

Richard Dwyer

From: Info at NIRB [info@nirb.ca]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 1:58 PM
To: 'Distribution List'
Subject: NIRB 08MN053: Baffinland Letter to NIRB Re Forthcoming June 30 Submission for the NIRB's Review of the Mary River Project
Attachments: 110624-08MN053-BIMC Ltr to NIRB Re Forthcoming Submission-IDTE.pdf

Dear Parties:

Please see the attached correspondence from Baffinland Iron Mines Corp. (Baffinland) to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) regarding a forthcoming June 30 submission which will initiate the next steps in the NIRB's Review of Baffinland's Mary River Project (NIRB File No. 08MN053). The NIRB will be issuing correspondence in the coming days with further details regarding the next steps in the review process, as well as further information on the ongoing coordination between the NIRB, the Nunavut Water Board and the Nunavut Planning Commission for this file.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kofi Boa-Antwi, Assistant Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4609 or kboa-antwi@nirb.ca.

Best regards,

Tannis Bolt
Environmental Administrator

Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360 (29 Mitik)
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
Phone: 867-983-4600
Fax: 867-983-2594
E-mail: info@nirb.ca
Web: www.nirb.ca
Public Registry: ftp.nirb.ca

June 24, 2011

Ryan Barry
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Dear Mr. Barry:

Re: Baffinland Update on the Removal of the Road Haulage Option, Information Requests and the Coordinated Process

Thank you for your letter dated May 30, 2011 and for coordinating subsequent discussions between the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), the Government of Nunavut (GN).

Baffinland has taken significant time to consider and discuss with relevant parties the three primary points of the letter:

- *The manner in which the “Road Haulage Option” alternative has been integrated into certain sections of the Draft EIS makes it difficult for reviewers to assess the analyses and conclusions in key sections of the document. Further clarification and/or revision of these sections is required.*
- *Insufficient information has been provided to address some IRs to the satisfaction of reviewers. Several parties have prioritized their requests and indicated a willingness to assist Baffinland in putting forward the necessary information during the technical review period as necessary.*
- *Insufficient information has been provided to satisfy the Coordinated NWB/NIRB Process. Clarification is required regarding Baffinland’s intentions moving forward.*

Baffinland intends to submit to NIRB a Draft EIS Addendum on June 30, 2011 which will contain additional information related to the removal of the Road Haulage Option. Through numerous conversations with the NIRB, QIA, INAC and GN, we are comfortable that this submission will provide the necessary clarification to commence technical review. The Addendum will contain a brief summary of the removal of the Road Haulage Option from the Draft EIS, a fully revised Project Description (Volume 3) including revised figures, and information on the changes and effects of these changes on each of the sections of volumes four through ten of the original Draft EIS. This submission will also include additional details of proposed Pre-Development Works to allow discussion and consideration during the technical review period.

Baffinland continues to discuss and engage parties on outstanding IRs and technical matters. Since June 1, 2011 detailed discussions have taken place with INAC, Environment Canada (EC), Parks Canada (PC), and Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) on their outstanding IRs. As well, we have approached Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and Transport Canada (TC) even though they do not have outstanding IR requests. We are currently working with QIA for an opportunity to discuss outstanding issues with them during the week of June 27th, 2011. Subsequent, more formalized working sessions with various responsible authorities are in the final planning phase on key areas including marine mammals, caribou (and possibly migratory birds), socio-economic, and closure.

With respect to the coordinated process, Baffinland has held subsequent meetings with NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) to further clarify the level of detailed information needed and at what stage this information is required. Baffinland fully intends to proceed with the coordinated process in line with NIRB and NWB requirements.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at 416-814-3963.

Kind regards,



Matthew Pickard
Director, Environment, Health, Safety and Sustainability
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation

Dionne Filiatrault, NWB (dionne@nunavutwaterboard.org)
Li Wan, NIRB (liwan@nirb.ca)
Erik Madsen, BIM (erik.madsen@baffinland.com)