



MARY RIVER PROJECT

Application and Supporting Information to Renew
Type A Water Licence 2AM-MRY1325

Prepared for: Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
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P/A Number: NB102-181/108-1
Revision Number: 1
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APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION TO RENEW TYPE A WATER LICENCE 2AM-MRY1325

Rev	Description	Date
1	Included Supplementary Information Guideline (SIG) form	June 26, 2024
0	Issued in Draft	June 7, 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Type A Water Licence 2AM-MRY1325 permits Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation to use water and dispose of and manage waste as part of operating the Mary River Project.

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB) first issued this Licence to Baffinland on June 12, 2013, and Amendment No. 1 to the Licence supporting the Early Revenue Phase was issued on July 21, 2015. The Licence will expire on June 10, 2025.

Baffinland is applying to the Nunavut Water Board to renew the Licence for an additional 15-year term. A completed application form is included in Appendix A. No changes to the current Licence are being proposed by Baffinland. In particular, no changes are being made to the location or water volumes in the current Licence.

As required by NWB guidance, also accompanying the application is supporting information including a Supplemental Information Guideline (SIG) form, Baffinland's Articles of Incorporation, and details on the amount of financial security the company has posted with the landowners to cover mine closure costs. This is some of the information the NWB requests to accompany an application to renew a water licence.

Additionally, the most recent water licence inspection report from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) (from April 2024) is provided, along with Baffinland's April 2024 response letter, demonstrating the Company's current compliance status with the terms and conditions of the Licence. The Company remains in compliance with the Licence at this time.

Baffinland's environmental management plans, which are prescribed by the current Licence, have also been appended to the renewal application. No changes to plans currently in use at the Project are requested.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AEMP	Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program
ASR	Annual Security Review
Baffinland	Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
CIRNAC.....	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
CREMP	Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EIS.....	Environmental Impact Statement
EPCM	engineering, procurement and construction management
ERP	Early Revenue Phase
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
IIBA.....	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement
KP	Knight Piésold Ltd.
LGL.....	LGL Limited
MISL	Mining Impact Specialists Limited
Mtpa	million tonnes per annum
NBRLUP.....	North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan
NIRB.....	Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
NuPPAA	Nunavut Project Planning and Assessment Act
NWB	Nunavut Water Board
NWNSRTA	Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act
OHS.....	Occupational Health & Safety
SIG	Supplemental Information Guideline
SOP	Sustaining Operations Proposal
SOP2.....	Sustaining Operations Proposal 2
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
The Licence.....	Type A Water Licence 2AM-MRY-1325
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
WWTP	Waste Water Treatment Plant

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Knight Piésold Ltd. (KP) has prepared this document supporting Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's (Baffinland) application to renew Type A Water Licence 2AM-MRY-1325 (the Licence), governing its operations at the Mary River Project. The current licence expires on June 10, 2025.

No changes to the current Licence are being proposed by Baffinland. Baffinland is applying to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) to renew the Licence for an additional 15-year term, which is consistent with the duration of recent licences renewed or issued at other Nunavut mines and less than the maximum licence term of 25 years permitted by the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (NWSRTA) and its regulations.

The completed and signed application form is provided as Appendix A.

A Supplementary Information Guideline (SIG) concordance table has been prepared as recommended by the NWB to facilitate the cross reference of documents that compose of the water licence renewal application with the requirements of the SIG. The completed SIG is provided as Appendix B.

1.2 LICENSEE CONTACT INFORMATION

The Licensee remains unchanged from the current Water Licence, as follows:

Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
#300 – 360 Oakville Place Drive
Oakville, Ontario L6H 6K8

Licensee representative contact information is as follows:

Lou Kamermans
Senior Director, Sustainable Development
(416) 364-8820, ext. 5101
lou.kamermans@baffinland.com

1.3 PREVIOUS REGULATORY APPROVALS

Box 7 of the renewal application form (Appendix A) requests that information be provided that confirms that a land use conformity determination was required and obtained prior to the issuance of the existing water licence. A conformity letter from NPC dated May 24, 2024 is provided in Appendix C. The North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP; Nunavut Planning Commission, 2000) was amended three times (Amendments No. 1, 2 and 3) establishing the transportation corridors that enable the Approved Project to proceed (Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Government of Canada, and Government of Nunavut, 2024; NPC, 2024; NPC, 2017; NPC, 2014).

Similarly, Box 8 of the renewal application form requests if a screening determination was required from the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to issuance of the existing water licence. The Mary River Project was subject to NIRB screening and review pursuant to the Nunavut Agreement and five subsequent amendment processes under the Nunavut Agreement and *Nunavut Project Planning and Assessment Act*

(NuPPAA). As a result of those processes, NIRB has authorized the Approved Project with the issuance of Project Certificate No. 005, the latest being Amendment No. 5 issued on November 17, 2023 (NIRB, 2023). The NPC confirms this in its May 24, 2024 letter presented as Appendix C.

The Project Certificate originally issued in 2012 approves an iron ore mining operation from Deposit No. 1 that includes a 149-km railway to a port in Steensby Inlet, as described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS; Baffinland, 2012). This railway and the Steensby Port are now referred to as the “Steensby Component” of the Approved Project.

In 2013, Baffinland submitted an Addendum to the FEIS to add to the Approved Project a road haulage operation utilizing Milne Port, referred to as the Early Revenue Phase (ERP; Baffinland, 2013). The addition of the 4.2 Mtpa ERP to the original Mary River Project was approved by NIRB through the issuance of Amendment No. 1 of the Project Certificate (NIRB, 2014).

Related to this, the original Licence was issued to Baffinland on June 10, 2013. An Amendment No. 1 Application was submitted to the NWB on July 17, 2014 to add the additional scope of activities of the ERP as approved by the NIRB. The NWB issued Amendment No. 1 of the Licence on July 21, 2015.

Since 2018, Baffinland has sought and obtained NIRB Project Certificate amendments (collectively, the PIP Amendments) to add 1.8 Mtpa to the ERP, resulting in Baffinland being permitted to haul and ship ore through the Northern Transportation Corridor at 6 Mtpa. The most recent PIP Amendment (the Sustaining Operations Proposal – SOP) was issued by NIRB with the Amendment No. 5 of Project Certificate No. 005 (NIRB, 2023). A further amendment to the Type A Water Licence has not been necessary as a result of the PIP Amendments, as all Project components are within the scope of the current Licence.

A register of the current permits and approvals in place for the Project are presented in Appendix D.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

2.1 EXISTING OPERATIONS

In 2024, Baffinland continues to operate the Sustaining Operations Proposal (SOP) at a transportation rate of 6.0 Mtpa along the Northern Transportation Corridor while it pursues financing for the Steensby Components. Ore is trucked over the Milne Inlet Tote Road to a port facility in Milne Inlet (Milne Port), and ore is shipped from the port to market during the open water shipping season. The current Project Certificate Term and Condition 179 (a) and (b) allows these activities to continue to the end of 2024.

