

# THE MACKENZIE VALLEY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT (MVRMA): THE REGULATOR'S PRELIMINARY SCREENING RESPONSIBILITIES

<b>Introduction</b>	<p>This document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Summarizes the Regulator's responsibilities for preliminary screening under the <i>Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)</i>.</li><li>• Describes how those responsibilities are carried out.</li><li>• Identifies the information available to the public with respect to the Regulator's MVRMA responsibilities.</li></ul>
<b>The Regulator is a Regulatory Authority</b>	<p>A body or person responsible for issuing an authorization required for a development under any territorial law is a <b>regulatory authority</b> under the MVRMA.</p> <p>The Regulator established by the <i>Oil and Gas Operations Act (OGOA)</i> is a regulatory authority under the MVRMA because they issue authorizations required for oil and gas developments.</p>
<b>Area of Application</b>	<p>The MVRMA applies everywhere the Regulator has jurisdiction.</p>
<b>Responsibilities of a Regulatory Authority</b>	<p>When the Regulator receives an application for an authorization required to carry out a development, it must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Notify the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) in writing of the application.</li><li>• Conduct a preliminary screening of the proposal for the development (with some exceptions).</li></ul>
<b>Authorizations that Require a Preliminary Screening</b>	<p>Regulations under the MVRMA require that preliminary screenings must be conducted for Operations Authorizations and Development Plans issued under OGOA.</p>
<b>Conducting a Preliminary Screening</b>	<p>A <b>preliminary screening</b> is an initial examination of a development proposal for significant adverse impact on the environment and public concern.</p> <p>The Regulator may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct their own preliminary screening.</li><li>• Adopt a preliminary screening conducted by another organization.</li></ul>

- Participate in a joint preliminary screening.
- Decide that the development is exempt from preliminary screening because of an emergency or based on rules set out in regulations.
- Decide not to conduct a preliminary screening if one of the Land and Water Boards established under the MVRMA has already conducted one.

**Notifying the MVEIRB**

If the Regulator conducts their own preliminary screening, they will report the results to the MVEIRB.

If the Regulator decides to adopt another preliminary screening, participate in a joint preliminary screening, approve an exemption from preliminary screening, or decide not to conduct a preliminary screening, they will notify the MVEIRB in writing.

**Public Information**

The following information is available on the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations' public registry:

- Notifications to the MVEIRB about the receipt of applications for operations authorizations.
- Information on proposed developments where the Regulator is carrying out a preliminary screening (so that the public can participate in the preliminary screening).
- Comments received from reviewers during a preliminary screening carried out by the Regulator.
- The Regulator's decision on the preliminary screening (including a decision to approve an exemption or adopt another preliminary screening) with supporting documents.
- Letters to other regulators conducting preliminary screenings of oil and gas developments.