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## GNWT Begins Review of JRP's Final Report

**Yellowknife (December 30, 2009)** – The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) will now begin its review of the recommended measures contained in the Joint Review Panel (JRP) for the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP) final report.

The JRP released an electronic copy of its final report today.

Environment and Natural Resources Minister J. Michael Miltenberger says the review of the report will focus on the recommended measures directed to the GNWT. “We expect to complete our thorough review and prepare our response to the report in a timely manner,” he says.

The JRP was established in August 2004 to conduct the Environmental Impact Review of the MGP. Hearings on the proposed project were completed in 2007.

The GNWT provided evidence and recommendations to the JRP, which acknowledged the MGP represents employment, investment and business opportunities for NWT residents as well as an opportunity to contribute to Canada's economic well-being. The GNWT has made it clear that its support for the MGP is contingent on the project being environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.

“We recognize the project must satisfy the public interest tests raised in the context of the environmental assessment and regulatory processes and result in tangible benefits for Northerners and Canadians in general,” added Miltenberger. “As a Responsible Minister under the Mackenzie Valley Resources Management Act, we will follow the established decision-making process set out in legislation.”

The Government response is expected to be provided to the federal Minister of the Environment in June, 2010. A copy of the JRP Final Report can be found on-line at: [www.ngps.nt.ca](http://www.ngps.nt.ca)

### For more information, contact:

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