

P.O. Box 360 Kugluktuk, NU X0B 0E0 Telephone: (867) 982-3310 Fax: (867) 982-3311 www.kitia.ca

December 17, 2014

Kugluktuk

Bay Chimo Umingmaktok ▷Ր∿Lీ⊃்ऽь

Cambridge Bay Ikaluktutiak ムらつらつくら

Gjoa Haven Okhoktok ▷ᠲ႕ᠲጏᠲ

> Taloyoak Cン⁵くくつ⁵b

Kugaaruk dil⁵5 Phyllis Beaulieu Manager of Licencing Nunavut Water Board P.O Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Via Email: phyllis.beaulieu@nwb-oen.ca & licensing@nwb-oec.ca

Re: 2AM-LUP0914 Type "A" Water Licence - Pre-Hearing Conference Decision Regarding an Application for Renewal and Amendment (Nunavut Water Board correspondence dated Dec. 1 2014) and

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada correspondence dated Dec. 4 2014 to the Nunavut Water Board

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

The Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) has reviewed the Nunavut Water Board's (NWB or the Board) Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC) decision regarding Lupin Mines Incorporated (LMI) Type "A" water licence renewal and amendment application. The KIA also subsequently reviewed Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's (AANDC) Dec. 4, 2014 letter to the NWB.

The KIA acknowledges that at the PHC, the parties confirmed that there were no unresolved or outstanding issues that would prevent this file from proceeding to a Public Hearing. We also understand, however, the concerns addressed by AANDC, and we acknowledge that those concerns were raised by AANDC during the Technical Meeting and PHC in Kugluktuk. The KIA would like to raise two concerns we have with the current NWB process: (1) assessments of reclamation cost estimates, and (2) the timing and timeframe for proper assessment of technical issues prior to the Public Hearing.

During the community sessions, Inuit specifically expressed concerns relating to the appropriate reclamation of the site post-closure. While the KIA does not intend to discuss the details, merits and shortfalls of each party's reclamation cost estimate, we do want to be confident that AANDC and LMI can adequately speak to each other's estimate, and that the Board will be in a position to make a proper decision after the hearing is complete. The KIA suggests that the NWB allow AANDC and LMI sufficient time and latitude to understand and address each other's reclamation estimates.



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The KIA is also concerned that the timeframe and timing of this process will not allow for sufficient technical assessments of the LMI commitment responses. The KIA offices, for example, will be closed from noon Dec. 19, 2014 and only reopening Jan. 5, 2015. Other interveners may also be experiencing similar operational shutdowns or slowdowns. Even if we assumed the KIA office was not shutdown, the timeframe is very tight, given that interveners only have 5 business days to assess LMI's final responses (January 21 2015) and integrate the assessments into their final responses and presentations (January 28 2015). The process may be further compromised if information trickles in, and interveners have a substantial need to respond to such information.

Again, the KIA is not a regulating agency with respect to this project, but we are representing Inuit interests due to the historic importance of Tahikyoak (Contwoyto Lake). We are of the opinion that it would be in everyone's best interest, Inuit and interveners alike, if the Board would allow enough time for the process to work effectively. We suggest that the Board should consider these matters in regard to the final hearing dates.

The KIA would like to thank the Nunavut Water Board for the opportunity to submit these comments. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Luigi Torretti, MSc, BComm Senior Environment Officer Kitikmeot Inuit Association

cc: KIA: Community Liaison Officers, Geoff Clark, Tannis Bolt

AANDC: Jean Allen

LMI: Patrick Downey, Karyn Lewis