



NIRB File No.: 12MN036
NWB File No.: 2AM-BRP
AANDC File No.: N2012T0025

December 17, 2012

To: Matthew Pickard
Director, Environment & Community Relations
Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.
930 West 1st Street
North Vancouver, BC V7P 3N4

And: The Back River Distribution List

Sent via email and fax

Re: Notice of Minister's Decision for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s "Back River" Project Proposal

Dear Matthew Pickard and Parties:

On December 17, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received the enclosed letter from the Honourable John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (the Minister), regarding the NIRB's September 26, 2012 Screening Decision Report for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s (Sabina) "Back River" project proposal (NIRB File No. 12MN036). The Minister has accepted the Board's recommendation that the Back River project proposal requires a public review under Part 5 or 6 of Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), determining that the project proposal shall be subject to Review by the NIRB in accordance with NLCA Article 12, Part 5.

Please be advised that the Minister's decision, as well as all information pertaining to the NIRB's Review of this project proposal is available online from the Board's public registry at the following location: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/02-REVIEWS/ACTIVE%20REVIEWS/12MN036-SABINA-BACK%20RIVER/>

The Minister also provided specific direction with respect to the NIRB's assessment of potential transboundary impacts and cumulative impacts as follows:

Transboundary Impacts

"Given the Proposal's close proximity to the Bathurst caribou calving ground, it is essential that the scope of the Board's review also include consideration of transboundary impacts upon affected communities and groups who depend upon this resource. I

therefore suggest that the Board pay particular attention to encouraging the participation of these groups in the review so that the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures can be thoroughly understood.”

Potential Cumulative Impacts

“The Back River Project proposal is one of many proposed and/or existing mines in the Kitikmeot Region. A thorough cumulative impacts assessment will be very important for the review. However, when assessing these impacts, I urge the Board to consider the Proposal in combination with reasonably foreseeable mine and transportation infrastructure developments.”

While the Minister has indicated that participant funding will not be made available for this particular Review, the need for ensuring effective participation was recognized and the ability of the NIRB’s Review process to provide sufficient and meaningful opportunities for potentially affected groups to participate was acknowledged by the Minister. The NIRB is committed to ensuring that all parties are kept informed about the opportunities to effectively participate through the Board’s Review of the Back River Project.

At this time, the Board requests that all parties review the attached Back River distribution list (Appendix A) and notify the NIRB’s staff via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax at (867) 983-2594 should any additions or changes be required.

Please be advised that the NIRB will be issuing correspondence to all parties in the coming days outlining the next steps in the Board’s Review of the Back River project proposal, including anticipated timelines and opportunities for public engagement.

Should you have any questions regarding the NIRB’s Review of the Back River project proposal, please contact Amanda Hanson, Director of Technical Services, at ahanson@nirb.ca or (867) 983-4615.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Honourable John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
Honourable Keith Ashfield, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
Honourable Joe Oliver, Minister of Natural Resources
Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities
Charlie Evalik, President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Attachment: Appendix A: Distribution List for the NIRB’s Review of the Back River Project

Enclosure: Minister of AAND Decision Re: Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.’s Back River project proposal, NIRB File No. 12MN036 (December 17, 2012)

