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May 3, 2002

Stephanie Briscoe
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board
PO Box 2379
Cambridge Bay, NU X0E 0C0

Post-it™ Fax Note	7671E	Date	MAY 3/02	# of pages	2
To	Philippe DePizzo	From	Carl McLean		
Co./Dept.	Nunavut Water	Co.	D.T.A.N.D.		
Phone #	BOARD	Phone #	975-4280		
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Dear Ms. Briscoe,

Re: Screening of Nanisivik Abandonment and Restoration Plan

Thank you for your letter of April 26, 2002, in which you outline your plans to proceed with the screening of this proposal. We agree with NIRB's analysis that a review is not required for the assessment of the Nanisivik Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan and the screening should proceed. We offer the following comments on your proposed procedures.

In your first question you asked whether the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) is acceptable for hearing the matters that may be raised related to mine closure. From the perspective of INAC's regulatory requirements, we believe the proposed NWB hearing is an acceptable venue. As we identified in our letter of April 12, 2002, INAC has two approvals to grant for the work described in Nanisivik Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan, submitted in February 2002. First, the department must grant approval to the plan, as required by the conditions of the surface leases issued by INAC for Crown land. Second, since Nanisivik Mine requires a Type A water licence, the Minister of INAC must grant approval to the renewal of the licence.

For INAC's purposes, NIRB's suggested approach for participating in a public hearing convened by the Nunavut Water Board appears to be an acceptable mechanism for allowing presentation and discussion of our comments. In addition, this venue will allow NIRB members the opportunity to hear public concerns regarding the abandonment and restoration of the mine and the accompanying infrastructure. Further, we believe a combined hearing would also suffice to meet the purpose of the draft Terms of Reference

for the Nanisivik Working Group, agreed to in principle in January, specifically, to "address the review of the final abandonment and reclamation plan in addition to the review of the water licence renewal and any land leases on Crown or Commissioners land."

In response to your second question regarding separate screenings for new regulatory applications, we respectfully suggest that if the activities described in the new applications are within the scope of the current screening of the Nanisivik Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan there is no need to conduct separate screenings.

We hope these comments are of use in determining your final course of action with respect to this project. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

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Director, Operations
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cc. Philippe DePizzo ✓
Nunavut Water Board

Bernie McIsaac
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