



September 21, 2009

NRCan File #NT-056

Li Wan  
Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut

By email: *info@nirb.ca*

**Subject: NRCan's Comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines for the Part 5 Review of Baffinland Iron Mines Corp.'s Mary River Project**

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Thank you for your letter of September 4, 2009, requesting that parties with jurisdictional authority over any aspect of the proposed Mary River project, or with technical expertise to offer pertaining to the assessment of the project, review the Revised Draft EIS Guidelines and provide comments to the Board. The attachment to this letter includes two residual comments from Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) staff on the Revised Draft EIS Guidelines that were not included in our comments on the previous Draft EIS Guidelines.

With respect to the Board's request for parties that require a hardcopy of the Proponent's future Draft EIS submission to include a mailing address and the number of copies requested, NRCan would like to request two (2) hard copies, which can be forwarded to my attention at the address below.

Finally, further to the Board's request that parties planning to attend the guideline development workshop on September 29 though 30 provide a list of their planned representatives, I can advise that I am planning to attend this workshop, and that I am NRCan's only expected participant at this time.

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please feel free to call me at (613) 943-0773.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

John Clarke  
Environmental Assessment Coordination – SPI  
Natural Resources Canada  
580 Booth St Ottawa ON K1A 0E4

cc: Rob Johnstone, Minerals and Metals Sector, NRCan



### Attachment

#### **NRCan's Comments on the Revised EIS Guidelines for Baffinland Iron Ore Mine's Mary River Project**

- Section 6.5.3.1 Geology/Mineralogy of the Ore Deposit (p. 20) – NRCan suggests that the Guidelines ask for the proponent to include detailed structural geology mapping in the EIS.
- Section 6.5.3.2 Ore Mining, Transport and Processing (p. 21) - NRCan suggests that the EIS Guidelines specify that, in the discussion of how geotechnical factors were considered in the project design, that the EIS includes a kinetic analysis of open pit slope stability.