

NIRB File No.: 09MN003

March 15, 2013

David Gladders
Executive Director
Canadian Arctic Resources Committee
488 Gladstone Avenue
Ottawa, ON

Sent via email: davidg@carc.org

Re: NIRB Response to CARC's Request to Suspend the Technical Review of AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s Draft EIS for the Kiggavik Project Proposal

Dear David Gladders:

On behalf of the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board), I would like to take this opportunity to respond to the enclosed correspondence received on March 14, 2013 from the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC) regarding the NIRB's ongoing Review of AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s (AREVA or the Proponent) Kiggavik project proposal (the Project). Your letter notes that Information Requests submitted by CARC addressed to the Government of Nunavut (GN) and to AREVA were not responded to in full, and further requests that the NIRB suspend the technical review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) submitted for the Kiggavik Project until such time as the requested information is received from the GN.

As you are aware, on May 4, 2012 the NIRB initiated the public technical review period for the DEIS submitted by AREVA for the Kiggavik project, inviting interested parties to submit their Information Requests (IRs) to the Board for consideration by June 4, 2012, later extended to June 29, 2012 at the request of parties. After reviewing all IRs received, on July 13, 2012 the NIRB forwarded the accepted IRs to the Proponent and other parties, including the GN. The NIRB requested that the Proponent and parties review the submissions and supply the Board with an indication of an anticipated date for submission of an IR Response Package by July 31, 2012, later extended to August 31, 2012. On August 31, 2012 the GN provided the NIRB with responses to three IRs directed to it and indicated that it intended to respond to the remaining IRs, including one provided by CARC, by September 7, 2012. The NIRB also received the Proponent's responses to IRs on January 31, 2013.

The NIRB notes that IRs were to be developed and addressed to the Proponent and/or other parties regarding the Kiggavik DEIS as a means to identify information gaps within the DEIS that need to be addressed so that parties can develop their respective technical review comments for submission to the NIRB. Where an IR has not been responded to, or where the response

received may not have provided sufficient detail to meet reviewer's expectations, the NIRB expects that parties will indicate within their technical review comments where such a gap may exist, or where technical issues remain outstanding as a result of inadequate information. The IR submitted by CARC directed to the GN was specific to GIS information (i.e. shape files) which would be used to facilitate an analysis of potential impacts to caribou independent of the DEIS prepared by AREVA and the GN's forthcoming technical review comments. Although the NIRB is disappointed that the GN failed to respond to CARC's IR within the timeframe it had committed to, the Board has no ability to compel the GN to respond and cannot suspend the Review because the GN has not done so.

As previously indicated, the Board requests that all interested parties submit their respective technical review comments for consideration on or before **12:00 pm MST, April 8, 2013**. Technical review comments may be submitted to the NIRB via email to info@nirb.ca or by fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification regarding the NIRB's Review process, please 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 Inc.
Kiggavik Distribution List

Enclosed: CARC Letter to NIRB Re Outstanding Response to IRs (*March 14, 2013*)
Government of Nunavut Letter to NIRB Re Response to IRs (*August 31, 2012*)