Figures at 1:50:000 scale showing the extents of the Project with current and future (approved) infrastructure, including approved water withdrawal stations and waste disposal facilities, are provided in Appendix E.

Detailed site layouts of Milne Port, the Mine Site, and camps at mid-rail, Steensby Port, and Bruce head, are presented in Appendix F1. Recent site photos that were presented in the 2023 QIA and NWB Annual Report for Operations are provided in Appendix F2.

In April 2024, Baffinland initiated the process to seek the amendments required to continue the currently approved activities on existing Project Certificate terms and conditions, until Dec. 31, 2032, or until the Steensby Component reach commercial transportation rates, whatever comes first (the Sustaining Operations Proposal 2 or SOP2). Like the previous PIP Amendments, no changes to the Licence are required if SOP2 is approved by the Minister and NIRB.

2.2 PROCEEDING WITH THE APPROVED STEENSBY COMPONENT

In 2023, Baffinland engaged communities, Inuit organizations, and regulatory agencies with respect to the Steensby Component of the Approved Project.

The Steensby Component is adequately covered under the scope of the existing Licence, and thus no amendments to the Licence are expected to be required to advance this part of the Project. Baffinland is currently seeking the requisite approvals from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) (authorizations under the *Fisheries Act*), Transport Canada (navigable waters approvals) and the Canadian Transportation Agency (leave to construct) for the Steensby Component.

3.0 CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The officers of the company as of June 2024 are listed in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Company Officers

Individual	Role/Title
Brian Penney	President & Chief Executive Officer
Tayfun Eldem	Group Executive Vice President, Operations & Growth
Celeste van Tonder	Chief Financial Officer
Sajid Rizvi	Senior Vice President, Corporate Development & Investor Relations
Mark O'Brien	Executive Vice President & General Counsel
Megan Lord-Hoyle	Vice President, Sustainable Development
Udloriak Hanson	Vice President, Community & Strategic Development
Robin Nundoo	Vice President, Sales & Logistics

Baffinland's articles of incorporation remain unchanged from the Amendment No. 1 Application, and are provided in Appendix G.

Details on the amount of financial security the company has posted with the landowners to cover mine closure costs are provided in Appendix H (the NWB's 2022 annual security review decision). Baffinland undertakes an Annual Security Review (ASR) process each year as outlined in the current Water Licence. The 2024 ASR process is underway.

4.0 CONSULTATION

Baffinland works closely with the QIA on all regulatory applications, and a draft application was provided to the QIA for review in accordance with Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement (IIBA) requirements in April 2024. The QIA's comments on the draft application and Baffinland's responses are provided in Appendix I. This supporting information document has been produced in response to a request from the QIA.

Community engagement is at the cornerstone of Baffinland's sustainability initiatives. Baffinland's engagement activities in the communities have been carried out by an Inuit-led team, and communication about the Mary River Project is shared by Inuit team members including Elders fluent in Inuktitut and English, following and respecting Inuit oral traditions. Baffinland maintains a robust presence within communities, conducting regular information sessions, enabling frequent community visits to the Project Site, and engaging with Inuit employees.

Baffinland has been engaging with the North Baffin communities of Pond Inlet, Clyde River, Arctic Bay, Igloolik and Sanirajak regularly since 2005. Recent meetings with the QIA and communities where topics relating to water and waste and the Approved Project were discussed are summarized in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Recent Community Engagement

Event	Participants	Dates
Community Updates on the Steensby Component	Igloolik Hamlet Council and HTA Sanirajak Hamlet Council and HTA Pond Inlet Hamlet Council and Mittimatalik HTO	Feb 14 to Mar 30, 2023
Steensby Railway and Fisheries Habitat Offsetting Workshop	Igloolik Hamlet Council members and HTA Sanirajak Hamlet Council members and HTA DFO (Igloolik virtually, Sanirajak in-person)	May 9-18, 2023
Steensby Railway and Port Workshop	Qikiqtani Inuit Association	June 15-16, 2023
Steensby Railway and Fisheries Offsetting Workshop	Pond Inlet, Hamlet Council Members, MHTO, and QIA	July 11-12, 2023
Draft FAA Application review	QIA	Sept 13, 2023
Steensby Permitting Update Meeting	QIA	Sept 23, 2023
Follow-up Engagement Sessions	Pond Inlet Hamlet Council and Mittimatalik HTO Sanirajak Hamlet Council members and HTA Igloolik Hamlet Council members and HTA	Oct 3-6, 2023
Steensby Component	QIA	Oct 23-25, 2023
Monthly Stensby Permitting Update (virtual)	QIA	Nov 9 and Dec 11, 2023 Jan 11, 2024
Event	Participants	Dates
Community Update on Steensby Component	Hamlet of Igloolik and Igloolik HTO Hamlet of Sanirajak and Sanirajak HTO Hamlet of Pond Inlet and Mittimatalik HTO Hamlet of Arctic Bay	Nov 28 to Dec 6, 2023
Community Update on Steensby Component	Hamlet of Kinngait and Aiviq HTO	Jan 29, 2024
FAA Application post-submission follow-up	Sanirajak Hamlet Council members and HTA Igloolik Hamlet Council members and HTA	Mar 19-20, 2024

Additionally, Inuit knowledge shared with Baffinland for incorporation in the FEIS including the Type A Water Licence Application (Baffinland, 2012) was considered in the early planning of the Project. This information as well as additional Inuit knowledge information shared by the QIA was reviewed in consideration of this Licence renewal application. That review is presented in Appendix J.

5.0 QUANTITY OF WATER

No changes to any current Licence terms and conditions, including those relating to quantity of water, are being requested by Baffinland in this renewal application. What follows provides context for the current Licence terms and conditions.

Approved domestic and industrial water sources during the construction and operation phases of the Project are listed in Table 5.1, and water sources approved for dust suppression are listed in Table 5.2. Figures 5.1 and 5.2 show the locations of the approved water stations under the current Licence. No changes are being made to the location or water volumes in the current Licence.

Diversions have not occurred within the affected catchments, and thus the available capacities remain unchanged from what was assessed in the original Applications.¹

Water stations located within the currently developed Project area have been subject to monitoring, as noted in Tables 5.1 and 5.2. The water quality at these locations is described further below. All other water stations are located outside of the current Project development area.

The overall estimated quantity of water to be used is summarized in Table 5.3.

Box 13 of the Renewal Application Form (Appendix A) requests the quality of the water sources to be described. As a result of the monitoring programs under the Water Licence, updated water quality is available for Camp Lake and select crossings along the Tote Road. This information has been shared previously as part of the annual reporting process under the Water Licence and is discussed in the sections that follow.

