



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

September 20, 2012

Tammy Van Lambalgen
Vice President Regulatory Affairs & General Counsel
AREVA Resources Canada Inc.
817 – 45th Street West
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3X5

Sent via email: Tammy.VanLambalgen@areva.ca

Re: AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s Information Request Response

Dear Tammy Van Lambalgen:

The Board is in receipt of your letter of August 30, 2012 in which you indicate that AREVA Resources Canada Inc. (AREVA) intends to submit responses to Information Requests (IRs) for the Review of the Kiggavik project (NIRB File No. 09MN003) by January 31, 2013.

The NIRB has previously noted that it has an obligation to adhere as closely as possible to its published review timelines¹ and expects that all parties, including the Proponent, will endeavour to structure their participation in the Review process in accordance with the timelines set by the Board. The Board notes that AREVA took approximately 7 months following the issuance of EIS Guidelines to develop and submit its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to the NIRB, followed by an additional 3 months to revise and re-submit the DEIS. AREVA now intends to take an additional 7 months to formulate its responses, while clearly indicating that it does not intend to respond to a number of IRs that it believes should be omitted or deferred.

Recognizing that the NIRB previously issued comprehensive guidelines to AREVA for the development of its DEIS, as well as additional direction on information expectations prior to accepting the DEIS submission, the Board is concerned that AREVA is planning to take an exceptional amount of time to prepare responses to IRs, while also planning to omit and defer an unspecified number of responses. The Board has incorporated the Proponent's submission date into a revised Anticipated Timeline for the Review of the Kiggavik project (see attached

¹ NIRB Guide 5: Guide to the NIRB Review Process, Appendix A available online at the following location:
<http://ftp.nirb.ca/04-GUIDES/>

Appendix A). The Board intends to forward this updated timeline to parties no later than October 1, 2012, in order to facilitate their respective planning and updating of Participant Funding contribution agreements as may be necessary. The Board cautions AREVA that sufficiently detailed IR responses are required to facilitate the efforts of all parties participating in the Review process.

While appreciating that the time required for submission of an adequate IR Response Package is Proponent driven, the NIRB believes strongly that impact assessment processes must be both timely and predictable to be effective. Difficulties in providing predictable Review timelines has implications for public participation, and impacts the Board's ability to budget, plan for and coordinate the various stages in the Kiggavik Review with its other ongoing assessments and initiatives.

Given the current number of active assessments before the NIRB and the implications to their respective timelines, as well as the challenges that delays create for those parties scheduling their participation in this Review, it is important that the Board has confidence in AREVA's ability to meet the remaining timelines for the Kiggavik Review moving forward. To this end, the Board asks that AREVA review the enclosed review process map and notify the NIRB by no later than September 28, 2012 if it determines that it will be unable to meet the January 31, 2013 deadline for the submission of IR responses, or if it believes that additional time might be required at any subsequent stages of this Review to permit the full and effective participation of AREVA in this assessment. The NIRB will then circulate the revised timeline to all parties.

The NIRB will of course continue to consider requests for flexibility in its timelines on a case by case basis, and looks forward to working with all parties to maintain an efficient and timely review process. If you have any questions or require further clarification related to the NIRB's Review process, please do not hesitate to contact Amanda Hanson, Director of Technical Services, at (867) 983-4615 or ahanson@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Diane Martens, AREVA Resources Canada
Kiggavik Distribution List

Enclosure (1): AREVA Resources Canada Inc. Letter to NIRB Re: Anticipated Information Request Submission Date Regarding the Kiggavik Draft Environmental Impact Statement, dated August 30, 2012

Attachment: Appendix A: Anticipated Timeline for the NIRB's Review of the Kiggavik Project (September 20, 2012)

APPENDIX A: ANTICIPATED TIMELINE FOR THE NIRB'S REVIEW OF THE KIGGAVIK PROJECT
(SEPTEMBER 20, 2012)

NIRB’s Review Process Map and Anticipated Timeline for the Kiggavik Project¹

NIRB

Proponent

Mar 2, 2010

Mar 12, 2010

Apr 25 - May 10, 2010

Nov 15, 2010

Feb 9, 2011

Mar 21, 2011

Mar 22 - Mar 24, 2011

May 3, 2011

Dec 20, 2011

Apr 25, 2012 Resubmission

May 4, 2012

May 22 - May 30, 2012

Jun 29, 2012

July 13, 2012

Jan 31, 2013

Feb 6, 2013

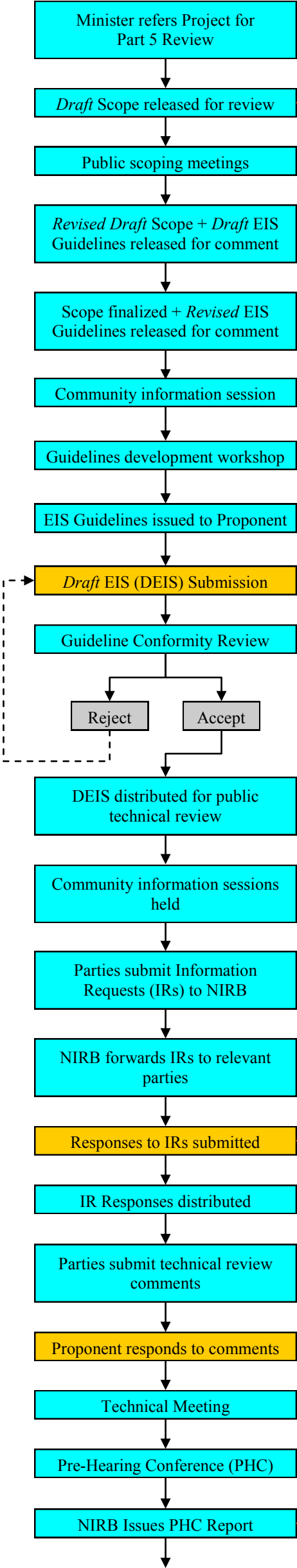
Apr 8, 2013

Apr 18, 2013

April 30 - May 2, 2013

May 6-9, 2013

Jun 5, 2013



Participant funding announced (Mar 12)

