



NIRB File No.: 13UN038
AANDC File No.: N2013U0018

December 20, 2013

The Honourable Bernard Valcourt
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
Government of Canada
10 Rue Wellington
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

Sent via email: minister@aandc.gc.ca; bernard.valcourt@parl.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Contaminated Sites Program’s “Contwoyto Lake Remediation”

Dear Mr. Bernard Valcourt:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) hereby requests more time to screen the project proposal referenced above (AANDC File No. N2013U0018).

On December 12, 2013 the NIRB received Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada - Contaminated Sites Program’s (AANDC – Contaminated Sites Program) “Contwoyto Lake Remediation” project proposal from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Lands Division (AANDC – Lands Division). The NIRB notes that a conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission was not required for this file, as the proposed project is located within a region that does not currently have an approved land use plan in place (Kitikmeot region). The NIRB assigned this project proposal file number 13UN038 and commenced screening pursuant to NLCA Article 12 Part 4.

At this time the NIRB has identified that the public commenting period for this file will overlap with the holiday season and as such, will be extended by the Board to ensure that potentially-affected communities and parties are provided with sufficient time to review the associated documentation. The NIRB will therefore require additional time to screen the project.

Given the need to solicit additional information from the Proponent and ensure an appropriate public commenting period, the NIRB is unable to provide a screening decision for AANDC – Contaminated Sites Program’s “Contwoyto Lake Remediation” project proposal within the 42 day time period as per Section 12.4.5 of the NLCA and therefore requires additional time to screen the project proposal. It is anticipated that the screening process will be completed by February 7, 2014.

If this request is approved, the NIRB understands that the authorizing agency will inform the Proponent, stakeholders and interested parties on the extension.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Natalie Plato, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Geoffrey Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association