

## NOTICE OF INDICATION NIRB FILE NO.: 12MN001

February 24, 2012

To: Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Mark Dahl, Environment Canada Derrick Moggy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Derrick Moggy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Rob Johnstone, Natural Resources Canada

Doug Soloway, Transport Canada

Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board

Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Sent via Email

Re: Notice of Indication for Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s "Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt" Project Proposal, NIRB File No. 12MN001

Dear Sirs and Madam:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (AAND) for Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s "Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt" project proposal in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment NIRB's indication to the Minister is in accordance with **12.4.4** (b) which states the following:

"The proposal requires review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB shall identify particular issues or concerns which should be considered in such a review."

The enclosed NIRB Screening Decision for NIRB File No. 12MN001, signed on February 24, 2012 by Lucassie Arragutainaq at Sanikiluaq has been issued to the Minister of AAND.

As such, pursuant to Section 12.4.7 of the NLCA:

Where NIRB indicates to the Minister that a proposal requires review, the Minister shall:

- (a) where required, by law or otherwise, refer the proposal to the Minister of the Environment for review by a federal environmental assessment panel; such review shall include both socio-economic and ecosystemic impacts;
- (b) where a proposal is not to be reviewed by a federal environmental assessment panel, refer the proposal to NIRB for a review of the ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts in the Nunavut Settlement Area; or
- (c) where the proposal is not in the national or regional interest, inform the proponent that the proposal should be abandoned or modified and resubmitted to NIRB to be dealt with in accordance with Section 12.4.4.

Please contact Kofi Boa-Antwi, NIRB Technical Advisor at 867-983-4609 or <u>kboa-antwi@nirb.ca</u> if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Amanda Hanson

Director, Technical Services Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Chris Hanks, Hope Bay Mining Ltd.

Léa-Marie Bowes-Lyon, Hope Bay Mining Ltd.

Distribution List

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report (NIRB File No.: 12MN001)