

NIRB File No.: 08MN006

October 8, 2008

To: Hackett River Distribution List

Re: Hackett River Part 5 Review – Public Scoping Meetings

Dear Parties,

On September 11, 2008 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) provided notice to Parties regarding the commencement of the NIRB's Review of Sabina Silver Corporation's Hackett River Project proposal (the Project) pursuant to Article 12, Part 5 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement (NLCA).

The NIRB operates under the principle that public participation is an important element of an open and balanced environmental assessment process. The NIRB's goal is to encourage meaningful public participation during all stages of the review process (see Guide 6a: Guide to NIRB's Public Awareness and Participation Programs: The Review Process, available online at http://ftp.nirb.ca/GUIDES/).

At this time, the NIRB is providing Parties with notice of Public Scoping Meetings to be held in the communities of the Kitikmeot Region which may be potentially affected by the Project.

Public Scoping Meetings are designed to provide the Public with an overview of the Project, a discussion of the NIRB Review process, the *Draft* Scope of the Project, and finally, to facilitate discussion with members of the Public regarding the potential impacts the Project may have. An Open House is meant to provide a forum for questions about the NIRB in general, and to provide an avenue for members of the Public to obtain further information with respect to the Hackett River review and how the Public may be involved in the process.

The NIRB will be holding a public meeting and/or open house in each community as follows:

Community	Location	Date(s) and Time(s)
Gjoa Haven		
Open House	Community Hall	October 15 th 5-7 p.m.
Public Meeting and	Community Hall	October 15 th 7-9 p.m.
Presentation		
Kugluktuk		
 Public Meeting and 	Complex – Main Hall	October 16 th 7-9 p.m.
Presentation	Complex – Copper Room	October 17 th 9-11 a.m.
Open House		
Umingmaktok		
Public Meeting	Location TBA	October 17 th 3-5 p.m.

In recognition of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association's Annual General Meeting being held October 21-23, the NIRB will continue with the Public Scoping Meetings the week of October 27th as follows:

Community	Location	Date(s) and Time(s)
Kugaaruk		
Open House	Community Hall	October 27 th 5-7 p.m.
Public Meeting and	Community Hall	October 27 th 7-9 p.m.
Presentation		
Taloyoak		
Open House	Community Hall	October 28 th 5-7 p.m.
 Public Meeting and 	Community Hall	October 28 th 7-9 p.m.
Presentation		
Cambridge Bay		
 Public Meeting and 	Elders' Palace	October 29 th 7-9 p.m.
Presentation	Elders' Palace	October 30 th 9 a.m. – noon
Open House		

During the Scoping Meetings, the NIRB will provide information to the public and other interested Parties including: a description of the NIRB review process, an overview of Project details, and a discussion of the Project's potential effects to the ecosystemic and socio-economic environments.

The purpose of the Scoping Meetings to determine the coverage, content and focus of the Proponent's Environmental Impact Statement; those elements of the Project that require further study and analysis throughout the Review; any Valued Ecosystem Components and Valued Socio-Economic Components identified by the public; and what components, if any, may be left out of the assessment.

On September 18th, 2008, the NIRB distributed a *Draft* Scope of the Project and requested that interested Parties provide written comments to the NIRB on or before October 9, 2008. Upon receipt of these, the

NIRB shall integrate any relevant comments into a revised *Draft* Scope for discussion with the communities during the Public Scoping Meetings.

<u>Please note:</u> Translation **will** be provided at the public meetings.

The NIRB looks forward to informative and productive scoping sessions. Should you require clarification in this matter, please contact the undersigned at jrusk@nirb.ca, or the NIRB's Technical Advisor, Amanda Hanson, at ahanson@nirb.ca by telephone at (867) 983-4615.

Sincerely,

Jeff Rusk

Director, Technical Services Nunavut Impact Review Board

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