

# **Granular Resource Requirements for Proposed Mackenzie Valley Pipelines:**

**Technical Papers and Workshop Proceedings**

**Sponsored by:  
Northern Oil and Gas Action Program (NOGAP) Project A4:  
Granular Resources Inventory and Management**

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**SECTION 8.**

***DISCUSSION PANEL "B"***

**POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS TO  
BORROW DEVELOPMENT**

POTENTIAL CULTURAL IMPACTS:  
HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

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This paper outlines the regulatory aspects of Heritage and Archeological Resources Management in the Northwest Territories (NWT). The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre is the agency responsible for heritage resource management and protection in the NWT. This responsibility flows from the *NWT Act* and regulations pursuant to the *NWT Act* concerning heritage resources.

The agency operates through the *Historic Resources Act* which is NWT legislation pertaining to Commissioners Land and also through our participation in the review committees in the Northwest Territories, known as CLRK, RERC and FLAC. CLRK is the Commissioners Land Review Committee; RERC is the Regional Environmental Review Committee; and, FLAC is the Federal Lands Advisory Committee. All of these boards and committees review development proposals throughout the NWT and report to the regulatory agencies responsible for managing the resources.

In terms of inventory, the Heritage Centre employs a national database called CHIN, the Canadian Heritage Information Network, which is managed by the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Ottawa. All archaeological and historic sites in Canada are reported in this inventory. For the NWT, there are at present about 6,000 sites reported in inventory. It's really just the beginning in terms of research, since there is much more to do. In the Mackenzie Valley, we're probably looking at several hundred archeological and historical sites that have been officially reported.

*Note: The text of this presentation has been transcribed from an audio-tape recording of the workshop presentations. If necessary, we would suggest that the reader verify the accuracy of these comments with the presenter.*

Research in the Mackenzie Valley began, in terms of inventory work, in the 1970s with the initial Mackenzie Valley gas pipeline studies and it has continued in recent years through several projects sponsored by the Northern Oil and Gas Action Program (NOGAP).

The managers at the Northern Heritage Centre also have a research responsibility. The research is directed at filling in gaps in knowledge and inventory, primarily in areas where there has been no prior research done in the NWT.

In terms of access to this information, the CHIN inventory is a proprietary database. Access is restricted and this is primarily to undercut unscrupulous "pot hunters" who often go out looking for archaeological sites to steal the archives and then sell them on the black market. There is a huge market for these types of artifacts, especially in the United States. The Heritage Centre does, however, permit access to the database for other government departments and industry, based on the specific needs of the environmental review process.

Our goal is to protect heritage resources in the NWT. As a result, the Centre works very closely with developers and community interests and are always able to find a reasonable mitigative response to any development that happens in the Territories. There are guidelines for developers pertaining directly to heritage resources in the NWT (a copy of the guidelines are included in Appendix B to these workshop proceedings).