



Environment Environnement  
Canada Canada

Environmental Protection Branch  
Qimugjuk Building 969 P.O. Box 1870  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0  
Tel: (867) 975-4639  
Fax: (867) 975-4645

July 4, 2005

Our file: 4703 003 013

Gladys Joudrey  
Manager of Environmental Administration  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0  
Tel: (867) 983-4600  
Fax: (867) 983-2594

*Via Email at [gjoudrey@nirb.nunavut.ca](mailto:gjoudrey@nirb.nunavut.ca)*

Dear Ms. Joudrey:

**RE: Miramar Hope Bay Ltd. – Doris North Gold Project Draft EIS Conformity Review**

On June 13, 2005, Miramar Hope Bay Ltd. submitted a revised draft EIS for the Doris North Gold Project. The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has requested that interested parties provide comments regarding whether the revised draft EIS conforms with the EIS Guidelines (dated October 2002) and addresses the five key areas of deficiency as identified by the NIRB in the Public Hearing Decision of August 2004. The attached excel table represents Environment Canada's (EC) conformity review of the project, and is based on EC's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

While the NIRB received the draft EIS for the project on June 13, 2005, EC did not receive copies of the report until the afternoon of June 21, 2005 due to shipping difficulties. Given the abbreviated review period allotted for the completion of the conformity review, EC was unable to complete as thorough of a conformity review as would have been preferred. However, EC has identified a number of areas where the draft EIS does not conform to the EIS Guidelines. Environment Canada has also taken this opportunity to identify to the NIRB and Miramar Hope Bay Ltd. those areas in which it is evident that additional information will be required during the adequacy/technical review. Given the fact that even at this preliminary stage of review adequacy issues have been identified, EC recommends that the NIRB reevaluate the time frame proposed in the letter from Stephanie Briscoe dated June 17, 2005 in which the NIRB has indicated that technical meetings on the draft EIS could be held as early as the second week of August. This would only allow



Environment Environnement  
Canada Canada

approximately one month for the technical review of the draft EIS, which is an extremely short review period. The timeframe for review is compounded further for EC as most of our experts are unavailable in the summer months due to research/field programs. Environment Canada recommends that the adequacy/technical review period for the draft EIS be extended to allow interested parties the opportunity to provide a thorough review of the EIS to the NIRB and the proponent as early as possible in the environmental assessment process.

Environment Canada appreciates the effort that Miramar Hope Bay Ltd. has put into the development of the revised EIS, and looks forward to continuing to work with both the proponent and the NIRB in the review of the Doris North Gold Project. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4639 or by email at [colette.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca](mailto:colette.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca).

Yours truly,

***Original signed by***

Colette Spagnuolo  
Environmental Assessment / Contaminated Sites Specialist

cc: (Stephen Harbicht, Head, Assessment and Monitoring, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)

attach. Env Can Revised DEIS Conformity Review – Excel file