



Northwest Territoriesmi

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MEETING EDE 20-20-24

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024
EAGLE ROOM, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY / ZOOM
1:30 PM

AGENDA

1. Prayer
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
4. Public Matters: Briefing on Regulatory Regime with Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
5. In Camera Matters:
 - a) Debrief
 - b) Confidential Correspondence 2024-07-03 Hon. Minister of Infrastructure and Hon. Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment
 - c) Travel Planning
 - d) Work Plan
6. New Business
 - a)
7. Date and Time of Next Meetings:
 - a) Thursday, July 11, 2024 1:30 p.m. – Public Briefing on Regulatory Framework, CIRNAC
8. Adjournment

Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley

Presentation to SCEDE, July 10, 2024



Land and Water Boards in the Mackenzie Valley



LWBs' role in the regulatory process

- The Land and Water Boards (LWBs) regulate the use of land and water through the issuance of **Land Use Permits** and **Water Licences** in the Mackenzie Valley.



Permits and licences contain rules for land and water use

- Water Licences and Land Use Permits contain the rules that proponents (e.g., individuals, companies, government agencies) must follow to minimize the impacts of their project to the environment.

15.	At least ten days prior to the completion of the land-use operation, the Permittee shall advise an Inspector of: a) the plan for removal or storage of equipment and materials; b) when final cleanup and reclamation of the land used will be completed; and c) when the Final Plan will be submitted.	REPORTS FINAL REMEDIAL
26(1)(c) Type and Size of Equipment		
16.	The Permittee shall only use equipment of a similar type, size, and number to that listed in the complete application.	USE APPROVED EQUIPMENT
26(1)(d) Methods and Techniques		
17.	The Permittee shall Dogleg lines, trails and right-of-ways that approach Watercourses or public roads.	DOGLEG APPROACHES
18.	The Permittee shall meander any new cut lines to a maximum sight line of 200 metres.	MEANDER LINES
19.	Prior to the movement of any vehicle that exerts pressure on the ground in excess of 35 kPa, the Permittee shall scout proposed lines and routes to select the best location for crossing streams and avoiding terrain obstacles.	DETOURS AND CROSSINGS
20.	Immediately upon completion of operations at each Borehole, the Permittee shall remove or cut off and seal each drill casing at ground level.	MINERAL EXPLORATION DRILL CASINGS
21.	The Permittee shall construct and maintain the overland portion of winter roads with a minimum of 10 cm of packed snow and/or ice at all times during this land-use operation.	WINTER ROADS

