



MIRAMAR HOPE BAY LTD.

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7 July 2003

Via E-mail: original by fax (867-983-2574)

Ms. Stephanie Briscoe
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board,
P.O. Box 2379
Cambridge Bay, NU,
X0E 0C0

Dear Ms. Briscoe,

Re: Doris North Project - Pre-Hearing Decision – NIRB File # 02-MN-134

This will acknowledge receipt of the Nunavut Impact Review Board's Pre-Hearing Decision related to the Doris North Project dated June 12, 2003 (the "Decision").

Miramar Hope Bay Ltd ("MHBL") has now had a chance to review the Decision and will be developing an action plan to respond to the deficiencies and incorporate our findings in the Final Environmental Impact Statement ("FEIS"). We are concerned that the process of obtaining the required regulatory approvals to proceed with the Doris North Project will take longer and entail significantly more cost than we originally anticipated. We will do everything in our power to work with you to completing this process as expeditiously as possible.

MHBL would like to make the following comments on the Decision:

- The 90 day FEIS review period and stated deficiencies in the Decision will result in a significant delay before production will commence.
- MHBL's intends to file the FEIS with NIRB in November, 2003, incorporating the 2003 field program and specific technical data collection, which, when completed, we expect will enable the Board to proceed to final hearings.
- Once the FEIS has been filed with NIRB, MHBL would expect that final hearing dates can be scheduled by NIRB to begin immediately following the 90 day review period. This would enable all hearings and public input to be completed in late Spring 2004.
- MHBL remains hopeful that both NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board hearings can be coordinated, thereby expediting the overall review process.
- In the meantime, MHBL will continue its negotiations with KIA and NTI on the IIBA and Mineral Production Lease respectively.

If you have any questions related to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on the above numbers or 1-780-975-2550, or you can contact me by e-mail at hugh_r_wilson@hotmail.com; or hwilson@miramarmining.com.

Sincerely,
Miramar Hope Bay Ltd.

Original signed by "H.R. Wilson"

Hugh R. Wilson,
Manager, Environmental Affairs

CC: Tony Walsh, President, Miramar Mining Corporation (by e-mail)
David Long, General Counsel, Miramar Mining Corporation and MHL (by e-mail)
Mr. James Eetoolook, 1st Vice President NTI (by e-mail)
Mr. Charlie Evalik, President, Kitikmeot Inuit Association (by e-mail)
P. Di Pizzo, Executive Director, Nunavut Water Board (by email)