



NIRB File No. 11MN034

July 2, 2014

Barney Aggark, Chairperson
Aqiggiq HTO
P.O. Box 94
Chesterfield Inlet, NU X0C 0B0

Sent via regular mail and email: htochester@qiniq.com

Re: Notice of NIRB Acceptance of Aqiggiq Hunters and Trappers Organization's Request for Intervenor Status at the Upcoming Final Hearing for AEM's Meliadine Gold Project Proposal

Dear Barney Aggark:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) has now reviewed the Application Form for Intervenor Status submitted to the Board on June 24, 2014 on behalf of the Aqiggiq Hunters and Trappers Organization (the Applicant). On the basis of the completed application form, the Board has determined that the Applicant has met the technical requirements for an intervention as set out in s. 22.2 of the Board's Rules of Procedure¹ and the Notice of Final Hearing for the Meliadine Gold Project Proposal posted on June 4, 2014.

With respect to the Board's substantive review of the Applicant's intervention request, the Board has determined that on the basis of the materials filed to date it appears the Applicant proposes to provide relevant and material information to the Board in the context of the upcoming Final Hearing. Consequently, as set out in s. 22.3(d), the Board, by way of this letter, is providing notice to you and to the parties to this Review that the NIRB accepts the Applicant's request for intervention status.

As indicated in the Notice of Final Hearing, the next step for parties granted intervention status is the filing of final written submissions with the Board on or before **July 21, 2014**. Appendix A provides guidance regarding the format for written submissions to be filed by intervenors in this matter, originally set out in correspondence to the Meliadine Gold Distribution List dated May 21, 2014. The Board expects that the Applicant's final written submissions will comply with the requirements set out in Appendix A.

¹ NIRB Rules of Procedure (September, 2009), available from the NIRB's online registry from the following link: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/06-RULES>

As indicated previously to the parties, the Final Hearing will be conducted in accordance with the NIRB's Rules of Procedure and in accordance with the Board's Pre-Hearing Conference Decision in this matter. The Final Hearing will be conducted by the NIRB's Chairperson and Board Members, with support from the NIRB staff and legal counsel as required.

Also please note that during the Final Hearing the Board has scheduled a site visit for Saturday, August 23. All participants in the Final Hearing, including intervenors, will be invited to attend the site visit and the Board will be issuing further details regarding the agenda, schedule and logistics for the site visit 30 days prior to the site visit.

Should you have questions regarding the filing of your written submissions or your participation in the Final Hearing for the Meliadine Gold project, please contact Amanda Hanson, Director, Technical Services at (867) 983-4615 or via email at ahanson@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Stephane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
 Larry Connell, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
 Bert Dean, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
 Meliadine Gold Distribution List

Attached: Appendix A: Format for Parties' Final Written Submissions

Written submissions must contain the following:

1. Executive Summary

Submissions must contain a non-technical executive summary of the major issues identified during the review of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS). The summary should not exceed two pages.

2. Table of Contents

Submissions must contain a table of contents with sections related to the main headings of the NIRB's EIS Guidelines for the Project and identifying the major issues under those headings the party intends to address at the Final Hearing. In addition to addressing the major issues they have identified for the Final Hearing, submissions may also address any other matter the party considers relevant to the NIRB's review of the Final EIS and the Project.

3. Introduction

All submissions should contain a statement of the party's mandate and relationship to the Project, and for parties with regulatory jurisdiction over the Meliadine Project, a description of the jurisdiction of that party and a list of the legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines administered by the party that are applicable to the Project.

4. Specific Comments

For each issue included in the submissions, parties should provide the following:

- a) A detailed description of the issue and, where appropriate, a reference to where within the Final EIS (document, section and page number) that issue is discussed;
- b) If provided by the Proponent, identify the Proponent's conclusion(s) related to the issue;
- c) A statement regarding the conclusion(s) of the commenting party related to the issue, including reference to the justification/data/rationale supporting that conclusion;
- d) A brief discussion assessing the issue's importance to the impact assessment process; and
- e) Any recommendation(s) to the Board with respect to the disposition of the issue.

5. Summary of Recommendations

Finally, submissions must contain a bulleted summary of the recommendations to the Board with respect to:

- whether Parties agree/disagree with the conclusions presented in the Final EIS regarding the alternatives assessment, environmental impacts, proposed mitigation, significance of impacts, and monitoring measures – and all evidence supporting the parties' position;
- whether or not conclusions presented in the Final EIS are supported by the analysis – and all evidence supporting the parties' position;

- whether appropriate methodology was utilized in the Final EIS to develop conclusions – and all evidence supporting the parties’ position;
- an assessment of the quality of the information presented in the Final EIS; and
- an assessment of the appropriateness of proposed monitoring measures – and evidence to support the determination, along with any proposed alternative monitoring measures which may be more appropriate (if applicable).

Translation/Interpretation Requirements

The NIRB requires executive summaries be provided in English and be translated into both **Inuktitut** and **French**. Please note that parties are responsible for sourcing this translation.

The Final Hearing will be conducted in Inuktitut and English, using simultaneous interpretation. The NIRB will also ensure that simultaneous interpretation in French is made available upon request. Please notify the NIRB should you require French interpretation to be made available for the Final Hearing.

Additionally, those who require special audio-visual equipment at the Final Hearing are requested to inform the NIRB in order that adequate arrangements can be made.

Format, File Size and Deadline for filing submissions

Parties must provide submissions in a fully functional, electronically searchable Word, Excel or PDF file. Noting the current constraints with respect to internet bandwidth and speed, the NIRB requests that all documents be submitted as files no larger than 5 MB.

The NIRB reminds parties that the deadline for final written submissions is **5:00 pm MST Monday July 21, 2014**.