



NIRB File No.: 12MN001
NWB File No.: 2AM-HOP----

March 31, 2017

Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Confirmation of the upcoming NIRB Technical Meeting and Pre-hearing Conference related to the NIRB's Review of TMAC Resources Inc.'s Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project Proposal

Dear Parties:

On January 18, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) initiated the public technical review of the *Draft* Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) submitted by TMAC Resources Inc. (TMAC or Proponent) for the "Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project" proposal (12MN001). The NIRB invited interested parties to submit Information Requests to the Board for consideration by February 24, 2017 in order to facilitate parties' technical review of the DEIS. The NIRB received submissions on or before February 24, 2017 and, after confirming the submissions considered as Information Requests, requested that TMAC review all submissions and provide the Board with an indication of an anticipated date for submission of an IR Response Package by March 13, 2017. The NIRB received the IR Response Package from TMAC on March 20, 2017.

On March 24, 2017 the NIRB notified parties of the commencement of the 60 day technical review period and announced tentative dates for a Technical Meeting and Pre-hearing Conference (PHC) for the Review of the "Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project". The NIRB is confirming the following dates and facility locations for the Technical Meeting and PHC, both to be held in Cambridge Bay:

June 12-14, 2017:	Technical Meeting at the Pat Lyall Board Room (Fred R. Elias Centre)
June 15-16, 2017:	PHC, including a Community Roundtable, at the Pat Lyall Board Room (Fred R. Elias Centre)

Technical Meeting and Pre-Hearing Conference

The NIRB intends to hold a technical meeting to facilitate informal face-to-face discussions between the Proponent and interested parties on technical matters related to the DEIS. The technical meeting will be kept as informal as possible in an effort to resolve technical issues prior

to the PHC. As such, this meeting will be facilitated by the NIRB staff, with participation by the Proponent, responsible authorities and interested parties. Break-out sessions may be used with discussions in each break-out group also facilitated by a NIRB staff member. During the technical meeting, the NIRB staff will compile a list of commitments made by the Proponent regarding revisions and updates to its pending Final Environmental Impact Statement submission. The list of commitments will then be carried forward to the PHC for consideration by the Board and incorporation into its PHC Report.

Following the technical meeting, the NIRB will hold a PHC to discuss such matters as: timelines for submissions, future meetings, evidence, document exchange, Final Hearing venue(s) and timing, Final Hearing format, and any other matters related to the logistics of the Final Hearing. The PHC is meant to provide parties with an opportunity to present to the Board those issues that were resolved during the technical meeting, and those issues which remain outstanding. While the technical meeting is a structured but largely informal opportunity for technical experts to resolve outstanding issues, parties should note that participation in the PHC is somewhat more formalized.

The NIRB will facilitate the Community Roundtable session in conjunction with the PHC, which will involve representation from communities identified as potentially impacted by the proposed Project, in order to provide an opportunity for meaningful participation in the Board's Review. Following the PHC, the Board will issue a PHC decision which will provide direction to the Proponent for its preparation of a Final EIS and will outline the procedures for the review of the Final EIS and the Final Hearing.

Further details on the arrangements to be made for the Technical Meeting along with a draft agenda will be circulated by the NIRB once technical comments have been received from parties. Parties will be provided with an opportunity to comment on the ordering of discussion items prior to finalizing the agenda. Information regarding the Community Roundtable session, including selection of community representation, will be provided in the coming weeks.

Hotel Accommodations

A block of hotel accommodations are currently being held by the NIRB in Cambridge Bay to facilitate participation by representatives of responsible authorities, agencies, and organizations who will be in attendance at the Technical Meeting and PHC. A limited number of hotel reservations are currently held by the NIRB and are now being made available to meeting participants upon request. Please be aware that agencies may be limited in the number of beds available in order to ensure that representation from all authorizing agencies and parties to the Review is possible.

Parties are hereby requested to notify the NIRB regarding their interest in securing these hotel beds as soon as possible. Requests should be forwarded to Kofi Boa-Antwi via kboaantwi@nirb.ca. Reservations for individual hotel beds will be transferred from the NIRB to the planned attendee, who will be responsible for confirming the reservation and providing payment for any and all associated costs. The NIRB will release any remaining unrequested hotel beds from our group reservation by **June 5, 2017** or sooner depending on responses.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the next steps in the NIRB's Review of the "Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project", please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4616 or kboaantwi@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kofi Boa-Antwi
Technical Advisor II
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: John Roberts, TMAC Resources Inc.
Oliver Curran, TMAC Resources Inc.
Shelley Potter, TMAC Resources Inc.
David Hohnstein, Nunavut Water Board
Sonia Aredes, Nunavut Water Board
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board