Table 5.1 Domestic and Industrial Water Use During the Construction and Operation Phases

Site	Source	Volume (m ³ /day)		Updated Water Quality Data Available
		Construction	Operation	
Milne Port	Phillips Creek (summer)	367.5	367.5	Section 5.2
	Km 32 Lake			
Mine Site	Camp Lake	657.5	355.4	Section 5.1
Steensby Port	ST 347 Km 10 Lake	435.8	243.6	No change ²
	3 km Lake			No change ²
Ravn River	Camp Lake	145.2	n/a	Section 5.1
Mid-Rail	Nivek Lake (summer)	79.5	n/a	No change ²
	Ravn Camp Lake (winter)			No change ²
Cockburn North Tunnels Camp	Cockburn Lake	101.4	n/a	No change ²
Cockburn South Camp	Cockburn Lake	111.1	n/a	No change ²

Note(s):

1. n/a = not applicable.
2. These water sources are unaffected by the current Project and thus no updated water quality monitoring data is available.

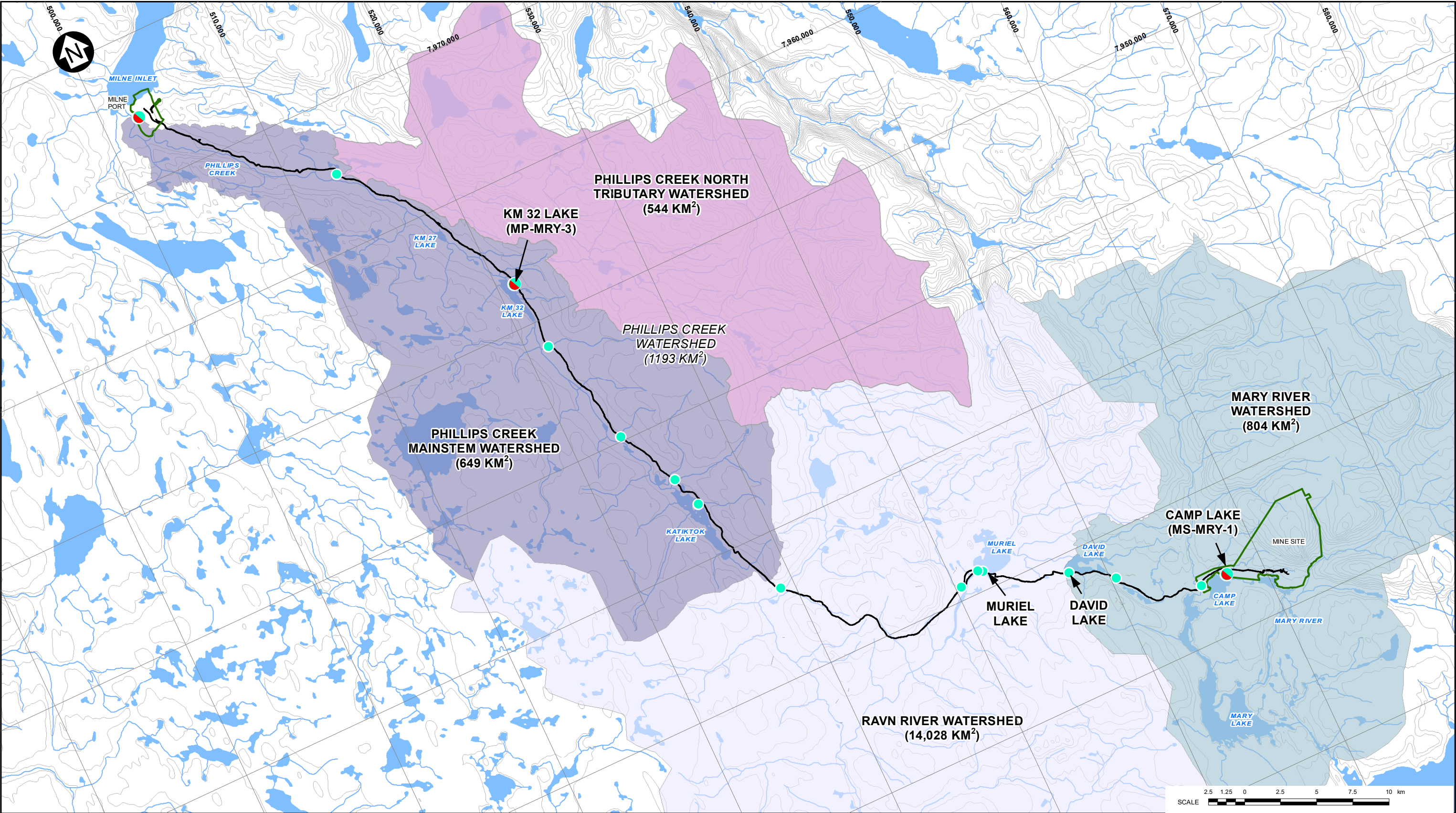
¹ Referenced Applications include the original application dated February 17, 2012, and the Amendment No. 1 application submitted to the NWB on July 17, 2014.

Table 5.2 Dust Suppression Water Use

Source	Maximum Volume (m ³ /day)	Updated Water Quality Data Available
Phillips Creek	212	Section 5.2
Km 32 Lake	364	
CV128	579.5	Section 5.3
CV099	110	
CV087	90	
CV078	75	
Katiktok Lake	318	
BG50	150	
BG32	120	
CV217	130	
Muriel Lake	212	
David Lake	132	
BG17	75	
CV233 Tom River)	135	
Camp Lake	86	Section 5.1

Table 5.3 Overall Estimated Quantity of Water Use

Category	Daily (m ³ /day)	Annual (m ³ /year)	Referenced Location in Water Licence
Domestic and industrial water use during construction	1,898	689,000	Table 2 (page 17)
Domestic and industrial water use during operation	967	353,000	Table 3 (page 18)
Other water uses during operation	967	353,000	Part E, Item 25 (page 20)
Dust suppression	1,500	547,500	Table 2-3 (page 20)



LEGEND:

- DOMESTIC/INDUSTRIAL WATER STATION
- DUST SUPPRESSION WATER STATION
- DOMESTIC/INDUSTRIAL WATER STATION AND DUST SUPPRESSION WATER STATION
- MILNE INLET TOTE ROAD
- RIVER/STREAM/DRAINAGE
- WATER
- PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AREA

NOTES:

1. COORDINATE GRID IS IN KILOMETRES.
COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 UTM ZONE 17N.

2. BASE MAP/IMAGERY: © ESRI AND DATA (ONLINE) SERVICE LAYERS (2017).
REDLANDS, CA: ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM RESEARCH INSTITUTE. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

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REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DESIGNED	DRAWN	REVIEWED