General LWB process for permits and licences



Pre-application engagement



Application



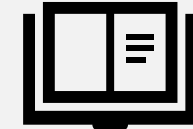
Completeness check



Public Review



Responses to comments



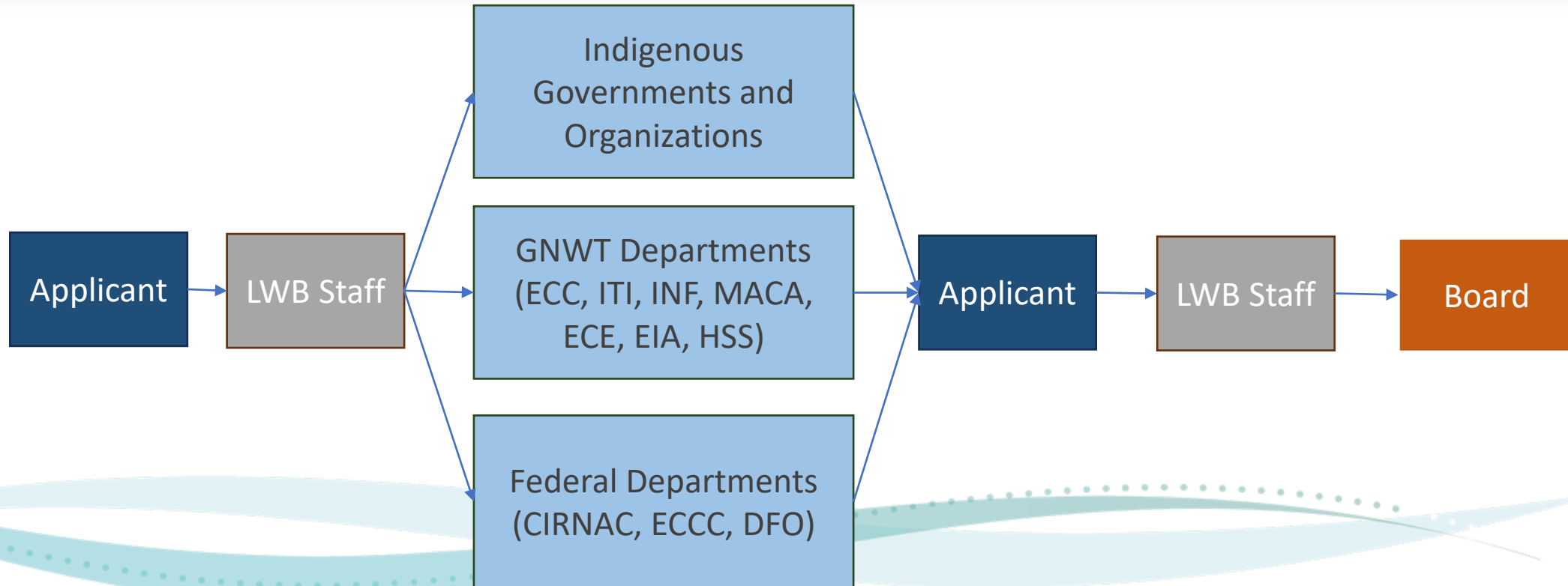
Staff Report



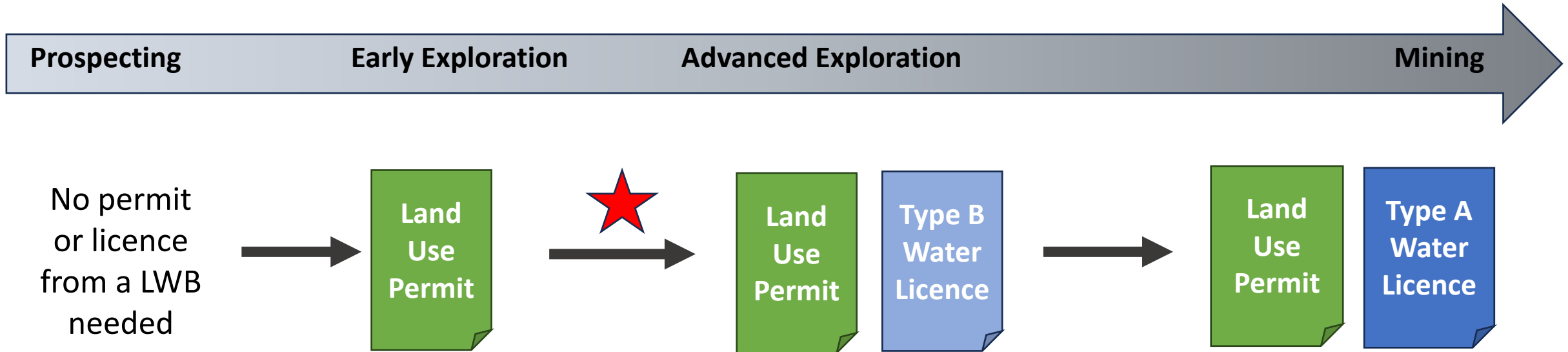
Decision

Applicant

Potentially affected parties



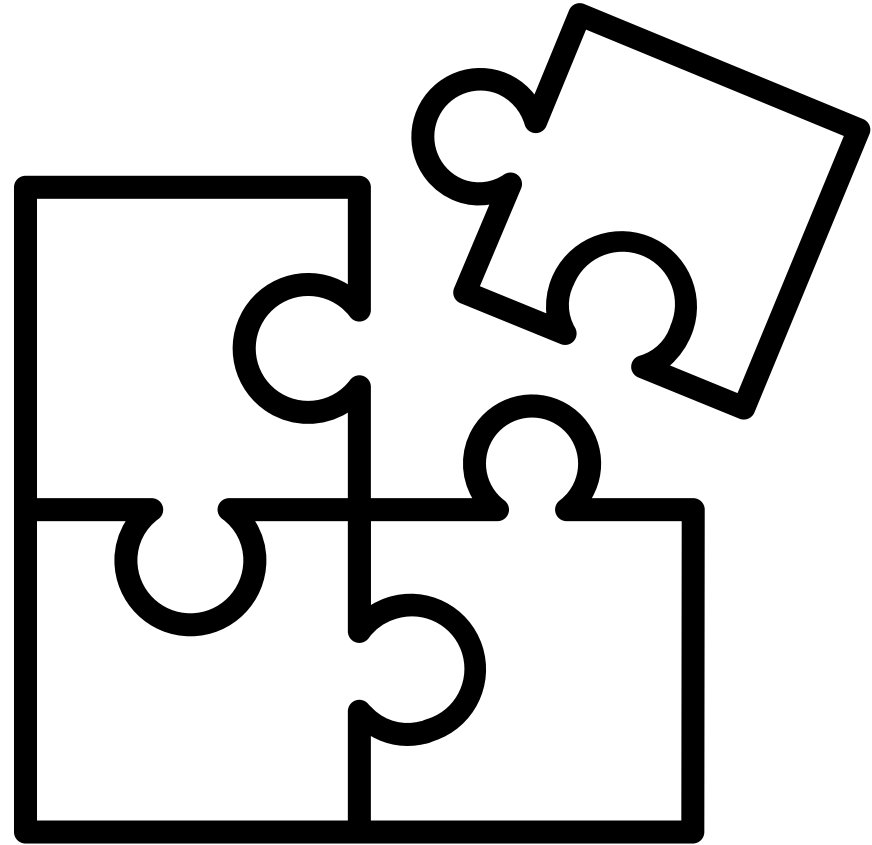
Example: Mineral exploration to mining



As a project progresses, the requirements for authorizations also increases due to increased:

- Water use
- Equipment use
- Camp size
- Infrastructure
- Deposits of waste to water

Efficiency of the Regulatory Framework in the NWT



**Definition of Efficient:
maximum productivity with minimum
wasted effort and expense**

Challenges that set us up for failure

- **Education** – parties are not fully informed on the various processes
- **Capacity** – not everyone can participate in a system that relies on participation
- **Duplication** – of processes and authorizations between GNWT and LWBs
- **Legislation** – excessive time and money wasted trying to interpret unclear language

2020 Environmental Audit Findings

- Discussions with industry reveal a major disconnect between their perceptions of the regulatory process as complicated and uncertain
- The LWBs continue to create guidance to improve clarity and certainty in the process and solicit feedback from all parties, including industry, when developing these.
- Despite the efforts of LWBs, small exploration companies continue both to struggle with the application process and to meet its requirements. If allowed to persist, this disconnect between industry and regulators will continue to affect the level of exploration activity in the territory which, in turn, will affect the NWT's socio-economic environment.

Setting us up for success

- **Education** – pathfinders with holistic understanding of regulatory processes
- **Capacity** – securing and advocating for increased resources
- **Duplication** – support co-management system
- **Legislation** – amendments that will resolve current disagreements on interpretation

