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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

February 28, 2005

One Page via Email

Mr. David Long
Vice-President, Legal
Miramar Mining Corporation
300 – 889 Harbourside Drive
North Vancouver, BC V7P 3S1

Subject: Doris North Project - Application for a Water Licence
NWB File # NWB1DOR

Dear Mr. Long:

I acknowledge receipt of your February 8, 2005 letter and updated Preliminary Project Description ("PPD") for the *Doris North Project* ("Project") in Nunavut. Your submission has been placed in the Nunavut Water Board's ("NWB") Public Registry and is available to the public upon request or from the NWB FTP site.

On March 20, 2002, the *Hope Bay Joint Venture* ("HBJV"), a joint venture between *Miramar Hope Bay Limited* and *Hope Bay Gold Corporation*, filed an application for a water licence for the construction, operation and decommissioning of the *Doris Hinge Project* ("Application"). The NWB referred the Application to the Nunavut Impact Review Board ("NIRB") for environmental assessment pursuant to Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement ("NLCA"). In its final report, NIRB indicated that *Miramar* had not provided sufficient information for the Board to complete their assessment process. NIRB indicated that there were five key deficiencies and that if these deficiencies were adequately addressed then *Miramar* could reapply to NIRB to have the environmental assessment of that project reconsidered.

The NWB Public Registry indicates that the Application is pending and has not been withdrawn. In light of your February 8, 2005 submission, we have reviewed the updated PPD versus the Application. We conclude that the Project as described is fundamentally the same undertaking submitted in March 2002 and subsequently reviewed by NIRB, aside from adjustments to the proposed schedule and other items such as the preliminary details of the construction of the tailings dam, which in themselves do not change the scope and nature of the Application already on file. We note however that the name of the applicant on the Application is the Hope Bay Joint Venture ("HBJV"). We also note that the name of the project on both the Application and the March 2002 PPD is referred to as the *Doris Hinge Project*, whereas your most recent submission refers to the *Doris North Project*. For greater clarity, please let the NWB know whether the name of the applicant and the name of the project as officially recorded in the Application should be changed.

Meanwhile, **by copy of this letter to the NIRB**, we are asking our sister-board to resume its environmental assessment of the Application pursuant to Article 12 of the NLCA.

Please contact me if you have any question.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Philippe di Pizzo
Executive Director

c.c. Stephanie Briscoe, NIRB
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