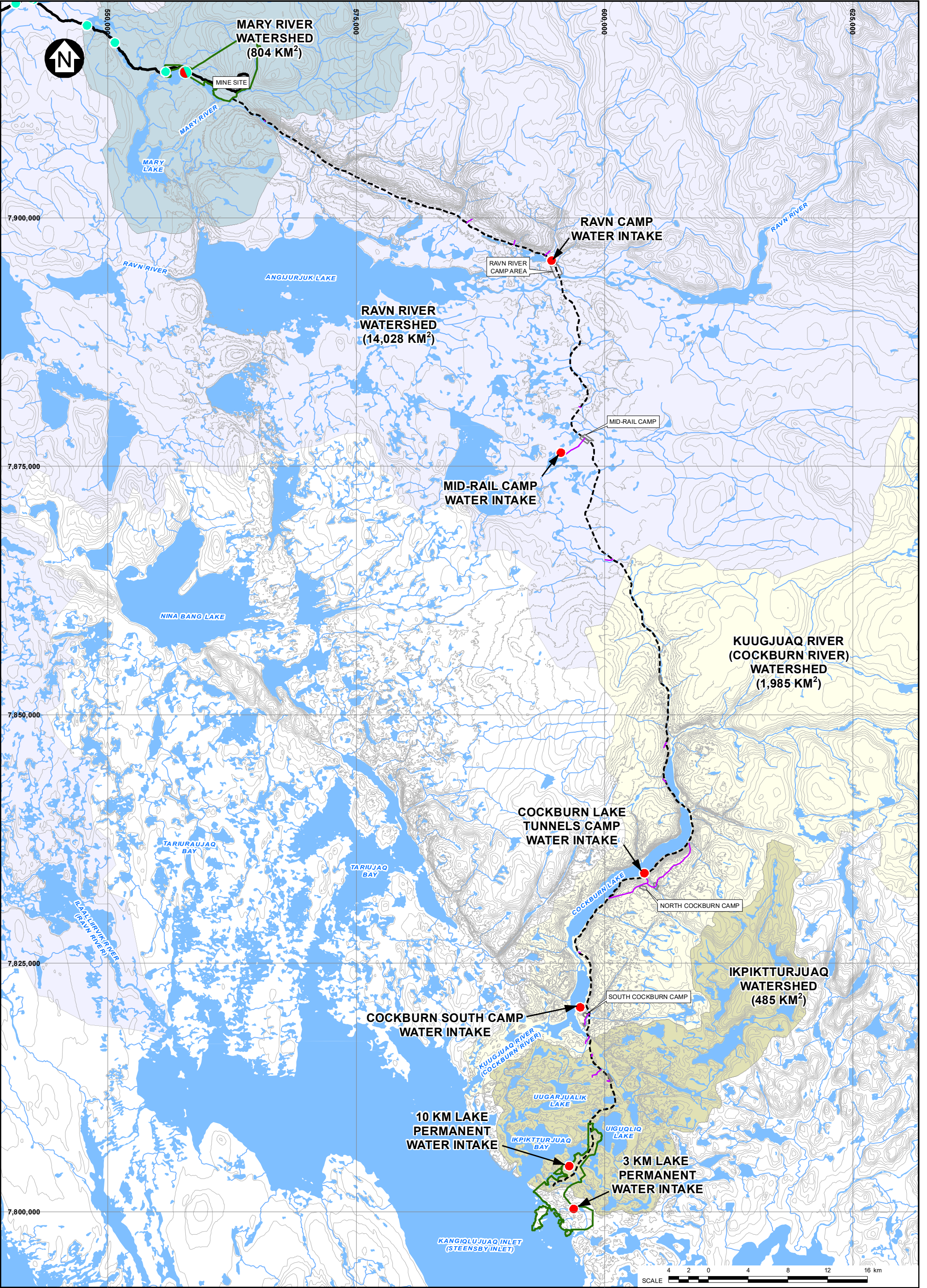
BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION

MARY RIVER PROJECT

APPROVED WATER STATIONS
MILNE PORT TO THE MINE

PIA NO.	REF NO.
NB102-181/108	1
FIGURE 5.1	
REV	0

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LEGEND:

- DOMESTIC/INDUSTRIAL WATER STATION
- DUST SUPPRESSION WATER STATION
- DOMESTIC/INDUSTRIAL WATER STATION AND DUST SUPPRESSION WATER STATION
- MILNE INLET TOTE ROAD
- PROPOSED RAIL ALIGNMENT
- RIVER/STREAM/DRAINAGE
- WATER
- PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AREA

NOTES:


- BASE MAP AND CONTOURS PROVIDED BY EAGLE MAPPING (2008).
- COORDINATE GRID IS SHOWN IN UTM (NAD83) ZONE 17 AND IS IN METRES.
- CONTOURS ARE IN METRES. CONTOUR INTERVAL VARIES.
- RAILWAY ALIGNMENT PROVIDED BY SYSTRA (MAY 1, 2023).
- CATCHMENT BOUNDARIES PROVIDED BY SYSTRA (MAY 9, 2023).

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REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DESIGNED	DRAWN	REVIEWED

BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION

MARY RIVER PROJECT

APPROVED WATER STATIONS
MINE TO STEENSBY PORT

 Knight Piésold
CONSULTING

PIA NO. NB102-181/108	REF NO. 1
FIGURE 5.2	
REV 0	

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5.1 CAMP LAKE WATER QUALITY

Water quality is monitored regularly as part of the Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP), which is a component study of Baffinland's Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program (AEMP). The CREMP is designed to detect Project-related effects at temporal and spatial scales that are ecologically relevant (i.e., on a basin spatial scale). The CREMP is intended to monitor potential effects to the aquatic environment via pathways other than effluent such as dust deposition or changes in water flow due to diversions. The CREMP monitors aquatic valued components (VCs) and key indicators including water quality, sediment quality, and freshwater biota (phytoplankton and benthic invertebrate indicators and Arctic char) for potential mine site aquatic effects in the Mary River, Camp Lake, Sheardown Lake and their associated tributaries as well as Mary Lake which is the ultimate receiving water for these drainage areas.

During the 2023 CREMP monitoring program, mine-related influences on water quality was detected in tributaries to Camp Lake (Minnow Environmental, 2024). At Camp Lake, no AEMP water quality benchmarks were exceeded in 2023 and no mine-related influences on water quality were indicated. Furthermore, no adverse effects on phytoplankton productivity (as chlorophyll-a), benthic invertebrate community composition, or fish (arctic char) health indicative of mine-related effects were indicated at Camp Lake in 2023. Arsenic, copper, iron, manganese, and phosphorus concentrations were above the AEMP sediment quality benchmarks at individual stations in Camp Lake; however, average concentrations of these metals were below respective benchmarks, were comparable to background, and/or were comparable to concentrations at Camp Lake during baseline.

5.2 PHILLIPS CREEK AND KM 32 LAKE

Phillips Creek runs parallel to the northern 60 km of the Milne Inlet Tote Road and is adjacent to Milne Port. It is a potential summer water source for Milne Port. However, it has not been used to date. Km 32 Lake is the main water source for Milne Port. It is part of the Phillips Creek catchment. Monitoring of water quality in either waterbodies is not required by the Licence.

