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5510-5-11

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

July 4, 2005

Dear Ms. Briscoe,

Re: Request for Comments on Proposed Guidelines and Timelines for Doris EIS

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), as per the June 17, 2005 instructions of the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), has conducted a conformity review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Doris North Gold Project. INAC has completed its review in Microsoft Excel, as was requested by NIRB, and has included the table as an attachment to this letter.

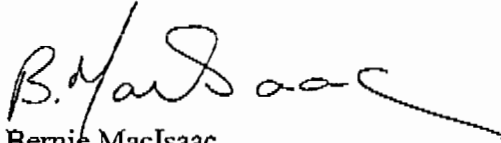
On several points, the Department found that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement does not conform to the NIRB guidelines. The points of non-conformity include, but are not limited to: water management; details of on site transportation; the potential for thawing of permafrost in proposed borrow and quarry sites; socio-economic and cultural areas; reliability and description of alternative technologies; temporal boundaries; natural drainage diversions; sewage and solid waste management; cumulative effects assessment; feasibility options and related mitigation measures; and areas of post-closure monitoring, liability, and reclamation.

INAC recommends that Miramar-Hope Bay Ltd. provide interveners with clarification and additional information to address the outstanding conformity deficiencies prior to the adequacy review. It is likely that the proponent has already gathered this information, however not included it in this Draft EIS. The outstanding information items are linked to other areas of the Project, and as such a complete adequacy review will not be possible with the information provided.

Canada

Please contact me at (867) 975-4290, or Glen Stephens, Manager of the Environment Division, at (867) 975-4549, if you have questions or comments.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. MacIsaac", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bernie MacIsaac
A/Director of Operations