

September 6th, 2004

Mr. Philippe di Pizzo
Executive Director
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut
X0B 1J0

By FAX and e-Mail

Dear Sir:

RE: KIA and NTI Participation in NWB Jericho Project Licence Proceeding

Mr. Charlie Evalik, President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) has instructed me to advise the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) of the need for funding to assist the collaborative effort planned between Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and KIA in order to participate in the NWB Jericho Project water licensing process. In particular, I wish to bring the NWB's attention to the financial demands occasioned by this and other concurrent proceedings on our respective organizations.

As you may be aware, 2004 and 2005 promise to be exceptional years in terms of development review and regulatory proceedings in the Kitikmeot region. Tahera's Jericho project has been reviewed by NIRB and will soon be the subject of a water licensing hearing. The Miramar project was reviewed by NIRB and more work may follow before that Board depending on the Minister of DIAND's response. Subsequent water licensing hearings for Doris North are also required. Furthermore, NIRB is just beginning a part 5 process for the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project and the Nunavut Planning Commission plans hearings on the revised West Kitikmeot Land Use Plan early in the New Year. The requirement to participate in all of these proceedings in order to properly reflect and represent Inuit interests and the residents of the Kitikmeot has strained KIA's resources beyond the breaking point.

As a co-management body and institution of public government, NWB has an important role to play in ensuring that Inuit representation is a part of its process. In the Tahera Jericho licensing proceeding this is particularly true because the development is partially on Inuit Owned Lands.

KIA and NTI are planning for participation in the NWB process and have developed a budget for their technical reviews and participation. I have arranged for Mr. Geoff

* Practising law through the John Donihee Professional Corporation.

Clark, the Environmental Screener from KIA to forward that budget under separate cover.

The purpose of this letter is to seek NWB support for intervener funding for KIA and NTI in the Jericho water licensing process. We believe that the quality and comprehensiveness of the Jericho water licensing proceeding will be directly affected by the level of Inuit participation. We submit that NWB should try to ensure that this participation can take place.

We are aware that formal intervener funding arrangements have not been made for Nunavut Water Board hearings in the past. However, DIAND regularly provides funding for First Nations to participate in MWT Water Board and MVLWB hearings in the NWT. Inuit should not be treated any less favourably. We ask that NWB take the necessary steps to secure funding for non-government interveners in the Jericho hearing process.

Finally, in support of this request, we ask that the Board give careful consideration to our proposed budget request once it is received.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By:

John Donihee
Counsel to the KIA

cc. Charlie Evalik, President, KIA
Carson Gillies, Director Lands, NTI
Geoffrey Clark, Environmental Screener, KIA