5.3 DUST SUPPRESSION WATER SOURCES

During 2023, upstream and downstream water quality was monitored for pH, Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and turbidity at twenty (20) representative locations along the Tote Road.

The objective of the program is to identify potential Project related impacts to surface water because of operation and maintenance of the Tote Road throughout freshet and the remainder of the flowing water season, by comparing upstream of the Tote Road TSS concentrations to downstream of the Tote Road TSS concentrations at defined distances and sampling intervals. A potential Project related change is defined as a greater than 50 mg/L increase in TSS concentrations in the downstream sample when upstream concentrations are less than 250 mg/L. When concentrations are greater than 250 mg/L in the upstream sample, a potential Project related change is defined as a greater than 20% increase in TSS concentrations in the downstream sample.

In 2023, a total of 284 samples were collected for water quality under the TRMP. Based on the water quality monitoring completed in 2023 under the TRMP, there were two (2) sampling events (BG-32-DS on June 12, CV-040-DS on June 19) when there was a greater than 50 mg/L increase in TSS concentrations between the downstream sample and the upstream sample. There was also one (1) sampling event (CV-040-DS on

June 12) in which an increase of 20% or more occurred in the downstream sample when TSS concentrations were greater than 250 mg/L in the upstream sample. All of the sampling events that had a downstream TSS concentration greater than the screening criteria occurred during the June 12 to June 19, 2023 period when freshet conditions resulted in elevated sediment loading into the affected watercourses over a short period of time and suggest the potential for Project-related change in water quality. Following this period, all results demonstrated that there were no Project-related changes to water quality because of the operation of the Tote Road.

6.0 COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT

Throughout 2023, Baffinland hosted numerous inspections and audits from CIRNAC, QIA, and NIRB, as well as the Workers' Safety & Compensation Commission (WSCC) Mines Inspector, and inspectors from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), and Transport Canada Navigation Protection Program. The NIRB's most recent site visit was in April 2024 (NIRB, 2024).

Details on the inspections conducted by each of the agencies is summarized below.

6.1 CIRNAC INSPECTIONS

CIRNAC Water Resources Officers conducted three inspections of the Project in 2023 and two so far in 2024. The dates of the inspections are as follows:

- January 25, 2023
- July 12-13, 2023
- September 7, 2023
- February 14-15, 2024
- April 3-5, 2024

Inspection results were conveyed during close-out meetings at the Project and documented in Water Licence Inspection Reports distributed to Baffinland following the inspection. Table 6.1 summarizes the inspection/compliance report findings and actions for 2023 and 2024. The 2023 and 2024 CIRNAC Water Licence Inspection Reports and Baffinland's responses are provided in Appendix K1.

6.2 QIA INSPECTIONS

The QIA conducted two (2) inspections of the Project in 2023 under the Commercial Lease. The dates of the inspections are as follows:

- June 28 to 29, 2023
- September 20 to 21, 2023

LGL Limited (LGL), and Mining Impact Specialists Limited (MISL) conducted the June Environmental Site Inspection and September Environmental Site Inspection on QIA's behalf. In addition to the inspections, the QIA conducted one environmental audit from August 31 to September 4 in 2023. The findings from the inspections and audit were conveyed during the close-out meetings and documented in subsequent reports and correspondence. The QIA inspection reports along with Baffinland's responses as well as the 2023 environmental audit report and audit information requests and Baffinland's responses, are provided in Appendix K2.

6.3 ECCC INSPECTIONS

ECCC Enforcement Officers conducted a site inspection on October 9-11, 2023. On February 7, 2024, ECCC issued a warning letter to Baffinland for a TSS exceedance at MS-08 on September 3, 2023 and for an exceedance of the monthly mean concentration for September 2023.

6.4 DFO INSPECTION

On August 15-18, 2023, DFO completed a site inspection of the Project to inspect fish-bearing crossing locations along the Tote Road. In 2023, various erosion and sediment control measures were implemented along the Tote Road, as summarized in the 2023 Tote Road Annual Monitoring Report.

Baffinland is continuing to work with DFO to address fish passage issues along the Tote Road at specific locations.

6.5 WSCC MINE INSPECTIONS

The WSCC's most recent inspection of the Project was June 28-29, 2023. The inspector carried out general inspections at various locations at the Mine Site. The main focus of the general inspections was Mining Operations, including the Mine Haul Road and the Dyno Nobel Emulsion Plant and magazines; Mobile Maintenance, Crusher, and Power Generation facilities; and the Sailivik Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP).

Matters identified during the general inspections were captured in the WSCC inspection reports and distributed to Baffinland management and the Baffinland Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) Committee. The 2023 directives that resulted from the visit were reviewed by the management team; most of the directives were completed during the inspection and the remainder were completed within a timely manner shortly thereafter and before the requested completion dates.

6.6 TRANSPORT CANADA NAVIGATION PROTECTION PROGRAM

Representatives from Transport Canada inspected the site in September 2023. Inspections of the navigable water crossings were completed along the Tote Road, as well as an overflight of the navigable crossings along the Steensby rail alignment. No significant concerns were noted during the inspection or formal inspection report issued.

6.7 NIRB SITE VISIT

The NIRB's most recent site visit was completed on April 23-24, 2024 (NIRB, 2024). The main conclusions from the site visit were as follows:

Baffinland appears to have a well-maintained site including adequate environmental protection measures and procedures in place as per the Project Certificate and their Management Plans. Baffinland is conducting trials to explore alternative options for dust suppression and mitigation. While on site, the NIRB noted concerns regarding hazardous waste being stored outside of secondary containment as well as additional clearing of snow around the snowmobile crossing. In discussion with Baffinland staff, these concerns were addressed and the NIRB expects these to be closely monitored and plans to be strictly adhered to in the future.

