



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada
www.inac.gc.ca

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada
www.ainc.gc.ca

Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
05MN047
Our file - Notre référence
5510-5-11

Ms. Stephanie Briscoe
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
PO Box 2379
Cambridge Bay, NU X0E 0C0

Delivered Via E-Mail & Facsimile

January 18, 2006

Re: Written Submission Extension for Assessment of Tailings Alternatives

Dear Ms. Briscoe,

Thank you for your letter of January 13, 2006, in which Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has accepted Mirimar Hope Bay Limited's (MHBL) proposal to submit additional information by January 18, 2006 regarding *the assessment of alternatives to the use of Tail lake for tailings disposal. Tailings*. In your letter, NIRB has also granted an extension for Final Hearing submission to Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Environment Canada.

INAC is interested in reviewing the new information submitted by MHBL after January 18, 2006. As the department has been not granted the same review opportunities as DFO and EC, INAC requests NIRB allow interveners with concerns about the new information to submit an intervention before the Final Hearings. The department supports NIRB's effort in establishing a fair and transparent environmental assessment process.

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 975-4546 or Robyn Abernethy-Gillis at (867) 975-4549.

Sincerely,

Carl McLean
Director of Operations