



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

April 30, 2013

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

Sent via email: [mpickard@sabinagoldsilver.com](mailto:mpickard@sabinagoldsilver.com)

**Re: Guidelines for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the "Back River" Project**

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Dear Matthew Pickard:

The enclosed guidelines are hereby issued by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s (Sabina; the Proponent) Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the "Back River" project (NIRB File No. 12MN036). Pursuant to Section 12.5.2 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the Proponent is responsible to prepare an EIS in accordance with the guidelines issued by the NIRB. The EIS developed in accordance with these guidelines will serve as the basis for the NIRB's Review of the Back River Project, and will enable the Board and interested parties to understand and assess the potential for project-related ecosystemic and socio-economic effects. The Proponent and parties are also advised that not all comment submissions on the *draft* EIS Guidelines and scope received by the NIRB outside the public commenting deadline were fully incorporated into the enclosed guidelines. Nonetheless, the NIRB encourages the Proponent to review all comment submissions received and posted to the public registry to date and to address, to the extent possible, all issues raised by the parties in their submissions.

Please be advised that the NIRB will require hard copies of the Proponent's future *draft* EIS submission to be sent to the following address, as outlined below:

Nunavut Impact Review Board  
Technical Services Department  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU  
X0B 0C0

4 copies of the EIS with all appendices  
(each to include a digital copy of EIS and all appendices); and  
9 copies of the main EIS document only  
(each to include a digital copy of the EIS and all appendices).

As a NIRB – Nunavut Water Board (NWB) coordinated process was requested for the NIRB's Review of the Back River project and subsequent water licensing, the current EIS Guidelines include an Appendix which outlines the requirements of Sabina's *Draft* water licence application, to be included with its future *draft* EIS submission. As such, the Proponent is required to submit hard copies of the future *draft* EIS submission to the following NWB addresses:

Nunavut Water Board  
Attn: Technical Services Dept.  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

*1 copy of the EIS with all appendices*

Nunavut Water Board  
Attn: Director, Technical Services  
*Contact for delivery address*

*1 copy of the EIS with all appendices*

The NIRB respectfully requests that the Proponent review the enclosed guidelines and advise the Board of its anticipated date for submission of a *draft* EIS at its earliest convenience.

The Proponent is required to submit the aforementioned copies of the *draft* EIS to the NIRB and the NWB concurrently or as close to the same date as possible to allow the Boards to coordinate their respective processes in accordance with the Detailed Coordinated Process Framework.<sup>1</sup> The Proponent should note that next steps in the NIRB's Review process may not commence until both agencies have received their requested *draft* EIS copies as indicated. The Proponent is encouraged to follow up with the NIRB and NWB to ensure all copies of the *draft* EIS have been received once submitted.

Please be advised that it is also the Proponent's responsibility to supply authorities responsible for potentially authorizing this proposed Project with sufficient hard copies of the future *draft* EIS submission for review purposes. The NIRB will distribute correspondence to its public distribution list requesting that all parties which might require a copy of the future *draft* EIS supply the NIRB with mailing addresses and the required number of copies, which the NIRB will then forward to the Proponent.

If you have any questions related to the NIRB's Review of this file, please contact Tara Arko, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4611 or [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca).

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<sup>1</sup> A guidance document outlining the requirements of the NIRB-NWB coordinated process is available online at the following location: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/04-GUIDES/04-NIRB-NWB%20JOINT%20GUIDES/>

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Matthew Pickard, Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.  
David Hohnstein, Nunavut Water Board  
Karen Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board  
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Karen Costello, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Georgina Williston, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Rob Johnstone, Natural Resources Canada  
Meighan Andrews, Transport Canada

Enclosures (1): 1. Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s Back River project – NIRB File 12MN036 (*April 30, 2013*)