TABLE 6.1
BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION
MARY RIVER PROJECT

APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION TO RENEW TYPE A WATER LICENCE 2AM-MRY1325
BAFFINLAND'S RESPONSES TO CIRNAC'S 2023 AND 2024 INSPECTION REPORTS

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Inspection Date	Agency	Location	Feedback	Outcome
January 23, 2023	CIRNAC	Open Burn Facility, Mary River	Ensure burn pit area is clear of debris so nothing enters the environment.	To ensure waste is prevented from entering nearby water bodies, Project waste disposal areas, including the Mary River Open Burn Facility, are located at a distance greater than 30 meters from any water body. In addition, note that only clean wood waste and cardboard is permitted to be burned at the Project's Open Burn Facilities. Residual waste and bottom ash from open burning operations is collected regularly and disposed of in the approved non-hazardous solid waste Landfill Facility. Unburned cardboard debris may alternatively be placed back into the active open burn area for subsequent burning.
		General	Ensure the use of drip pans beneath all equipment during the refuelling outside of secondary containment. "The Licensee shall maintain and service any equipment in designated areas and shall implement special procedures (such as the use of drip pans) to manage Waste and contain potential spills as per "Part H #5 in the 2AM-MRY1325Water License".	As per Baffinland's policies, spill trays are to be used under stationary equipment that contains fuels, including frost fighters, to capture any overflow during refuelling activities. Baffinland will continue to ensure the use of spill trays under stationary equipment during refuelling outside of secondary containment to prevent hazardous materials such as fuels and oil from spilling onto the ground when transferring these products. Baffinland is committed to ensuring that spill trays are placed beneath all stationary equipment that is regularly refuelled.
		Mine Rescue Building	Ensure clean-up of identified fuel spill, licensee must submit a follow up report to the inspector 30 days after the submission of a spill report. Ensure all spills are reported and cleaned up as per the approved Spill Contingency Plan.	On investigation of the potential fuel spill at the fuel tank outside the Mine Rescue Building, it was found that the area around the drain valve was wet. The drain valve was tightened and the handle removed, to ensure a re-occurrence would not happen and, as a precaution, a spill tray was temporarily placed beneath the drain valve. Fuel storage tanks across the Project will continue to be inspected on a regular basis as per Baffinland's policies. The area will be monitored during warming conditions to ensure any affected ground material was effectively removed.
		Waste Management Laydown	Ensure contaminated snow and dirt is brought to the appropriate designated facility for treatment.	Baffinland is committed to ensuring that spill trays are placed underneath equipment and vehicles containing fluids that are in mid-term and long-term storage (i.e. equipment that is not being used for more than five (5) days) to provide secondary containment to prevent spills due to product leaks. Positioning of spill trays under vehicles is based on an analysis of the potential points of leakage for the subject equipment or vehicle. The minor surficial staining observed on the snow near the front right wheel of the articulating rock truck (ART) was removed and placed in appropriate secondary containment. An additional spill tray was subsequently placed underneath the ART at that location. Operational areas continue to be inspected for proper use of secondary containment during routine compliance inspections and any issues are addressed as they are identified.
		Seacan in front of Incinerator Building	Ensure doors are operational on shipping container storing waste to be sorted. "The Licensee shall construct and operate all infrastructure and Facilities authorized by the Board that are designed to contain, withhold, divert or retain Water and/or Waste, in accordance with all applicable legislation and industry standards." Part D #23 of the water license 2AM- MRY1325". Waste should be stored to avoid attracting animals.	The metal trash bin containing domestic waste was removed from the seacan near the incinerator building and the door of the seacan was properly closed. As per Baffinland's policies, all food waste and wildlife attractants are to be disposed of indoors or outdoors in a latching, appropriate container to prevent the attraction and food conditioning of wildlife. Work areas are to be kept free of food waste to prevent wildlife from becoming food conditioned. Baffinland will ensure this area is inspected during routine compliance inspections to ensure ongoing compliance with waste disposal practices.
		105 Dam	Ensure loose debris is collected and disposed of accordingly.	Wires identified near the seacan at the KM105 Dam do not pose a risk associated with entry of wastes to any Water bodies and therefore do not require preventative and mitigation measures in accordance with Part D, Item 8 of the water licence. Minor loose wood material observed was removed from the area. At that time, as good housekeeping practice, the wire was also untangled.
		OHT Laydown	Ensure all 1000L Totes outside of storage berms have proper secondary containment. "The Licensee shall implement preventive and mitigation measures to prevent any Wastes associated with the undertaking from entering any Water bodies." – "Part D, #8 of the water license 2AM-MRY1325"	Accumulated snow around the totes at the OHT Laydown was excavated from the area to ensure effective secondary containment of the spill trays was restored. Baffinland is committed to ensuring that containers are placed within appropriate secondary containment. Following the successful trial of secondary containment spill pallets for the hazardous waste totes at the Mine Site Crusher Maintenance Facility in late 2021, Baffinland is proceeding with the procurement of additional secondary containment spill pallets for use across site.
		OHT Laydown	Properly sort, safely store and dispose of any waste at OHT Laydown. Ensure contaminated snow and dirt is stored in the land farm and dealt with accordingly. "Baffinland will ensure that all hazardous waste generated at the Project is effectively managed and disposed. Hazardous waste will be properly stored, transported, treated and disposed. All site personnel (including contractors) will be responsible for managing the waste they generate and will be required to comply with the procedures provided in this Plan, the Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste Management Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0011) and will be subject to monitoring and enforcement." section 3.8 of the Waste Management Plan	Baffinland continues to focus on housekeeping and debris management. Operational areas are inspected for the presence of debris during routine compliance inspections and any issues are generally addressed as they are identified. Materials and wastes stored at the OHT Laydown were assessed and subsequently cleaned up, properly sorted and disposed of as appropriate, and the area was organized. Baffinland will ensure this area is inspected during routine compliance inspections to ensure ongoing compliance with waste sorting and disposal practices as per the Waste Management Plan, and the Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Wastes Management Plan.
		N/A	Within 30 days of receiving this report, Inspector Bolt will follow up with the mine's environmental department to ensure that the non-compliances listed in the report are remedied to the Inspector(s) satisfactory degree.	N/A
July 12-13, 2023	CIRNAC	Waste Rock Facility	Ensure that the broken liner at the Waste Rock Facility is fixed and in good operating order to ensure no future spills occur.	This was completed on July 16, 2023.
		Milne Port Light Vehicle Refueling Station	Ensure that all berms are fixed and set up properly. These berms must be set up so that no potential spill will be released into the environment.	This area was reviewed with site personnel and spill trays replaced at this facility. Note that this is considered tertiary containment as this in an engineered lined area.
		Light Vehicle Refueling Stations	Impacted soil at both of the light equipment refuelling stations must be remediated.	Soil was carefully removed from the Bulk Fuel Storage Facilities at the Mine Site and Milne Port and will be remediated in the Landfarm facility. Note: this soil and staining was observed in an engineered lined containment area.
		Mary River Tank Farm	Any water being discharged from the Mary River tank farm must be tested prior to being pumped out.	Water that is discharged from any facility is tested to ensure compliance with applicable criteria outlined in the water licence. If it is compliant than a direct discharge occurs as per the Project's Fresh Water Supply, Sewage and Wastewater Management Plan (FWSSWMP). The water observed at the referenced facility during this inspection was pumped out and treated through the on site OWS.
		General	Ensure that cigarettes are being discarded properly and not thrown into the environment.	Site crews were reminded of this and clean-up is an ongoing initiative and focus for Baffinland in all areas. A site memo has been distributed to all personnel as a reminder and supervisors reviewed with their crews.
