

NIRB File No.: 05MN047 NWB File No.: 2AM-DOH0713

December 8, 2010

To: Doris North Distribution List

Sent Via Email

Re: <u>HBML Type A Water Licence Amendment Application Package No. 2 for the Doris North Gold Mine Project</u>

Dear Parties.

On October 29, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s (HBML) Amendment Application Package No. 2 for its Type A Water Licence associated with the Doris North Gold Mine Project (the Project). By submitting this application, HBML is requesting that the Nunavut Water Board amend its Type A Water Licence to permit HBML to construct and operate the following:

- Expansion of fuel storage and containment facility from 14 to 36 ML by installing additional fuel tanks at Roberts Bay;
- Airstrip expansion/bypass road construction; and
- Relocation of cyanide/reagent storage facility.

The Doris North project has previously been reviewed by the NIRB pursuant to Part 5 of Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) and is currently being monitored by the Board through the provisions of NLCA Article 12, Part 7 and Project Certificate # 003. Prior to issuing the water licence amendment, the Nunavut Water Board requires confirmation that any NIRB screening and/or review associated with the proposed Project amendments has been completed.

The NIRB is required to determine whether or not the proposed amendments to the Project constitute a significant change to the scope of the Project as previously reviewed, and, if so, how the proposed changes could affect the impact predictions contained within the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Project. Furthermore, the Board must also consider the effectiveness of Project Certificate # 003 in light of the proposed amendments; particularly whether the current terms and conditions will continue to achieve their purpose or whether circumstances relating to the Project or the effect of the terms and conditions are significantly different from those anticipated at the time the Project Certificate was issued.

Following a preliminary review of the submission, the NIRB, on November 15, 2010, requested HBML provide additional information to facilitate the Board's assessment. The requested information was received by the Board on December 6, 2010.

All documents pertaining to the current amendment package are available on NIRB's ftp site at: http://ftp.nirb.ca/03-MONITORING/05MN047-DORIS%20NORTH%20GOLD%20MINE/01-PROJECT%20CERTIFICATE/AUTHORIZATIONS/NWB-TYPE%20A%20WATER%20LICENSE/06-AMENDMENT/2AM-DOH0713%20Amend%20No%202/

The NIRB is hereby requesting that interested parties most affected by, having jurisdictional authority over, or with technical expertise regarding any aspect of the proposed project amendments, review the amendment package referenced above and provide their comments directly to the Board no later than **December 31, 2010**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether inclusion of the proposed components or activities would significantly modify the Project;
- Whether the proposed project amendments are likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the proposed project amendments are likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic, socio-economic or cumulative effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the proposed project amendments are of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology;
- Whether the proposed project amendments might require additional mitigation measures through Project Certificate #003 or the NIRB monitoring program for the Project; and
- Any additional matters of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please send your comments to the NIRB at <u>info@nirb.ca</u> or via fax at (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Kofi Boa-Antwi, Assistant Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4609 or via email at kboa-antwi@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Li Wan

Technical Advisor

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Cc: Chris Hanks, HBML (chris.hanks@newmont.com)

Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board (<u>licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org</u>)