

NIRB File No.: 09MN003

AANDC File No.: 5510-5-25-3 DFO File No.: 08-HCAA-CA7-00002

NRCan File No: NT-070 EC File No.: 4703 001 006

May 4, 2012

To: Kiggavik Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: <u>Conformity Determination for AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s Draft Environmental Impact Statement Submission and Commencement of the NIRB's Technical Review Period</u>

## Dear Parties:

On January 3, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) formally acknowledged receipt of AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s (AREVA; the Proponent) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) submission for the Kiggavik project (NIRB File No. 09MN003). The Board initiated an internal review of the DEIS to determine whether or not it conformed to the EIS Guidelines issued to AREVA on May 3, 2011. On January 18, 2012 the NIRB issued correspondence to the Proponent which indicated that the DEIS did not conform to the NIRB's EIS Guidelines and requested that it provide a resubmission which would address the deficiencies identified during the Board's conformity review. On April 25, 2012 the NIRB received AREVA's revised submission of the DEIS for the Kiggavik project and commenced an internal review of the DEIS resubmission to determine whether the submission conformed to the NIRB's EIS Guidelines and the outstanding requirements as identified the Board's January 18, 2012 correspondence.

The NIRB hereby accepts AREVA's submission as a DEIS and commences the technical review period. The entire DEIS submission provided by AREVA can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at the following location:

http://ftp.nirb.ca/02-REVIEWS/ACTIVE%20REVIEWS/09MN003-AREVA%20KIGGAVIK/2-REVIEW/06-DRAFT%20EIS/02-DEIS%20SUBMISSION/.

P.O. Box 1360 Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0 Phone: (867) 983-4600 Fax: (867) 983-2594

## The Technical Review Process

The technical review is a meant to provide a detailed review of the DEIS, with the intent of analyzing the completeness and quality of the information presented by the Proponent in its DEIS. This next step in the NIRB's Review of the Kiggavik project and parties' review of the DEIS submission consists of the development of technical review comments which should include the following:

- Determination of whether Parties agree/disagree with the conclusions in the DEIS regarding the alternatives assessment, environmental impacts, proposed mitigation, significance of impacts, and monitoring measures and reasons to support the determination;
- Determination of whether or not conclusions in the DEIS are supported by the analysis and reasons to support the determination;
- Determination of whether appropriate methodology was utilized in the DEIS to develop conclusions – and reasons to support the determination, along with any proposed alternative methodologies which may be more appropriate (if applicable);
- Assessment of the quality and presentation of the information in the DEIS; and
- Any comments regarding additional information which would be useful in assessing impacts – and reasons to support any comments made.

The development of technical review comments involves parties' formulation of Information Requests (IRs) that are based upon their review of the DEIS and the subsequent identification of any gaps or areas of uncertainty which must be addressed.

## Call for Information Requests

To facilitate the development of technical review comments by parties, the NIRB is now inviting interested parties to provide the NIRB with Information Requests (IRs) directed to the Proponent and/or other parties regarding the Kiggavik DEIS. IRs are not technical review comments, but rather are meant to identify information gaps within the DEIS that need to be addressed so that parties can develop their respective technical review comments. IRs must contain the following information:

- To whom the IR is directed:
- Identification of the issue:
- The concern associated with the issue;
- A clear rationale of the issue's importance to the impact assessment of the proposed project; and,
- A clear reference to the volume, document, section, and/or page number in the DEIS where relevant information may be found, if applicable.

The NIRB is providing the enclosed updated process map that outlines the next steps in the NIRB's Review of the proposed Kiggavik Project have been provided in the enclosed updated process map. The following steps have been highlighted here for the information of parties:

- Submission of Information Requests (IRs) directly to the NIRB by interested parties on or before 5:00 pm MST, Monday, June 4, 2012 (30 days).
- After considering all IRs and making decisions regarding their suitability, the NIRB will
  forward all appropriate requests to the Proponent (and other parties if applicable) by
  Friday, June 8, 2011.
- Upon forwarding IRs for a response, the NIRB may set a timeframe for the Proponent (and other parties if applicable) to respond with an IR response package.
- Upon receipt of the IR response package(s), all parties will be given **60 days** for submission of technical review comments.

Once again, the NIRB requests that all interested parties submit their Information Requests to the NIRB at <u>info@nirb.ca</u> or by fax to (867) 983-2594 on or before **5:00 pm MST**, **Monday June 4**, **2012.** 

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Sophia Granchinho, Technical Advisor, at (867) 793-4633 or via email at <a href="mailto:sgranchinho@nirb.ca">sgranchinho@nirb.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

Amanda Hanson

Director, Technical Services Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Tammy Van Lambalgen, AREVA Resources Canada Ltd.

Diane Martens, AREVA Resources Canada Ltd.

Enclosed: NIRB's Review Process Map and Anticipated Timelines for the Kiggavik Project