APPENDIX A
DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR THE NIRB'S REVIEW OF THE BACK RIVER PROJECT

ORGANIZATION	NAME(S)	EMAIL
Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.	Matthew Pickard	MPickard@sabinagoldsilver.com
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.	George Hakongak	ghakongak@tunngavik.com
	Jeannie Ehloak	jehaloak@tunngavik.com
Nunavut Water Board	Phyllis Beaulieu	licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org
	Dave Hohnstein	dts@nunavutwaterboard.org
	Erik Skiby	eskiby@nunavutwaterboard.org
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board	Adam Schneidmiller	aSchneidmiller@nwmb.com
	Joe Justus	jjustus@nwmb.com
Kitikmeot Inuit Association	Geoff Clark	geoff@qiniq.com
	Luigi Torretti	ltorretti@qiniq.com
	Wynter Kuliktana	landsofficerkia@qiniq.com
Qikiqtani Inuit Association	Stephen Williamson Bathory	Stephen@tulaffik.net
GN-Airports Division	Fred Fast	ffast@gov.nu.ca
GN-CGS	Roy Green	rgreen@gov.nu.ca
GN-CLEY	Doug Stenton	dstenton1@gov.nu.ca
GN - Department of Environment	Michael Mifflin	mmifflin@gov.nu.ca
	Dee Karadag	dkaradag@gov.nu.ca
	Jean Daniel Blouin	jdblouin@gov.nu.ca
	Drikus Gissing	dgissing@gov.nu.ca
	Mathieu Dumond	mdumond@gov.nu.ca
	Sara Holzman	sholzman@gov.nu.ca
	Milissa Elliot	melliot@gov.nu.ca
	Janelle Kennedy	jkennedy1@gov.nu.ca
GN-Economic Development and Transportation	Ed McKenna	emckenna@gov.nu.ca
	Dianne Lapierre	dlapierre1@gov.nu.ca
	Michael Beauregard	mbeauregard@gov.nu.ca
	Eric Prosh	eprosh@gov.nu.ca
	Gordon Mackay	gmackay@gov.nu.ca
	Timoon Toonoo	ttoonoo@gov.nu.ca
	Tom Livingston	tlivingston@gov.nu.ca
	Agnes Simonfalvy	asimonfalvy@gov.nu.ca
GN-Education	Brad Chambers	bchambers@gov.nu.ca
GN – Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs	Rachel Mark	rmark@gov.nu.ca
	Pauloosie Suvega	psuvega@gov.nu.ca
	Laurie-Anne White	lwhite1@gov.nu.ca
	John Price	jprice@gov.nu.ca
GN - Health and Social	Wilfred Ntiamoah	wntiamoah@gov.nu.ca

Service	Peter Workman	pworkman@gov.nu.ca
GN-Minerals	Hugh MacIsaac	hmacisaac@gov.nu.ca
GN-Department of Justice	Sutheat Tim	stim@gov.nu.ca
Organization (cont'd)	Name(s) (cont'd)	Email (cont'd)
AANDC – Minister's Office	Eric Hopkins	eric.hopkins@aandc.gc.ca
AANDC – Intergov. Affairs	Tamara Fast	tamara.fast@aandc.gc.ca
AANDC – Environment	Amy Shen	amy.shen@aandc.gc.ca
	Margaux Brisco	margaux.brisco@aandc.gc.ca
	Karen Costello	Karen.costello@aandc.gc.ca
	Natalie Plato	Natalie.plato@aandc.gc.ca
	Rosanne D'Orazio	rosanne.dorazio@aandc.gc.ca
	James Neary	james.neary@aandc.gc.ca
	Michael Sewchand	michael.sewchand@aandc.gc.ca
AANDC Lands	General	landsmining@aandc.gc.ca
	Jeff Mercer	jeff.mercer@aandc.gc.ca
	Tracey McCaie	tracey.mccaie@aandc.gc.ca
	John Craig	john.craig@aandc.gc.ca
AANDC Water	Murray Ball	murray.ball@aandc.gc.ca
	Andrea Cull	andrea.cull@aandc.gc.ca
	David Abernethy	david.abernethy@aandc.gc.ca
	Ian Rumbolt	ian.rumboldt@aandc.gc.ca
	Peter Kusugak	peter.kusugak@aandc.gc.ca
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency	Cindy Parker	cindy.parker@ceaa-acee.gc.ca
		info@ceaa-acee.gc.ca
Environment Canada	Paula Smith	paula.c.smith@ec.gc.ca
	Environment Canada	EC.EA.NU@ec.gc.ca
	Carey Ogilvie	carey.ogilvie@ec.gc.ca
EC -CWS	James Hodson	James.Hodson@ec.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Nicola Johnson	Nicola.Johnson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
	Derrick Moggy	derrick.moggy@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
	Eric Kan	Eric.Kan@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
	Sarah Olivier	Sarah.olivier@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
	Georgina Williston	georgina.williston@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Health Canada	Atis Lasis	atis_lasis@hc-sc.gc.ca
	Kelly Senkiw	Kelly_Senkiw@hc-sc.gc.ca
Justice Canada	Ken Landa	klanda@justice.gc.ca
	Gavin Willins	gavin.willins@justice.gc.ca
Natural Resources Canada	Rob Johnstone	rjohnsto@nrcan.gc.ca
	John Clarke	john.clarke@nrcan.gc.ca
	Amie Baker	amie.baker@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca
Northern Project Management Office	Manik Duggar	manik.duggar@cannor.gc.ca

