



NIRB File No.: 05MN047

DATE: July 22, 2005

TO: Doris North Distribution List

RE: Receipt of Supplemental Information Addressing Conformity and Subsequent Dates for Technical Meeting

Dear Parties:

On July 13, 2005, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) sent a letter to all Parties indicating Technical Meeting would be held in Yellowknife pending Miramar Hope Bay Limited (MHBL) submitting supplemental information to satisfy the deficiencies outlined in the Board's determination on conformity.

Following the Board's direction, MHBL's supplemental information was submitted on July 21, 2005. NIRB has reviewed the supplemental information and the Board is satisfied that the previous conformity deficiencies have been addressed. Please see the attached final conformity table. The supplemental information is available on NIRB's ftp site at the following location:

ftp://ftp.nunavut.ca/nirb/Reviews/05MN047%20-%20DORIS_NORTH/2-REVIEW/05-DRAFT_EIS/Supplemental Information

Given the successful conformity determination, NIRB will proceed with the Technical Meeting in Yellowknife as planned. **The dates and location of the Technical Meeting are hereby confirmed to be August 23-25, 2005, in Yellowknife. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Copper room at the Yellowknife Inn on Tuesday August 23rd, 2005.**

The main objective of the Technical Meeting is to discuss all technical issues that Parties discern through their technical reviews of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The Technical Meeting will result in a list of requirements for the filing of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). An agenda will be distributed in due course.

NIRB requires Parties to submit their technical review comments on the DEIS **no later than August 15th, 2005, by 15:00hrs (3:00 p.m.) Mountain Time**. Please submit reviews to Gladys Joudrey, Manager of Environmental Administration (gjoudrey@nirb.nunavut.ca).

The Technical Meeting will be structured such that the following five Key Areas will be focused on:

1. The wildlife mitigation and monitoring plan including cumulative effects assessment;
2. The Tail Lake water quality and water management strategy;
3. The assessment of alternatives to the use of Tail Lake for tailings disposal;
4. The design of the jetty and related issues including effects on fish habitat, shoreline erosion and the seabed; and
5. The socio-economic impact of the project on affected residents and communities of Nunavut.

NIRB staff request that Parties submit their technical review comments under the above subject headings with reference to the specific document, section and page number. This will also assist MHBL in recognizing the origins of specific concerns, making it easier to provide a direct response at the Technical Meeting. Should Parties have issues that fall outside of the above-mentioned Key Areas, please include those comments in a separate general section with sub-headings for the issues and again with a reference to the specific document, section and page number.

The Technical Meeting will be facilitated by NIRB staff. Furthermore, a Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC) between NIRB staff, MHBL and the Parties will take place on the afternoon of August 25th, 2005. Although the Board will not be present, they ask that the following be discussed:

1. Timing of the FEIS filing;
2. The Final Hearing venue;
3. Final Hearing Format; and
4. Timing of the Final Hearing.

NIRB therefore requires that Parties submit comments on the above-mentioned PHC topics with their technical review comments **no later than August 15th, 2005, by 15:00hrs (3:00 p.m.) Mountain Time.**

On a separate but equally important note, the Board received a letter on July 8th, 2005 from Mr. King, representing the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay, seeking funds to travel to Yellowknife to participate in the Technical Meeting. As it turns out, NIRB had planned to include the Hamlets by seeking representatives from community governments and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA). Accordingly, the Board will be in touch with the community governments and KIA to discuss how the Board could arrange the participation of representatives from each community.

If you have any question please do not hesitate to contact me or Stephen Lines, Technical Advisor (867-983-4616)

Yours truly,

(Original signed by)

Stephanie Briscoe
Executive Director

Encl.: Final Conformity Table

Cc: Honourable Andy Scott, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
David Long, Miramar Hope Bay Limited