



NIRB File No.: 08MN053
INAC File No.: N2008T0014
QIA File No.: LUA-2008-008
DFO File No.: 2008 MR

March 24, 2011

Matthew Pickard
Director, EHS & Sustainability
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Suite 1016, 120 Adelaide Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 1T1

Sent Via Email: matthew.pickard@baffinland.com

Re: Information Requests received from Parties regarding Baffinland's Draft EIS

Dear Matthew Pickard:

On January 21, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) submission from Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (Baffinland or Proponent) for the Mary River Project (the Project). Upon completing its conformity review with assistance from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for the requirements relating to the proposed transportation corridor for the Project, on February 15, 2011 the NIRB accepted the submission as a Draft EIS and commenced the technical review period. The Board invited interested parties to review the Draft EIS and submit their Information Requests (IRs) to the NIRB for consideration by Thursday, March 17, 2011.

On or before March 17, 2011, the Board received submissions from the following parties:

- Government of Nunavut (GN)
 - 97 IRs directed to Baffinland
- Canadian Transportation Agency (CTR)
 - 17 IRs directed to Baffinland
- Environment Canada (EC)
 - 48 IRs directed to Baffinland
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
 - 27 IRs directed to Baffinland
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
 - 12 IRs directed to Baffinland
- Parks Canada (PC)
 - 6 IRs directed to Baffinland
- Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board (NMRIRB)

- General IRs directed to Baffinland
- Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA)
 - 21 IRs directed to Baffinland
 - 2 IRs directed to all Parties
 - 1 IR directed to all Authorizing Agencies
 - 2 IRs directed to NPC
 - 13 IRs for multiple parties:
 - 1 IR directed to Baffinland and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
 - 1 IR directed to Baffinland, NIRB and Qikiqtani Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
 - 2 IRs directed to Baffinland and GN
 - 2 IRs directed to Baffinland and NIRB
 - 1 IR directed to Baffinland, NIRB and DFO
 - 1 IR directed to Baffinland, INAC and DFO
 - 1 IR directed to Baffinland and DFO
 - 1 IR directed to NIRB and NWB
 - 1 IR directed to Baffinland, NIRB and NWB
 - 2 IR directed to Baffinland and NPC

Following the March 17, 2011 deadline, to date the Board has also received submissions from the following parties:

- A general public member
- Hamlet of Pond Inlet
- Health Canada (HC)
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)

All submissions are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/02-REVIEWS/ACTIVE%20REVIEWS/08MN053-BAFFINLAND%20MARY%20RIVER/2-REVIEW/06-CONFORMITY%20TECH%20REVIEW/02-INFORMATION%20REQUEST/>

The Board has completed its review of the IRs submitted before the March 17, 2011 deadline, and noted that all of the requests have been directed to the Proponent excepting those from the QIA, some of which request responses from other parties participating in the review process. Following an initial evaluation by the NIRB, it has determined that all IRs appear to be relevant to the current stage of the review process. Given the volume of IRs submitted, the Board is requesting that the Proponent review the submissions and supply the NIRB with an indication of its anticipated date for submission of a response to IRs (IR Response Package). The NIRB has copied other parties from whom a response has been requested with this correspondence and asks that they also provide the NIRB with an indication regarding their readiness or ability to respond to IRs.

The Board reminds all parties that those IR submissions provided to NIRB after the March 17 deadline have not been reviewed in sufficient detail for the Board to provide direction to the parties from whom a response is requested. However, recognizing the importance of full

participation and information exchange in the review process, the Board encourages all parties to respond appropriately to all IRs submitted.

Recognizing that several IRs have been received which relate to the co-ordination of processes between the NIRB, NPC and NWB, the NIRB will work with the other IPGs to prepare an appropriate and timely response to these issues.

The NIRB respectfully requests that indications regarding the anticipated timelines for responses to IRs be submitted directly to the Board at info@nirb.ca or by fax to (867) 983-2594, on or before **Thursday, April 7, 2011**.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please contact Li Wan, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4606 or via email at liwan@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Director, Technical Services

cc: Brian Aglukark, Nunavut Planning Commission
Dionne Filiatrault, Nunavut Water Board
Jim Noble, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board;
Rhoda Katsak, Dianne Lapierre, Seth Reinhart, Qikiqtani Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Marie Duchaine, Government of Nunavut;
Qikiqtani Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee;
Margaux Brisco, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Nicola Johnson, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Mary River Distribution List