



## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SCREENING COMMITTEE**

September 4, 2008

### **Environmental Impact Review Board**

Box 2120  
Inuvik NT X0E 0T0

### **ATTENTION: ELIZABETH SNIDER, CHAIR**

Dear Ms. Snider:

### **RE: MGM ENERGY CORP. UMIAK DRILLING, COMPLETION AND TESTING PROJECT: 2008 - 2011 EISC SUBMISSION NUMBER: [03/08-03]**

The Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) at its August 27-29, 2008 regular meeting screened the above mentioned project description. Based on the information available the EISC determined that the proposed development could have a significant negative environmental impact and is subject to an assessment and review under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement [11(17)c]. The component of the project description that the EISC referred for further assessment is the developer's planned use of multi-season insulated ice pads for equipment storage and extending the drilling season. The EISC is concerned that the use of multi-season insulated ice pads will result in a significant negative impact on the vegetation diversity and thermal stability of the site.

The issues and the reasons for the referral that were identified by the EISC during the screening of this project description are noted in the attached decision letter.

The EISC in reaching this decision to refer this project description utilized the following information in addition to the above noted project description:

- Umiak Drilling, Completion and Testing Project 2008-2011, EISC Information Requests/Responses, dated June 12, 2008 from MGM;
- Advice from Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC); Environment Canada; Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT; and Inuvik Hunters and Trappers;
- Letter of advice from INAC to the NWT Water Board;
- Correspondence (email) from Steve Kokelj (INAC) to the EISC;
- Reports entitled:
  - Tundra recovery of former ice pad, Puviaq One Exploratory Well Site, National Petroleum Reserve- Alaska (NPRA) 2004 Progress Report Prepared for ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. by ABR, Inc.—Environmental Research & Services January 2005
  - Tundra Recovery of Puviaq One Ice Pad, National Petroleum Reserve- Alaska (NPRA) Usage Permit # 4-2002-0988. Ikpikuk River 2 Project Prepared for

- ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. by ABR, Inc. Environmental Research & Services May 12, 2004
- Tundra recovery of former ice pad, Puviaq One Exploratory Well Site, National Petroleum Reserve- Alaska (NPRA) 2006 Progress Report Prepared for ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. (CPAI) by ABR, Inc.—Environmental Research & Services (ABR) June 2007

If there are any questions regarding this referral, please do not hesitate to contact the EISC office.

Sincerely,



Barb Chalmers  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

Attachments: EISC decision letter and form of August 27-29, 2008