95 Wellington St. W.
Suite 1010, PO Box 44
Toronto Dominion Centre
Toronto, Ontario
M5J 2N7
416-628-0216

July 24, 2015

Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing
Sonia Aredes, Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0B 1J0
phyllis.beaulieu@nwb-oen.ca
sonia.aredes@nwb-oen.ca

Dear Ms. Beaulieu, Ms. Aredes;

Re: Part G Item 19 of 2AM-DOH1323, Request for Approval of Revised *Waste Rock and Ore Management Plan - Responses to Party Comments (AANDC)*

With respect to the Request for Approval of the revised Doris *Waste Rock and Ore Management Plan* (WR&OMP I) submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) on May 1, 2015, and in response to the additional comments received from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) on July 23, TMAC Resources Inc. (TMAC) is pleased to provide the following response regarding justification for one metre minimum fill thickness for waste rock storage Pad T.

As demonstrated in the design documentation, and recognized by AANDC in their letter dated July 23, 2015, the 1 m of rock fill used for the construction of the waste rock pad will ensure that the underlying permafrost remains frozen year round. When the underlying tundra remains frozen, it provides a competent and stable foundation base, not only for the waste rock being placed on the pad, but also for any equipment or vehicles trafficking the pad. The pad is constructed of quarry rock, which is in itself a highly competent construction material, and can readily handle any traffic loads imposed by equipment or vehicles on site. This has been clearly demonstrated through actual performance since the first roads and pads were constructed at the Doris North project in 2007.

Should a hydrocarbon spill occur and be of sufficient volume to migrate through the 1 m layer of pad rock, it will be stopped by the underlying frozen tundra, making any

cleanup efforts simple and effective with no risk to the actual tundra soils. In any event, the pad will remain on the tundra in perpetuity, so even in the highly unlikely event that the underlying tundra soils were impacted though a hydrocarbon spill resulting in excavation and remediation of the impacted soils, the area would be clad in rock to preserve the tundra when the hydrocarbon soils are remediated. This will ensure no long term permafrost degradation risk.

Should you have any questions regarding the response, or require any further information, please contact me at john.roberts@tmacresources.com.

Yours sincerely,

M. John Roberts
Vice President, Environmental Affairs
Hope Bay Project
(416) 628-0216