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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2AM-DOH1323

June 18, 2015

Tara Arko
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360 (29 Mitik)
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
Email: tarko@nirb.ca

Subject: Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1323; TMAC Resources Inc.; Updated Waste Rock and Ore Management Plan (2015); Request for NIRB Assessment

Dear Tara Arko,

TMAC Resources Inc. (TMAC) operates the Hope Bay Project under water licence 2AM-DOH1323 issued by the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). On April 27, 2015 TMAC submitted a letter with associated documents to the NWB seeking the NWB's approval for a revision to the current *Waste Rock and Ore Management Plan (2010)*; this request was formulated according to Part G, Item 19 of Licence No. 2AM-DOH1323, which states that "*All Waste Rock brought to the surface from underground shall be managed in accordance with the approved Plan submitted under Part G, Item 14*". The proposed Plan includes the construction and operation of a waste rock storage pad identified as Pad T.

On May 8, 2015, the Board submitted the Plan for review by interested parties. During the review period, comments were provided by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (ANNDC), Environment Canada (EC) and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA). None of the comments mentioned the possibility that the Plan as it is written would trigger a change of scope, in either the NWB's Water Licence or the NIRB's Project Certificate.

However, a preliminary review of the Plan completed by the NIRB and the NWB in a coordinated approach, determined that some numbers or definitions of the numbers given in the Plan are not clear and therefore the NIRB might need to get additional clarification to determine a potential change in scope with respect to the Project Certificate. Also, it was stated that if the NWB wants a formal determination from the NIRB to this specific Plan, the Plan would need to be sent to the NIRB with a request to assess it.

Following this, the Nunavut Water Board is respectfully requesting that the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) review the information associated with the proposed updated *Waste Rock and Ore Management Plan (2010)* to determine whether the 2015 updated Plan, including the additions / changes to the waste rock and ore storage pads, will be screened in accordance with the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) or exempt as stated under section 12.4.3 of NCLA.

In doing so the NWB recognizes that the NIRB will either conduct a screening (if the proposed activities are outside the scope of the previously assessed project proposal) or could issue their own determination that the activities proposed in the Plan are within the scope of the previously assessed project proposal and are therefore exempt from screening.

Accordingly, the Board appreciates receiving NIRB's determination on the need for and / or timelines for this assessment, and if screening is required, the timeline for screening and its results. Further to this, the NWB is enclosing the documents related to this request, which may also be downloaded from the NWB's ftp site at:

[ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/1%20PRUC%20PUBLIC%20REGISTRY/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-DOH1323%20TMAC/3%20TECH/4%20WASTE%20DISP%20\(G\)/](ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/1%20PRUC%20PUBLIC%20REGISTRY/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-DOH1323%20TMAC/3%20TECH/4%20WASTE%20DISP%20(G)/).

Next, should the NIRB determine a change of scope is not required, the Board will proceed with the NWB's process and consider the Plan for approval under Licence No. 2AM-DOH1323 as long as the required information related to the Plan has been submitted, and it has been deemed satisfactory by the reviewers.

In the interim, by copy of this letter, the NWB would like to inform TMAC of its decision to request the assessment from the NIRB and will await the determination prior to proceeding with the current request for approval of the updated Waste Rock and Ore Storage Plan (2015)

If you have any questions or require clarification on the above, please contact David Hohnstein at (780)443-4406, dts@nwb-oen.ca, or Sonia Aredes, Technical Advisor (867)979-3079, sonia.aredes@nwb-oen.ca

Sincerely,

Sonia Aredes
Nunavut Water Board
Technical Advisor

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