

September 20, 2010

Mr. Li Wan Technical Advisor Nunavut Impact Review Board P.O. Box 1360 Cambridge Bay, NU., X0B 0C0

Via Email

## RE: Consideration of New Alternatives in the Draft EIS/ Mary River Project – NIRB 08MIN053, INAC N2008T0014, QIA LUA 2008 008, DFO 2008 MR, NWB 2AM MRY

Dear Mr. Wan;

Thank you for your letter dated September 10, 2010 regarding Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's (Baffinland) consideration of a new alternative in the Draft EIS for the Mary River Project. The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has reviewed both Baffinland's letter, dated September 7, 2010, "Consideration of a preferred alternative as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment" and the attached document "Road Haulage Option".

After careful consideration, the NPC cannot at this time confirm whether the preferred option as described would constitute any significant changes to the Project such that a conformity determination with the *North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP)* would be required. To ensure that all possible alternatives are covered for the NPC to make its decision, more clarity and detail is required regarding the possible shipping route of the ore from Milne Inlet to Rotterdam.

I note that the proponent advises that a detailed design of the Road Haulage Option is expected to be complete later this year. Once the NPC has received this and reviewed



it, we would not anticipate any significant delay in NPC's decision on whether the changes would require a further conformity determination.

Regards,

Brian Aglukark,

Director, Regional Planning Nunavut Planning Commission

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