

NIRB File No.: 05EN091 INAC File No.: N2011C0013 KIA File No.: KTL305C018

April 21, 2011

Honourable John Duncan Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada c/o Jeff Mercer Manager, Land Administration Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Iqaluit, NU XOA 0H0

Via email: jeff.mercer@inac-ainc.gc.ca

Re: <u>Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA:</u> <u>Indicator Minerals Inc.'s "Barrow Lake" project</u>

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On April 16, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for a new Land Use Permit (LUP) (N2011C0013) for Indicator Minerals Inc.'s "Barrow Lake" project proposal. The LUP that is currently being applied for would replace the previous LUP N2005C0024 which is in its fifth year and is set to expire on July 17, 2011.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 05EN091) was received by the NIRB from INAC on June 8, 2005, and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On July 15, 2005 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to both the Minister of INAC and the President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association indicating that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On June 6, 2009 the NIRB received an extension request from INAC for the above mentioned project (LUP N2005C0024). After a thorough assessment of the extension request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from further screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on June 9, 2009.

Further, on June 10, 2010 the NIRB received an additional extension request from INAC for the Barrow Lake project (LUP N2005C0024). Following its assessment of the extension request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from further screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on June 11, 2010.

The current INAC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (05EN091) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (05EN091) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (05EN091) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (05EN091) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (05EN091-Indicator%20Minerals%20Inc%20-%20Barrow%20Lake/">the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (05EN091-Indicator%20Minerals%20Inc%20-%20Barrow%20Lake/").

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 05EN091), the "Barrow Lake" project was located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 20 kilometres (km) from the hamlet of Kugaaruk. The Proponent indicated that it intended to conduct diamondiferous kimberlite exploration activities within the Kugaaruk area during summer months from July through September.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Based out of the hamlet of Kugaaruk (no camp established);
- Field work to occur during summer months;
- Field activities supported by helicopter; and,
- Conduct ground geophysical surveys, diamond drilling, prospecting, rock and soil sampling, and geological mapping.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

Indicator Minerals Inc. is applying for a new LUP to replace the previously issued N2005C0024. The project activities remain consistent with what had been originally proposed and screened by the NIRB in 2005.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

"Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:

- (a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or
- (b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project."

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current application, the NIRB is of the understanding that the application for a new LUP and continuance of previously permitted activities does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original July 15, 2005 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Amanda Hanson, Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4615 or ahanson@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Autut Executive Director

cc: Andrea Maynes, Indicator Minerals Inc.

Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 05EN091 (July 15, 2005)