	Johann Pelage	johann.pelage@cannor.gc.ca
Organization (cont'd)	Name(s) (cont'd)	Email (cont'd)
Transport Canada	Meighan Andrews	
	John Cowan	john.cowan@tc.gc.ca
	Kim Pawley	kim.pawley@tc.gc.ca
	Mike Molinski	mike.molinski@tc.gc.ca
	Sean Stellar	sean.stellar@tc.gc.ca
	Chris Aguirre	christopher.aguirre@tc.gc.ca
Nunavut Tourism	Colleen Dupuis	ceo@nunavuttourism.com
Bathurst Port and Road Committee	Connie Kapolak	ckapolak98@yahoo.ca
Bathurst Inlet HTO	Craig Thomas	burnsidehta@bathurstinlet.com
Kugluktuk Hamlet		saokug@qiniq.com
Kugluktuk HTO	Barbara Adjun	kugluktukhto@qiniq.com
Cambridge Bay Hamlet	Steve King - SAO	sking@cambridgebay.ca
Cambridge Bay HTO	Brenda Sitatak	ehtocb@qiniq.com
Gjoa Haven Hamlet		saogjoa@qiniq.com
Gjoa Haven HTO		htogjoa@qiniq.com
Taloyoak Hamlet		hamoftal@qiniq.com
Taloyoak HTO		hunter@qiniq.com
Kugaaruk Hamlet		sao_kug@qiniq.com
Kugaaruk HTO		kugaarukhto@netkaster.ca
NWT Dechi Laott'I First Nation	Jennifer Keith	dechi@ssimicro.com
Tlicho Government	Joline Husky	jolinehuskey@tlicho.com
Athabasca Denesuline	Ron Robilliard	rrobillard@pagc.sk.ca
	Rosanna Good	rgood@pagc.sk.ca
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation	Iris Catholique	iris_catholique@yahoo.ca
	Angie Lantz	interagency_lutselke@hotmail.com
North Slave Metis Alliance	Sheryl Grieve	enviromgr@nsma.et
NWT Dechi Laott'I First Nation	Jennifer Keith	dechi@ssimicro.com
Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees (SAO)		sao@jointsec.nt.ca
Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees (EIRB)	Robin A. Fonger	eirb@jointsec.nt.ca

Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees (EISC)	Barb Chalmers	eisc@jointsec.nt.ca
Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees (FJMC)		fjmc@jointsec.nt.ca
Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees (Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT))	Larry Carpenter	wmacnwt@jointsec.nt.ca
Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees	Steven Baryluk	tech-rp@jointsect.nt.ca
Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees (Inuvialuit Game Council)		igc-js@jointsec.nt.ca
Hamlet of Holman		holmansao@yahoo.ca
Olokhaktomiut HTC (Holman)		ohc@arcticdata.ca
Nunavut Parks and Special Places	Nick Burnaby	Nburnaby@gov.nu.ca
Canadian Arctic Resources Committee	David Gladders	davidg@carc.org
Elgin Mining	Karyn Lewis	klewis@elginmining.com
	Vivian Park	vpark@elginmining.com
BQCMB	Ross Thompson	rossthompson@mymts.net
	Leslie Wakelyn	wakelyn@theedge.ca
Yukon Dene	Todd Slack	environment@ykdene.com
ARKTIS Solutions Inc	Jamie VanGulck	vangulck@arktissolutions.com
	Joe Murdock	murdock@arktissolutions.com
Nunavummiut Makitagunarningit		makikuranium@gmail.com