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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

Date: February 10, 2017
File No.: 2AM-HOP----
To: Hope Bay Project Distribution List
Subject: Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project File Status

Dear Parties:

On December 28, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) received TMAC Resources Inc.'s Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project, complete with a draft water licence application. On January 18, 2017 by means of a letter¹ the NIRB accepted TMAC submission as a DEIS and informed the commencement of the NIRB technical review period. At the same time, the NIRB indicated that while the NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) acknowledged the TMAC's request for a coordinated review process, the level of coordination requested is unknown to both parties and requested TMAC provide further clarification on the level of coordination it is seeking regarding this application during this current review period, with a deadline on February 17, 2017.

The NWB and the NIRB Coordinated Process is meant for any project proposal proceeding through the relevant regulatory stages in Nunavut to minimize duplication and engage the water licensing process during the NIRB review process as early as possible, rather than after the NIRB review is completed. It should be noted that while this approach may assist in streamlining the information required and timelines associated with the overall review process, it does not eliminate the specific process requirements of either NIRB or the NWB. Therefore, the NWB would like to confirm for parties, that in this coordinated approach, all the stages of the licensing process by the NWB are to be completed, i.e. identification of any deficiencies requiring additional information from the Applicant (completeness of the application) and information requests (IRs), technical review and Pre-Hearing and Public Hearing Conferences, if required.

Also, the NWB wants to confirm with parties, that once the Applicant has provided additional details on its request for a coordinated process, the NIRB and the NWB will work together to develop a file specific coordinated review process.

Further to that, the NWB is aware that a draft application for a new Type "A" Water Licence has been included in the NIRB submission and that the NIRB has indicated that:

“the technical review process can include preliminary feedback on the draft document”

Given that the proposed components of the Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project would rely on the use of existing infrastructure at the Doris North Project, which may necessitate another reconsideration of the terms and conditions of the Doris North Project Certificate No.003¹ and the conditions of the Doris North Water Licence 2AM-DOH1323, as well as it may require a new Water Licence for the project submission, the NWB would receive information requests (IRs) on the submitted draft Application for a water licence as a preliminary Information request. The formal processing of the Application by the NWB requesting parties to review the scope of the information provided and identify any deficiencies requiring additional information from the Applicant will commence once the NIRB-NWB coordinated review process has been defined and the NIRB provides directions regarding the Application pre-licensing requirements.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact Sonia Aredes, Technical Advisor, at 867-979-3079 or by email to sonia.aredes@nwb-oen.ca, or David Hohnstein, Director of Technical Services, at 780-443-4406 or by email to David.Hohnstein@nwb-oen.ca for any technical related questions. For procedural related inquiries and/or request for information, please contact Karén Kharatyan, acting Manager of Licensing, at 867-360-6338 or by email to karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca.

Sincerely,

Karén Kharayan
A/Manager of Licensing

Cc: Distribution List – Doris North

¹ NIRB letter Re: Conformity Determination for TMAC Resources Inc.’ Draft Environmental Impact Statement Submission for the Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project and Commencement of the NIRB’s Technical Review Period, dated January 18, 2017