



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Government Commits to Reform Northern Regulatory Regime

Yellowknife, March 3, 2010.

In today's Speech from the Throne the Federal Government committed to support responsible development of Canada's energy and mineral resources.

"Our Government will untangle the daunting maze of regulations that needlessly complicates project approvals, replacing it with simpler, clearer processes that offer improved environmental protection and greater certainty to industry."

"We are a northern country. Canadians are deeply influenced by the vast expanse of our Arctic and its history and legends. Our Government established the Northern Strategy to realize the potential of Canada's North for northerners and all Canadians. -The Joint Review Panel on the Mackenzie Gas Project has completed its report.

"Our Government will **reform the northern regulatory regime to ensure that the region's resource potential can be developed** where commercially viable while ensuring a better process for protecting our environment."

"The Government will introduce new legislation to reform Canada's outdated system of fisheries management."

"Today's commitment to regulatory reform is a welcome signal to the minerals industry that the Federal Government recognizes the need to reform the northern regulatory regime and simplify the project approvals process", said John Kearney, President NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines.

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