

December 17, 2013

Amanda Hanson Director, Technical Services Nunavut Impact Review Board P.O. Box 1360 Cambridge Bay, NU XOB OCO

Dave Honstein
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU
XOE 1JO

Re: Back River Project Draft Environment Impact Statement (Draft EIS) Submission Date

Dear Ms. Hanson & Mr. Honstein:

As follow-up to the July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 letter submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), Sabina wishes to advise the NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) of its intention to submit the Back River Project Draft EIS by the week of January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014. As announced in June 2012, Sabina is utilizing a NIRB/NWB coordinated process in order to expedite the permitting schedule.

Since the submission of the Back River Project Description in June 2012, the company worked diligently to advance the Draft EIS to ensure it adequately addresses the Project specific NIRB Guidelines as well as NWB expectations for the Draft Type A Water License Application. Sabina conducted significant consultation and engagement sessions with potentially impacted communities, and associated community groups, as well as the Federal and Territorial governments. This includes over 120 separate sessions with communities (primarily focused in the Kitikmeot region) and over 100 with government departments. Wherever possible, outcomes of these discussions are addressed in the Draft EIS.

The week of January 20<sup>th</sup> the requested hard and digital copies of the Draft EIS will be hand delivered to your respective staff in Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven and Edmonton. It is understood that the official review of the Draft EIS will only commence following a concordance review by the NIRB and the NWB, which we anticipate will take 15 days. Once the Draft EIS is deemed to meet both NIRB and NWB conformity, hard and digital copies will be forwarded to other reviewers as directed by the NIRB Distribution List. In some cases digital copies may be forwarded, to select reviewers, prior to the conformity decision to allow early access and discussion on key aspects of the Project. This is in no way meant to fetter the NIRB and NWB respective conformity reviews.





Should you have any further questions please feel free to contact the undersigned at 604-484-8967 or mpickard@sabinagoldsilver.com.

I wish you both the best over the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Mathew Pickard

Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.

Cc: Ryan Barry, NIRB Tara Arko, NIRB Damien A. Côté, NWB

Karén Kharatyan, NWB Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB

Max Brownhill, Sabina