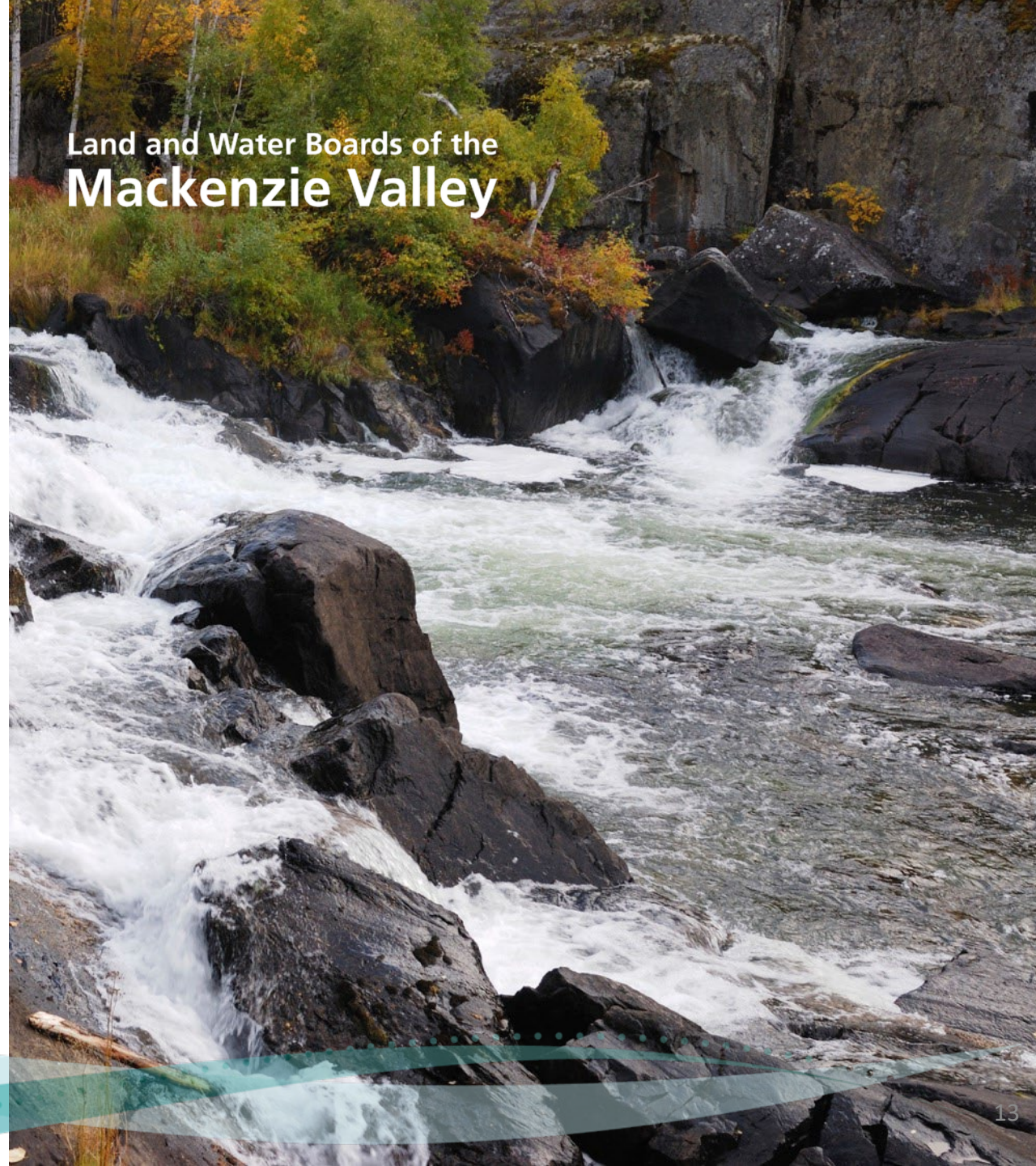
Coming together

The MVRMA sets out an integrated system of land and water management that is meant to fulfill several principles including the protection of the environment from significant adverse impacts, an inclusive system that provides an opportunity for everyone to be involved, consideration of both western science and Traditional Knowledge, the well-being of Indigenous Peoples, and reconciliation.

Thank you

We look forward to questions now
and further discussions going
forward.

Land and Water Boards of the
Mackenzie Valley



Example: does water used for building ice bridges count when determining if a licence is needed?

SCHEDULE H

(Sections 4 and 5)

LICENSING CRITERIA FOR AGRICULTURAL, CONSERVATION, RECREATIONAL AND MISCELLANEOUS UNDERTAKINGS

<u>Item</u>	<u>Column I</u>	<u>Column II</u>	<u>Column III</u>	<u>Column IV</u>
	Water use/Deposit of Waste	Water Use and Deposit of Waste Permitted Without a Licence	Water Use and Deposit of Waste Requiring a Type "B" Licence	Water use and Deposit of Waste Requiring a Type "A" Licence
1.	Direct water use	Use of less than 100 m ³ per day or use for construction of an ice bridge if the water used is removed directly from the watercourse*	Use of 100 or more cubic metres per day and less than 1000 cubic metres per day*	Use of 300 or more cubic metres per day*
(1)	Watercourse crossings	Construction of a structure	Construction of a structure	None