



## Miramar Hope Bay Ltd.

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February 8, 2005

Phillippe di Pizzo  
Chief Executive Officer  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut  
X0B 1J0

Dear Mr. di Pizzo:

**Re: Doris North Project**

In March of 2002 Miramar Hope Bay Ltd. ("Miramar") made an application (the "Application") to the Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") for a water licence for the Doris North Project in Nunavut (the "Project"). The NWB subsequently referred the Project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for environmental assessment pursuant to Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement ("NLCA"). NIRB conducted this environmental assessment in 2003 - 2004, culminating in a series of public hearings held in the communities in July, 2004.

In its final report, NIRB indicated that Miramar had failed to provide 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 it would be proper for Miramar to reapply to NIRB to have the environmental assessment of the Doris North Project reconsidered. Over the past months Miramar has initiated work to address each of the deficient areas identified by NIRB and is ready to re-enter the environmental assessment process. To this end Miramar has completed an updated Preliminary Project Description for its Doris North Project. The Project as described is essentially the same Project that was being reviewed by NIRB in the summer of 2004, however the proposed project schedule has been altered from that initially proposed to reflect the events of the past year and to recognize the time needed for completion of the upcoming assessment and permitting process. Other items such as the type of tailings dam construction proposed have been changed to reflect the concerns raised by NIRB in their earlier review.

The updated Preliminary Project Description for the Doris North Project was submitted to the NIRB on February 1<sup>st</sup>. A copy will also be made available to the NWB through an FTP link to accompany this letter. If there is anything that you need from Miramar to refer the Project to NIRB or to address any other concerns respecting the Project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-663-8780.

As the March 2002 Water License application to the NWB remains open and in order to have NIRB proceed with a new environmental assessment, Miramar would ask that the Nunavut Water Board please formally refer the Doris North Project to NIRB for screening in accordance with Article 12 of the NLCA.

Yours truly,

**Miramar Hope Bay Ltd.**

(original signed) A. David Long

**Per: A. David Long**  
**Vice President Legal**  
**Miramar Mining Corporation**

cc. Ms. Stephanie Briscoe, Executive Director, NIRB