		KM105 Surface Water Management Pond	At KM105 Surface Water Management Pond, there is a dam constructed. At some point, a leak had been discovered in the dam allowing untreated water to escape the site and enter the waterway. Baffinland has since contracted engineers to come up with a solution to seal or fix the leak. We are awaiting to hear who the contractor is and what will happen in the future to fix the leak.	A follow up report #23-208 was submitted to CIRNAC on June 20th, 2023 that details initial mitigations and work completed for this event. Water quality monitoring occurred throughout 2023 to characterize conditions at the seep and receiving environment. As outlined previously Baffinland has retained a third party engineer to review current status and develop a remediation plan for the observed issue. A follow up report will be submitted to CIRNAC detailing remedial measures implemented to date, water quality monitoring and the final remedial plan and schedule of implementation.
		Milne Port Bulk Fuel Module	During the Milne Inlet inspection, Inspector Pasalic arrived at the site where a spill had occurred before (Spill # 23-294). With this particular spill, freshet water had eroded the area near the shore causing sand and sediments to travel towards the ocean. A silt fence was put in place to prevent further spreading and the water was also diverted to a different area.	A follow up report to spill 23-294 submitted on August 6th, 2023 contained information about further remediation to this area. The material was removed and the area re-enforced with competent material to prevent further sedimentation issues in the future.
		Milne Port Light Vehicle Refueling Station	More berms were seen at the light vehicle refuelling station in Milne and were not set up properly. Ground staining and fuel odour were also present at this location. Inspector Pasalic requested that this spill be reported to the NT-NU spill line.	It was observed during inspection in July that there was some sheen and staining at the light vehicle fuelling areas which are in a lined engineered facility. As per Baffinland's Spill Contingency Plan (SCP) Rev. 6, Baffinland investigated the volume and location of the observation and determined it was not reportable externally as per section 9 of the SCP. An internal incident report was filed by the responsible department and contaminated soil from the area was removed. The pooling water observed within the lined facility is being treated through the Oily Water Treatment Facility and water quality results and discharge volumes are reported in the water licence monthly report. As this is an active refuelling area, Baffinland will continue to complete routine compliance inspections as per the Environmental Protection Plan and ensure this facility is operated as designed.
September 7, 2023	CIRNAC		Section 1 "Comments": During our inspection along the tote road, Inspectors Noble-Nowdluk, Pasalic and Environment Superintendent Katie Babin observed a red/orange sediment laden water coming from a part of land about 200 meters from the road. Upon further inspection, the product seemed to be coming from in the ground through cracks in the bedrock. Baffinland employees will conduct sampling to determine exactly what the product is and whether it is a natural occurrence or from mining activities. Reports of findings and sample results will be forwarded to the Inspectors.	An investigation into the source of this water was conducted and concluded that the water and the sediments are part of a natural weathering process. A summary of Baffinland's investigation into the source of this water was submitted directly to CIRNAC on December 6th.
			While conducting culvert inspections along the tote road, Inspectors Noble-Nowdluk and Pasalic observed erosion around culverts. Katie Babin had shown a number of culverts that will be replaced to fix the road and prevent erosion this year. Section 3 "Action Required": Under Part E, Section 13 of the Water License, The Licensee shall not cause erosion to the banks of any body of Water and shall provide necessary controls to prevent such erosion.	A number of erosion events were reported (NT/NU spill number 2022-384) due to an intense rainfall event on August 14. Baffinland actively deploys erosion and sedimentation control measures in accordance with the Surface Water Aquatic Effects Management Plan to mitigate the significance and potential for erosion events due to heavy rainfall events, however the event on August 14 overwhelmed controls in a number of areas. As part of ongoing adaptive management in response to this event, Baffinland has retained engineering services from a third party group to design and manage the culvert replacement multiyear project to ensure sufficient sediment controls are put in place.
			Fuel staining and fuel odour were present at both light and heavy refueling stations. One spot in particular had fuel present under the flex line, which may have been caused from fuel running under the station. No damage was seen on the flex line itself. Section 3 "Action Required": Remediation of the areas contaminated with fuel shall be remediated to mitigate impacts to the environment.	Baffinland removed impacted soils from both the front and rear sides of the re-fuelling module, and replaced it with clean fill. All impacted material was disposed of in accordance with Baffinland's Hazardous Waste Management Plan. As this is an active refuelling area, Baffinland will continue to complete routine compliance inspections as per the Environmental Protection Plan and ensure this facility is operated as designed.
February 14-15, 2024	CIRNAC		During the inspection, CIRNAC Inspector identified a number of totes filled with waste oil outside the Ore Haul Truck (OHT) Wash Bay. These totes were not situated within secondary containment and are in non-compliance with Part H – Section 3 of the Water License. Part H – Section 3 states "The Licensee shall provide secondary containment for fuel and chemical storage as required by applicable standards and acceptable industry practice."	All identified totes with waste oil and oily wastewater were removed from the OHT Washbay area and placed within secondary containment. See Photos 1 and 2.
			At KM105, the Dam has been leaking causing sediment laden water to escape into the surrounding area. The Licensee has since put up mitigation measures to prevent the migration of the water.	Baffinland acknowledges the observation, and clarifies that conditions at the KM105 pond and dam are fully frozen, and there is currently no flow into or out of the pond. A geotechnical drilling program was completed in late 2023 to obtain detailed data relating to the subsurface conditions. This information has been used to develop a comprehensive remediation plan that involves installing a grout curtain to provide a seepage barrier to reduce seepage through the dam foundation. This remediation program has been initiated with an objective to be completed prior to Freshet 2024. The detailed remediation plan is included as Attachment 4 to this response, and will be emailed via KiteWorks due to file size.
April 3-5, 2024	CIRNAC		A generator was observed on the site near stacked sea cans with no secondary containment was deployed. ACTION ITEM: Ensure secondary containments are deployed at the locations named in this report.	The generator is an Allmand Night-Lite V-Series. The brand and model of the generator/light plant has a Fluid Containment System (FCS) that holds up 110% of the fuel and engine oil capacity. See Photos confirming the model of the generator/light plant. Also see attached Allmand Night-Lite V-Series Operator's Manual Fluid Containment System Diagram (Photos 2, 3, and 4). The link outlining the features can be viewed on the company's website at: https://www.allmand.com/na/en_us/product-catalog/light-towers/nightlite-vseries.html.
			Once at the landfill area, the inspectors noted what appeared to be a significant fence damage. ACTION ITEM: Ensure that the fence has been repaired.	Baffinland is committed to repairing the fence around the landfill as soon as reasonably possible. Given the snow conditions and the accessibility of the damaged area, attempting a repair at this time would most likely result in further damage to the fence. Because the landfill is for inert waste only, Baffinland feels the damaged fence line currently exhibits very low risk. Therefore, the repair has been scheduled for completion once the area is snow-free and the ground beginning to thaw. A Work Order has been created for the repair to be completed by early June (WO# 4613938). See Photo #5 for a snip of the Work Order. Baffinland will provide photographic evidence of the repairs once completed.
			At the Tote Road, inspectors noted ongoing work at KM 95's location where culverts were being replaced by sub-contractor of Nuna Group of Companies, contracted by the Baffinland Iron Mine Corporation. Upon closer inspection of the location, the inspectors noted that no secondary containment was deployed under the generator used for lighting or nighttime work. ACTION ITEM: Ensure secondary containments are deployed at the locations named in this report.	The generator is an Allmand Night-Lite V-Series. The brand and model of the generator/light plant has a Fluid Containment System (FCS) that holds up 110% of the fuel and engine oil capacity. See Photos confirming the model of the generator/light plant. Also see attached Allmand Night-Lite V-Series Operator's Manual Fluid Containment System Diagram (Photos 2, 3, and 4). The link outlining the features can be viewed on the company's website at: https://www.allmand.com/na/en_us/product-catalog/light-towers/nightlite-vseries.html.

