

NIRB File No. 12MN036

NWB File No.: 2AM-BRP----AANDC File No.: N2012T0025

March 21, 2014

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

Re: <u>Clarification Request for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s Inclusion of Exception</u>
<u>Applications within its Draft EIS for the "Back River" Project Proposal</u>

## Dear Matthew Pickard:

Following an internal conformity review against previously-issued Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines, on February 11, 2013 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) formally accepted Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s (Sabina) Draft EIS (DEIS) submission for the Board's Review of the "Back River" project proposal (NIRB File No. 12MN036). The NIRB notes that the DEIS included specific references to applications for works to be considered by the NIRB as applicable for exception from the Review process pursuant to Section 12.10.2(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), with the various applications for authorizations included as appendices to Volume 12 of the DEIS.

At this time, the NIRB requests that Sabina provide a response to the following:

- Confirm (and clarify if necessary) that the activities being sought as exceptions to the NIRB Review process are consistent with the listing in Table 2.3-3 of Volume 2 of the DEIS, and that the applications contained within appendices 2A-2J of Volume 12 of the DEIS have been provided in support of the application for activities to be excepted from the NIRB Review process;
- Confirm whether the authorization applications contained within appendices 2A-2J of Volume 12 of the DEIS are draft documents, or whether these are to be considered complete applications; and,
- Confirm whether and which authorization applications contained within appendices 2A 2J of Volume 12 of the DEIS have been submitted to the relevant authorizing agencies

for consideration, or whether their inclusion within the DEIS was intended to trigger the respective licensing processes.

The NIRB requests that Sabina provide its response to the above points directly to our office via email to <a href="mailto:info@nirb.ca">info@nirb.ca</a> on or before **Friday**, **March 28**, **2014**.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the NIRB's Review of the Back River project or the above request, please contact Tara Arko, Technical Advisor, at <a href="mailto:tarko@nirb.ca">tarko@nirb.ca</a> or by phone at (867) 983-4611.

Sincerely,

Amanda Hanson

Director, Technical Services

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Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

David Hohnstein, Nunavut Water Board

Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Karen Costello, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Elizabeth Patreau, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Rob Johnstone, Natural Resources Canada

Meighan Andrews, Transport Canada

Back River Distribution List