



July 5, 2019

Mr. Michael Ball
Committee Clerk, Legislative Assembly
Government of the Northwest Territories
PO Box 1320
Yellowknife NT X1A 2L9

Email: Michael_Ball@gov.nt.ca

Dear Mr. Ball,

RE: Review of Bill 46 Public Land Act

The Land and Water Boards (LWBs or Boards) of the Mackenzie Valley (Gwich'in, Mackenzie Valley, Sahtu, and Wek'èezhii Land and Water Boards) would like to thank the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment for the opportunity to provide comments on Bill 46: Public Land Act.

In 2017, the Boards supported the GNWT's recommended actions to clarify types of land tenure instruments and when they would be required. The Boards stated that these actions would help clarify eligibility requirements under section 18 of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations, particularly for land-use operations that require non-exclusive use and temporary occupancy. The Boards would like to re-iterate this comment and look forward to the development of the regulations that will support these actions.

Lastly, the Boards will continue to work with the Department of Lands in those areas of shared jurisdiction, including the setting of security and closure planning, to ensure regulatory processes are robust, complementary, and effective. In the Summary of the Act document, the Boards note that Lands acknowledges the Boards' jurisdiction in setting security for land use permits and water licences, and the Boards support Lands' initiative to include "sufficient flexibility exemptions" in future regulations that will clarify security requirements, which will subsequently ensure the Boards' discretion is preserved.

Should you have any questions about our comments, please contact Angela Plautz at (867) 766-7461 or aplautz@mvlwb.com.

Yours sincerely,



Mavis Cli-Michaud
Chair
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board



Joseph Mackenzie
Chair
Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board



Elizabeth Wright
Chair
Gwich'in Land and Water Board



Larry Wallace
Chair
Sahtu Land and Water Board