, etc. Extent of overlap of Project area with harvesting areas identified above (fish lakes, trapping or hunting areas) (m <sup>3</sup> or ha)	Wildlife Harvesting		
Potential Impacts	Activity Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.

<ul> <li>Loss or reduction in game species populations</li> <li>Effects on traditional land use, subsistence, and harvesting rights</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat Stripping of overburden Noise (use of heavy equipment, blasting, crushing, drilling) Oil and gas exploration well drilling Construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance and operation of lines, trails, or rights-of-way Increased traffic risk to wildlife Withdrawal of water from a watercourse Direct or indirect disposal of waste into water Other		
Cult	ural Integrity and Heritage	Resc	ources
If present, indicate types: places of significant cultural or spiritual value, heritage sites, important subsistence and harvesting areas (group trapping areas, camps and, log and timber harvesting areas, berry picking and medicine plant gathering areas), traditional trails, burial sites, sacred sites, archaeological or historic sites, artifacts and other objects of historical, cultural, or religious significance, historical or cultural records			
Potential Impacts	<b>Activity</b> Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.
<ul> <li>Change to or loss of cultural integrity</li> <li>Change to or loss of traditional lifestyle</li> <li>Change to or loss of heritage resources</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	Clearing of timber, brush, or vegetation mat Noise (use of heavy equipment, blasting, crushing, drilling) Construction of structures (buildings, water or waste management facilities, etc.) Construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance and operation of lines, trails, or rights-of-way Increased human presence		

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	Withdrawal of water from a watercourse Retaining, storing, or diverting water Construction of dams and impoundments Direct or indirect deposit of waste into water Other		
	Social and Economic Well-	bein	g
Potential Impacts	<b>Activity</b> Use an "x" to indicate which apply	x	Potential Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigations Using the list at left, describe the potential impact(s) of each identified Project activity and the proposed measure(s) to reduce each of these impacts.
<ul> <li>Increased human health hazard and risk</li> <li>Economic opportunities or losses (employment, training)</li> <li>Change in ecological, cultural, social, or economic values identified for protection in approved Land Use Plans</li> <li>Impairment of the recreational or traditional uses of the land or water</li> <li>Impairment of the aesthetic quality of the land or water</li> </ul>	blasting, crushing, drilling) Transfer, storage, and use of petroleum products and/or chemicals On-site storage or disposal of wastes (domestic garbage, sewage, waste petroleum products, drilling waste and hydraulic flowback fluids, hazardous wastes, etc.) Construction (development or alteration: widening, straightening, detours), maintenance and operation of lines, trails, or rights-of-way		
<ul> <li>Changes to the use of the area by other non-Indigenous people (e.g., trappers, outfitters, residents, hunters, forest harvesters, other authorized projects)</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	Construction of structures (buildings, water or waste management facilities, etc.) Increased human access and presence Operating in a remote location inaccessible or not easily accessible by emergency aid Withdrawal of water from a watercourse Retaining, storing, or diverting water Construction of dams and impoundments Direct or indirect deposit of waste into water Other		