Minister’s decision on participant funding (Aug 10)

INAC issue participant funding (Nov 15)

DEIS submitted by the Proponent did not meet the NIRB’s conformity determination. The Proponent was asked to resubmit its DEIS on January 18, 2012. Resubmission received April 25, 2012.

The time required for submission of an responses to IRs is primarily Proponent-driven. The Proponent indicated its response to IRs will be provided by January 31, 2013.

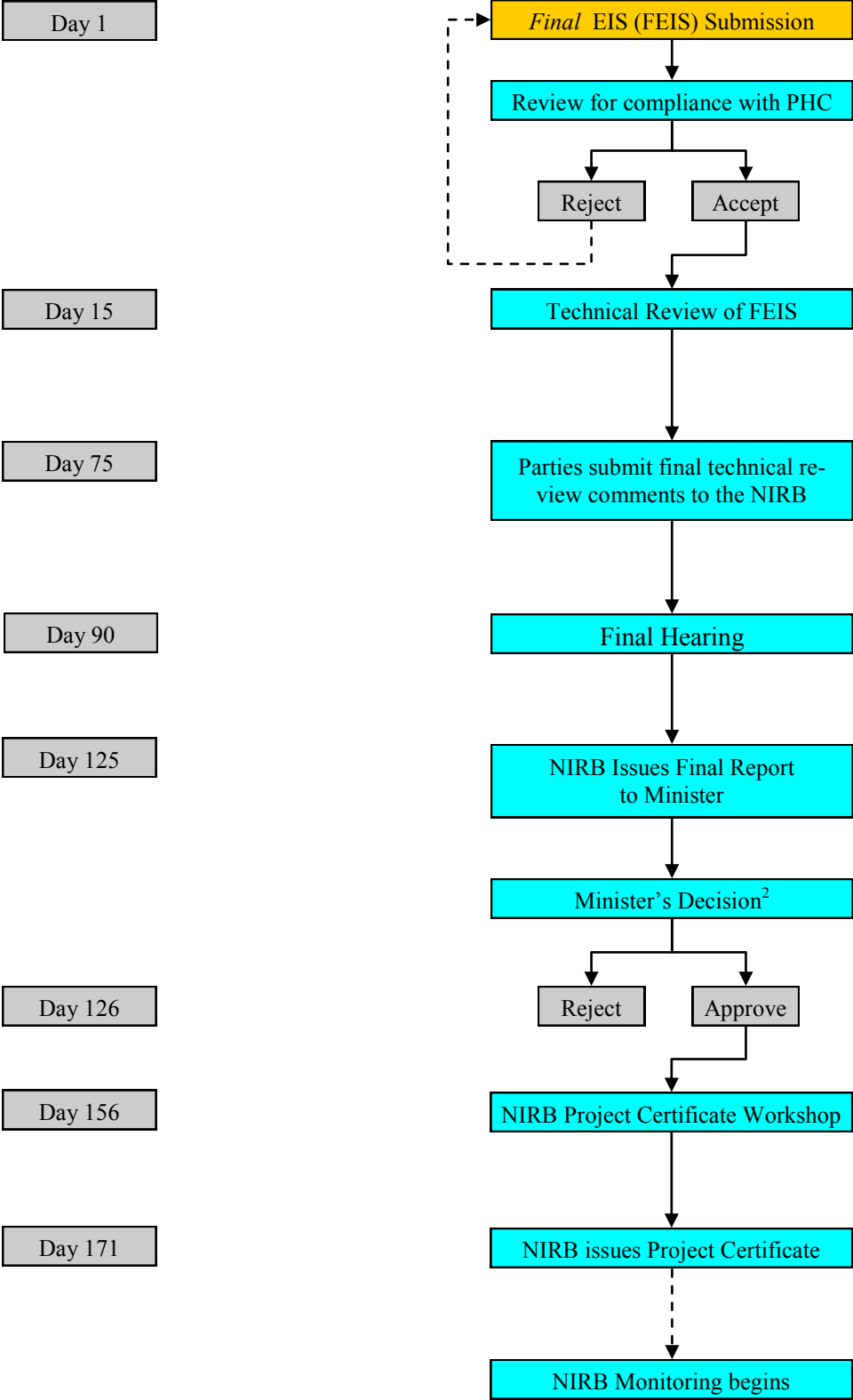
The Proponent will develop an FEIS with the issued PHC compliance report based on its own time-table, making the transition to the next stage of the Review Proponent-driven.

NIRB’s Review Process Map and Anticipated Timeline for the Kiggavik Project¹

NIRB

Proponent

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Notes: 1 = Timelines may change based on project-specific circumstances and subject to the NIRB’s discretion.
2 = The timeline for the Minister’s Decision is independent of the NIRB.