

File No. 2AM-MRY1325

March 8, 2019

Lou Kamermans
Approvals Manager
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Suite 300 – 2275 Upper Middle Road East
Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6H 0C3

Email: lou.kamermans@baffinland.com

Subject: Application for Amendment to Water Licence No. 2AM-MRY1325 associated

with the "Phase 2 Development" Project Proposal submitted by Baffinland

Iron Mines Corporation

Dear Mr. Kamermans,

Please find in the text that follows guidance from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) in respect of the next steps in the Board's consideration of the application submitted by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (BIMC or Applicant) for amendments to Type "A" Water Licence 2AM-MRY1325 to authorize significant modifications to the existing Mary River Project as proposed by BIMC in the "Phase 2 Development" Project Proposal (Phase 2) (the Amendment Application). In part, the NWB's guidance is a response to the projected process and timelines for the NWB's continued processing of the Amendment Application set out in BIMC's letter of February 25, 2019.¹

In the table that follows, the NWB has provided a general timeline for the Board's consideration of the Amendment Application as envisioned by the Board. Although the NWB considered BIMC's suggested timelines, the Board has revised the schedule proposed to ensure the following:

- That Interveners are provided with sufficient time for review and response to submissions;
 and
- That the Final Report and Recommendation of the Nunavut Impact Review Board associated with their assessment of the Phase 2 Project Proposal is issued before the NWB

¹ Letter from Lou Kamermans (BIMC), to Stephanie Autut (NWB), Re: Application for Amendment to Water Licence No. 2AM-MRY1325 associated with the "Phase 2 Development" Project Proposal submitted by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation, February 25, 2018.

would proceed to hold a Pre-Hearing Conference and set the schedule for a potential Public Hearing.

Please note that in providing the anticipated timeline in Table 1, the Board, as always, reserves the right to revisit this timing as circumstances warrant, such as if parties are unable to meet the deadlines in their commitments, if the Board receives subsequent, reasonable requests from the parties for adjournments in response to additional information received, if the projected timelines associated with the Nunavut Impact Review Board's assessment of the Phase 2 Proposal are significantly altered or as otherwise may subsequently be considered necessary by the Board.

Table 1: Anticipated Timeline for the NWB's Consideration of the Amendment Application

Anticipated Timenne for the NWB's Cons		1
Event	From	To
BIMC's submission of outstanding information to complete the Application	January 24, 2019	May 1, 2019
Comments from Interveners regarding completeness of Application	May 1, 2019	May 8, 2019
(If NWB determines that Amendment Application is complete) Notice of Amendment Application issued and 30-day Technical Review Period commences	May 15, 2019	
Technical Review Period, culminating with Interveners filing written technical comments with the Board on June 10	May 15, 2019	June 14, 2019
BIMC responds to Interveners	June 14, 2019	June 24, 2019
Interveners review BIMC's response. All parties prepare for the Technical Meeting, culminating in all parties filing TM presentation materials on or before July 3, 2019.	June 24, 2019	July 3, 2019
NWB Technical Meeting (note: format, venue and timing of the Technical Meeting to be confirmed by the NWB at the close of the Technical Review Period)	July 10, 2019	July 11, 2019
NWB circulates commitments list and list of issues to be brought forward into the Public Hearing for the file; BIMC and Interveners provide the NWB with revisions to commitments and issues list	July 22, 2019	July 26, 2019
BIMC responds to commitments made during the course of the Technical Meeting	July 29, 2019	September 21, 2019
NWB processing of the Amendment Application largely suspended while Nunavut	September 21, 2019	November 5, 2019

Event	From	To
Impact Review Board assessment of Phase 2		
proceeds		
Notice of form, timing and venue for Pre-	October 4, 2019	
Hearing Conference issued by the NWB		
Nunavut Impact Review Board issues final		November 5, 2019
report and recommendations to the Minister of		
Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and		
Internal Trade		
(Assuming NIRB recommends the Project be	November 13, 2019	
allowed to proceed to licensing) NWB		
Conducts Pre-Hearing Conference		
NWB Prepares Pre-Hearing Conference	November 14, 2019	November 22, 2019
Decision and Issues PHC Decision Report		
(If applicable) NWB Publishes 60 day Notice of	November 22, 2019	
Public Hearing		
NWB Public Hearing in Pond Inlet	January 22, 2020	January 23, 2020

Copies of the Amendment Application submissions from the Applicant, comments received from Intervening parties, and all documents associated with the Amendment Application received to date have been placed in the Board's Public Registry and made available through the NWB's FTP site using the following links:

ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MRY1325%20BIMC/1%20APPLICATION/2018%20Phase%202%20Expansion%20Project/

If you have any questions regarding procedural matters related to the file, please contact Richard Dwyer, Manager of Licensing at <u>richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca</u> or by phone at (867) 360-6338 (ext. 27). For any Technical inquiries, please contact Assol Kubeisinova, Technical Advisor at <u>assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca</u> or by phone at (867) 360-6338 (ext. 31) or Karen Kharatyan, Director Technical Services at <u>karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca</u> or by phone at (867) 360-6338 (ext. 35).

Sincerely,

NUNAVUT WATER BOARD

Stephanie Autut Executive Director

SA/ak/ip

Cc: Distribution List – Mary River