



## VUNTUT GWITCHIN FIRST NATION

Chief and Council

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March 15, 2011

Chair, Peel Watershed Planning Commission  
201-307 Jarvis Street  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 2H3

RECEIVED MAR 25 2011

Dear Peel Watershed Planning Commission,

**Re: Response to Peel Watershed Draft Recommended Plan**

Thank you for your draft recommended plan for consideration and comment by the Parties. Your Commission has successfully wrestled with planning for a region which is both very complex and in highly charged public policy environment of conflicting needs and desires.

Our Government has expressed our overall views on your draft recommendations as we have jointly expressed both in our correspondence from all Parties in the recent correspondence to you from our Senior Liaison Committee, and from the First Nations Parties (February 11, 2011).

Further to confirming the above noted overall responses, the purpose of this correspondence is to provide you our Government's specific comments. These specific comments are limited to that part of the Peel planning's region that is in our Traditional Territory – the extreme north-eastern corner of LMU 1, far northern portion of LMU 2 (Dempster Corridor), northern portion of LMU 3, the western portion of LMU 4, portions of which are correctly identified for integrated management measures.

We agree with your recommendation that the Dempster Corridor be subject to a sub-regional plan. Further we believe that that sub-regional plan not be bounded by the many decades old 16km corridor which bears no relation to the resource, ecological and other interests proximate to that area. Rather the definition of that sub-region should be planned for and managed in a manner that does not detract from the ecological integrity of the Peel watershed as a whole.

Further, operationally we will see compatible management regimes on both sides of the North Yukon and Peel planning regions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norma Kassi', written in a cursive style.

Norma Kassi,  
Chief

cc: Northern Chiefs

Tr'ondek Hweck'in FN, FN of Nacho Nyak Dun, Gwich'in Tribal Council

YG Minister of Energy Mines & Resources

Minister of Environment

Chair, Yukon Land Use Planning Council