

Executive Summary – English

The Nunavut Impact Review Board has a Nunavut Land Claims mandate to review the environmental and socio-economic impacts of project proposals, and to recommend to the Minister whether or not projects should proceed, and if so, to add terms and conditions to the approval.

In the case of Miramar Hope Bay Limited, and its Doris North Gold Project proposal, the Board held a Final Hearing in the community of Cambridge Bay. The Board heard from community members from Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay, Bathurst Inlet, Omingmaktok, Gjoa Haven, and Taloyoak. Input was also received from Elders, Hamlet representatives, both the federal and territorial governments, and an independent consultant.

In result, the Board is recommending that Miramar Hope Bay Limited's Doris North Gold Project be approved and proceed to the regulatory stage.

The Board finds that this Project will provide employment and economic benefits particularly to the people of the Kitikmeot, and overall economic benefits to the people of Nunavut through royalties collected by Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.. The Board also notes that the Kitikmeot Inuit Association has initialed an Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement with Miramar Hope Bay Limited indicating their support for this Project. However, to supplement the Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement and achieve local government objectives, the Board requires that a Socio-economic Monitoring Committee follow the Doris North Project.

Further, the Board has significant concern for potential impacts on the biophysical environment, including water quality and wildlife. The Doris North Project is the first mine development in the Hope Bay Belt; as such, the Board requires that strict monitoring be undertaken.

NIRB finds that the impacts from the Doris North Gold Project proposal can be mitigated and managed. Therefore, contingent on the Minister's approval, the Doris North Gold Project will be subject to the terms and conditions contained in this report, including a NIRB Monitoring Officer.