

NIRB File No.: 12MN036

May 11, 2017

To: Back River Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Finalized Agenda for the upcoming Final Hearing for the NIRB's further Review of Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s Back River Gold Mine Project proposal

Dear Parties,

On April 28, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) distributed the *Draft* Agenda for the upcoming Final Hearing to be held in Cambridge Bay from May 31-June 3, 2017 for the Board's further Review of Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.'s (Sabina or the Proponent) proposed Back River Gold Mine Project (Back River Project, NIRB File No. 12MN036). The NIRB requested that interested parties review the *Draft* Agenda and submit comments directly to the NIRB by May 8, 2017.

On or before May 9, 2017 the NIRB received comments regarding the *Draft* Agenda from the following parties:

- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Government of Nunavut
- Northern Projects Management Office (on behalf of participating federal departments)
- Government of the Northwest Territories
- Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.

The comment submissions can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at <a href="https://www.nirb.ca">www.nirb.ca</a> using any of the following search criteria:

Project Name: Back River Project

■ NIRB File No.: 12MN036

NIRB Application No.: 124149

A finalized Hearing Agenda has been attached as Appendix A for the information of all parties. The NIRB has revised the agenda to address the comments received from parties to the extent possible. Inuinnaqtun and Inuktitut copies of the attached agenda will be provided by the NIRB as soon as available.

As a reminder to all registered intervenors, the NIRB previously requested that all parties submit their English, Inuinnaqtun, Inuktitut, and French if possible, presentations to the NIRB via email at <u>info@nirb.ca</u>, on or before **May 26, 2017.** We appreciate the efforts of parties to provide these materials as requested, as the NIRB is preparing information packages to assist community roundtable participants. The NIRB would like to remind all parties to provide sufficient printed copies of their presentation materials for the technical sessions and community roundtable portions of the Hearing, noting that approximately 100 copies each of English and Inuinnaqtun, as well as 25 copies each of Inuktitut and French may be required.

Should you have any questions or require clarification regarding the next steps in the Board's Review of the Back River Gold Mine Project proposal, please contact Davin St. Pierre, Technical Advisor II, at (867) 983-4615 or at <a href="mailto:dstpierre@nirb.ca">dstpierre@nirb.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

Java allo

Tara Arko

Director, Technical Services Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Matthew Pickard, Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.

Attached: Appendix A: Final Hearing Agenda

#### APPENDIX A: FINALIZED BACK RIVER FINAL HEARING AGENDA

**NIRB File No.:** 12MN036 – Back River Gold Mine project

**Proponent:** Sabina Gold & Silver Corporation

**Location:** Luke Novoligak Community Hall, Cambridge Bay, NU

**Dates:** May 31-June 3, 2017

Times: All times given are approximate. The order of presenters and time

given for presentations are subject to change at the Chairperson's

discretion during the Hearing:

Technical Sessions: 9:00 am - 5:00 pmCommunity Roundtable Sessions: 9:00 am - 5:00 pmEvening Sessions: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

**Note (1):** Witnesses appearing on behalf of registered Intervenors will be sworn

in/affirmed and exhibits will be marked in advance of testimony being given. Panels of witnesses may be used for the presentation of evidence.

**Note (2):** All testimony will be recorded and transcribed by the Board, and may also

be recorded by the media.

## Wednesday May 31, 2017 – Day 1 (includes scheduled evening session)

# **General Opening**

- 1. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson with introductions, overview of procedural history, structure of proceedings, etc. (30 minutes)
- 2. Identification of motions or objections
- 3. Welcoming Remarks by the Mayor of Cambridge Bay (15 minutes)

### Technical session

- 4. Swearing in/affirmation of Proponent's witnesses and marking of exhibits
- 5. Presentations by the Proponent Note: time for questions by Board Members and Intervenors will be provided following presentations:
  - i. Introduction & Overview (45 minutes)
  - ii. Public Participation and Engagement (30 minutes)
  - iii. Atmospheric Environment (30 minutes)
  - iv. Terrestrial Environment (75 minutes)
  - v. Freshwater Environment (30 minutes)
  - vi. Marine Environment (30 minutes)
  - vii. Socio-Economics (15 minutes)
  - viii. Human Health (15 minutes)
  - ix. Accidents and Malfunctions (15 minutes)

Close of Day 1

# Thursday June 1, 2017 - Day 2

#### Technical session

- 6. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson
- 7. Presentations from registered Intervenors Note: witnesses appearing on behalf of registered Intervenors will be sworn in/affirmed and exhibits will be marked in advance of testimony being given. Unless otherwise indicated, each Intervenor has been allotted 30 minutes for their presentations. Following each Intervenor's presentation there will be time for questions by Board Members, other Intervenors and the Proponent.
  - i. Kitikmeot Inuit Association
  - ii. Government of Nunavut
  - iii. Environment and Climate Change Canada
  - iv. Fisheries and Oceans Canada
  - v. Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
  - vi. Natural Resources Canada
  - vii. Transport Canada
  - viii. Burnside Hunters and Trappers Organization
  - ix. North Slave Métis Alliance

#### Close of Day 2

# Friday June 2, 2017 – Day 3 (includes scheduled evening session)

# Community Roundtable Session

- 8. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson
- 9. Summary presentation by the Proponent **Introduction and Overview** (30 minutes)
- 10. Summary presentation by the Proponent **Goose site** (30 minutes)
- 11. Questioning of the Proponent and Intervenors by community representatives
- 12. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
- 13. Summary presentation by the Proponent Marine Laydown Area and marine shipping (30 minutes)
- 14. Questioning of the Proponent and Intervenors by community representatives
- 15. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
- 16. Summary presentation by the Proponent Winter Road (30 minutes)
- 17. Questioning of the Proponent and Intervenors by community representatives
- 18. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
- 19. Summary presentation by the Proponent Caribou Management and Transboundary Impacts (45 minutes)

- 20. Questioning of the Proponent and Intervenors by community representatives
- 21. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
- 22. Presentations by Intervenors. Note: following each Intervenor's presentation there will be time for questions by community representatives and members of the public. Each Intervenor has been allotted 20 minutes for their presentations, unless otherwise indicated:
  - i. Kitikmeot Inuit Association
  - ii. Government of Nunavut
  - iii. Environment and Climate Change Canada

# Close of Day 3

## Saturday June 3, 2017 – Day 4

# Community Roundtable Session (continued from day 3)

- 23. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson
- 24. Presentations by Intervenors *continued* 
  - iv. Fisheries and Oceans Canada
  - v. Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
  - vi. Natural Resources Canada
  - vii. Transport Canada
  - viii. Burnside Hunters and Trappers Organization
  - ix. North Slave Métis Alliance
- 25. Conclusion of Community Roundtable Session Questioning of the Proponent or Intervenors by community members
- 26. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
- 27. Closing Remarks community members
- 28. Closing Remarks Proponent and Intervenors

Close of Day 4 - note: while the agenda has been set to close the Hearing following the conclusion of the afternoon session on Day 4, parties are advised that the agenda may be subject to change and that the Hearing may extend into the evening if required.