



**NOTICE OF INDICATION  
NIRB FILE NO.: 12MN036**

September 25, 2012

To: Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Doug Soloway, Transport Canada  
Derrick Moggy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Rob Johnstone, Natural Resources Canada  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

*Sent via Email*

**Re: Notice of Indication for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s "Back River" Project Proposal, NIRB File No. 12MN036**

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Dear Sirs and Madam:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (AAND) for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s "Back River" project proposal in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment NIRB's indication to the Minister is in accordance with **12.4.4 (b)** which states the following:

"The proposal requires review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB shall identify particular issues or concerns which should be considered in such a review."

The enclosed NIRB Screening Decision for NIRB File No. 12MN036, signed on September 25, 2012 by Elizabeth Copland in Arviat has been issued to the Minister of AAND.

As such, pursuant to Section 12.4.7 of the NLCA:

*Where NIRB indicates to the Minister that a proposal requires review, the Minister shall:*

- (a) *where required, by law or otherwise, refer the proposal to the Minister of the Environment for review by a federal environmental assessment panel; such review shall include both socio-economic and ecosystemic impacts;*
- (b) *where a proposal is not to be reviewed by a federal environmental assessment panel, refer the proposal to NIRB for a review of the ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts in the Nunavut Settlement Area; or*
- (c) *where the proposal is not in the national or regional interest, inform the proponent that the proposal should be abandoned or modified and resubmitted to NIRB to be dealt with in accordance with Section 12.4.4.*

Please contact Tara Arko, NIRB Technical Advisor at 867-983-4611 or [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Matthew Pickard, Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.  
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Distribution List

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report (NIRB File No.: 12MN036)