



NIRB File No.: 06MN082

May 16, 2008

To: Zinifex Distribution List

**Re: Adjournment of the High Lake Pre-Hearing Conference and further direction on the NIRB Process**

Dear Parties:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) would like to thank all Parties for providing comments on the Board's letter of May 8, 2008 regarding the changes in the development of the High Lake Project and the potential adjournment of the Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC) originally set for June 2008 in Kugluktuk.

The Board has received submissions from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Kugluktuk Hunters' and Trappers' Organization, Transport Canada, Environment Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and Natural Resources Canada. All Parties which submitted comments are in agreement that the PHC is premature at this time and support NIRB's proposal to adjourn the PHC.

Therefore, after review of the comments received and based on Zinifex's intentions to develop Izok prior to High Lake effectively delaying the High Lake project, the Board is adjourning the PHC at this time until further notice.

The Board confirms that the upcoming water quality and climate change technical workshops are still being held in Yellowknife as scheduled by Zinifex. These workshops will serve to address outstanding issues respecting water quality and climate change, and will provide an opportunity to further revise the commitment list.

Several suggestions were provided by Parties and Zinifex on how to move forward with the review of the High Lake project. The Board will review all comments received and further direction on the next steps in the review process will be provided in the coming weeks.

The Board looks forward to continuing working with all Parties on the Part 5 Review of the High Lake project. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 983-4612, or by email at [jrusk@nirb.ca](mailto:jrusk@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Rusk', is positioned to the left of a vertical red line.

Jeff Rusk  
Director, Technical Services

For:

Stephanie Autut  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of INAC