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REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	PREP'D	RVWD

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Table 7.1 identifies the existing Environmental Management Plans currently required under the Licence, and their location within Appendix L of this Application. Three of the plans were recently submitted to the NWB with the 2023 Annual Report for Operations for approval under the existing Licence. Thus, these are provided here for reference only, and not for approval as part of the licence renewal process.

Table 7.2 lists the individual borrow pit and quarry management plans that have been developed to date.

Table 7.1 Status of Management Plans Required Under the Type A Water Licence

Type A Water Licence Requirement	Plan (Document No.)	Current Approved Version	File Location
Part B, Item 14a Part H, Items 1, 6, 7 and 9	Emergency Response Plan (BAF-PH1-840-P16-0002)	Rev 5 December 2020	Appendix L1
Part B, Item 14b Part H, Items 1, 6, 7 and 9	Spill Contingency Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0036)	Rev 6, February 2021	Appendix L2
Part B, Item 14c Part E, Item 2	Surface Water, Aquatic Ecosystem Management Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0026)	Rev 7, March 2021	Appendix L3
Part B, Item 14d Part E, Item 1	Fresh Water Supply, Sewage, and Wastewater Management Plan (BAF-5200-PLA-0022)	Rev 10, March 2023	Appendix L4
Part B, Item 14e Part F, Item 1	Waste Management Plan (BAF-5200-PLA-0013)	Rev 9, March 2023	Appendix L5
Part B, Item 14q Part F, Item 4	Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste Management Plan (BIM-5200-PLA-0007)	Rev 7, April 2024	Appendix L6
Part B, Item 14i Part D, Item 5a Part E, Item 24	Borrow Pit and Quarry Management Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0004)	March 2014	Appendix L7
Part I, Item 2	Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (BAF-5200-PLA-0023)	Rev 2, March 2024	Appendix L8
Part I, Item 3	Environmental Protection Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0008)	Rev 2, April 2021	Appendix L9
Part J, Item 2	Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0012)	Rev 5, October 2018	Appendix L10
Part I, Item 16	Sampling Program - Quality Assurance and Quality Control Plan (BAF-5200-PLA-0004)	Rev 7, March 2024	Appendix L11
Part B, Item 14s Part D, Item 5h Part F, Item 2	Phase 1 Waste Rock Management Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0029)	Rev 4.1, April 2024	Appendix L12
Part B, Item 14f Part F, Item 2	Life of Mine Waste Rock Management Plan (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0031)	Rev. 0, April 2014	Appendix L13

Table 7.2 Individual Borrow Pit and Quarry Management Plans

Type A Water Licence Requirement	Plan (Document No.)	Current Approved Version	File Location
Part B, Item 14j Part D, Item 5b	Quarry Management Plan Q1 (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0017)	February 2022	n/a
Part B, Item 14k Part D, Item 5c	Quarry Management Plan QMR2 (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0040)	September 2014	n/a
Part B, Item 14l Part D, Item 5d	Quarry Management Plan – Quarry QS2	January 2012	n/a
Part B, Item 14m Part D, Item 5e	Quarry Management Plan - Quarry Q7 + 500	January 2012	n/a
Part B, Item 14n Part D, Item 5f	Quarry Management Plan - Quarry Q133 +500	January 2012	n/a
Part B, Item 14o Part D, Item 5g	Quarry Management Plan - Quarry Q77 +200	February 2012	n/a
	Borrow Source Management Plan - km 2 (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0030)	October 2014	n/a
	Borrow Source Management Plan - km 97 (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0032)	October 2014	n/a
	Borrow Source Management Plan - km 104 (BAF-PH1-830-P16-0035)	March 2014	n/a
	Quarry Management Plan D1Q1 (H349000-4200-07-245-0001)	October 2013	n/a
	Quarry Management Plan D1Q2 (H349000-4200-07-245-0002)	October 2013	n/a
	Quarry Management Plan Q11 (H349000-3000-07-245-0002)	October 2013	n/a
	Quarry Management Plan Q19 (H349000-3000-07-245-0003)	October 2013	n/a
	Quarry Management Plan Q7 (H349000-3000-07-245-0001)	October 2013	n/a

Note(s):

- Part D, Item 6 requires Baffinland to submit for review an addendum to the Borrow Pit and Quarry Management Plan, or to site specific Quarry Management Plans if not adequately addressed by the Borrow Pit and Quarry Management Plan.

"The licensee shall submit to the board for review, an addendum to the plan referred to in Part D, Item 6a for any quarry site selected for future development that the plan does not adequately address. If the content of the existing quarry plan referred to under Part D, Item 6a, does not adequately address the proposed activities for the management requirements of the selected quarry site, the licensee shall submit to the board for approval, a site-specific quarry management plan."


8.0 REFERENCES

- Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (Baffinland), 2012. *Mary River Project - Final Environmental Impact Statement*. February.
- Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (Baffinland), 2013. *Mary River Project – Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement*. June.
- Minnow Environmental Inc., 2024. *Mary River Project 2023 Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program Report*. Prepared for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation. March 2024.
- Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), 2023. *Project Certificate No. 005 - Amendment No. 5*. November 17.
- Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), 2024. *April 2024 Site Visit Report for the Nunavut Impact Review Board's Monitoring of Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's Mary River Project (NIRB File No. 08MN053)*. April.
- Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), 2000. *North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan*.
- Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), 2014. *Notice of Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan*. May 16. Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), 2017. *Notice of Approval of Amendment No. 3 to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan*. May 29.
- Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), 2024. NPC File No. 150396 [Sustaining Operations Proposal]. May 24.
- Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Government of Canada, and Government of Nunavut, 2024. Letter to: Andrew Nakashuk, Chairperson of the Nunavut Planning Commission. Re: *Signed Amendment No. 1 to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan*. February 26.

9.0 CERTIFICATION

This report was prepared and reviewed by the undersigned.

Prepared:



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Specialist Environmental Scientist | Associate

Reviewed:



Steve R. Aiken, P.Eng.
Manager, Environmental Services

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