

NIRB File No.: 11YN054AANDC File No.: N2011X0031

January 24, 2012

The Honourable John Duncan Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Executive Offices 10 Wellington St. Gatineau, QC, K1A 0H4

Sent via email: Duncan.J@parl.gc.ca; and minister@aandc.gc.ca

Re: <u>Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office – David Mate's "Hall Peninsula Integrated Geoscience Project" project proposal</u>

Dear Sirs:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5 (b) of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) hereby requests more time to screen the project proposal referenced above (11YN054).

On December 13, 2011 the NIRB received a Scientific Research Licence application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office – David Mate's "Hall Peninsula Integrated Geoscience Project" project proposal. On December 19, 2011 the NIRB also received a request from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) to screen a Land Use Permit application for the proposed project. AANDC has requested that the NIRB provide its screening determination on or before January 25, 2012.

As the Christmas holiday season coincided with the screening of this file and required a slight extension to the Board's standard screening timeline, the NIRB is unable to provide a screening decision within the 43 day time period as requested by AANDC pursuant to Section 12.4.5 of the NLCA. The NIRB requires additional time to screen this project proposal and anticipates that the screening process will be completed by February 6, 2012.

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,

Ryan Barry

P.O. Box 1360 Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0 Phone: (867) 983-4600 Fax: (867) 983-2594

Ryan Barry Executive Director Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: The Honourable Dan Shewchuck, GN Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College David Mate, Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board

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