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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

July 12, 2001

via fax 780-423-7276

Mr. Martin Ignasiak Fraser Milner Casgrain 10180-101 Street Edmonton AB T5J 3V5

Subject: Application for Amendment to Licence **NWB1LUP0008**

Dear Mr. Ignasiak:

Thank you for your letter of July 11, 2001 with respect to the above captioned Application. Your letter will be recorded in the Nunavut Water Board public registry and sent to all parties in the attached distribution list with a copy of this letter. In your letter, you essentially raise two issues: Hearings Rule 3.1 and Mr. Brodie's participation.

On the first issue, as indicated in my June 8, 2001 letter to Bill Danyluk in which I also confirm that the Board will conduct a one-day public Hearing in Kugluktuk on August 9, 2001, the initial deadline of June 29, 2001 was changed to take into account the requirements of Section 3.1 of the Board's *Rules of Practice and Procedure for Public Hearings* which states that "...a party who intends to rely on a written document at the Hearing shall file the document on the NWB Public Register at least fifteen days before the Hearing in order that it may be distributed to other Parties". Accordingly, all documents received fifteen days before the Hearing will be copied to Echo Bay Mines Ltd. and all interested parties immediately after the deadline. We hope that all submissions will indeed be received 15 days before the Hearing. However, it would be unfair at this point to draw a firm line rejecting any submission received in the 15-day period, without *hearing* from the parties as to why they were late.

However, not filing a document will not preclude any party from taking part in the August 9, 2001 Hearing and from asking the Board permission to make an oral submission. In such an eventuality, EBM and other parties will be given the opportunity to ask questions and cross-examine any party and to review any new evidence accepted by the Board at the Hearing.

For the second matter, Mr. Brodie's participation, you raise the objection of bias and then state that "... [Mr. Brodie] cannot be considered an independent expert and he ought not to be allowed to participate in the Application or the Hearing." Surprisingly, in the next sentence or two, you ask me to arrange a meeting with Mr. Brodie and your experts to review the technical aspects of the Application.

Therefore, before arranging the meeting with Mr. Brodie, the Board will need to know if indeed you are challenging Mr. Brodie's participation, or not; if so, please list your reasons. At that point, the Board will make its ruling. If your reasons are valid, the Board will release Mr. Brodie and may choose another expert. At that time, I can arrange the meeting with your experts and whomever the Board chooses, if indeed it decides to use an independent expert at that point. Since time is of the essence, your reply by July 16, 2001 would be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Philippe di Pizzo Executive Director

c.c. Distribution List

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