



July 10, 2012

To: Jeff Mercer, Manager Land Administration
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Nunavut Regional Office
Iqaluit, NU

Via email: jeff.mercer@aandc.gc.ca; landsmining@aandc.gc.ca

Wynter Kuliktana, Lands Officer
Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Kugluktuk, NU

Via email: landsofficerkia@qiniq.com; geoff@qiniq.com

Luis Manzo, Director of Lands
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Rankin Inlet, NU

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Bernie MacIsaac, Director of Lands and Resources
Qikiqtani Inuit Association
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Mosha Cote, Manager Research Liaison
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Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
Gjoa Haven, NU

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Brian Aglukark, Director of Regional Planning
Nunavut Planning Commission
Arviat, NU

Via email: aglukark@nunavut.ca

Re: Postponement of NIRB Screening Decisions and Correspondences during Final Hearings for Baffinland Iron Mines Corp.'s Mary River Project, July 12-31, 2012

Dear Authorizing Agencies:

As you may be aware, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) is currently preparing for an upcoming Final Hearing as part of the Board's Review of Baffinland Iron Mines Corp.'s "Mary River" project proposal (NIRB File No. 08MN053). The Final Hearing will be held in Iqaluit, Igloolik and Pond Inlet from July 16-28, 2012 and will require the Board and the majority of its staff to be out of the office from Thursday, July 12, 2012 through Tuesday, July 31, 2012 (given associated travel requirements).

During this July 12-31 period, the NIRB will be required to postpone the issuance of:

- Screening Decisions issued pursuant to NLCA Section 12.4.4;
- Confirmation of Screening Exemption pursuant to NLCA 12.4.3;
- Decisions and standard correspondence pursuant to NLCA Article 12 Part 5 and Part 7 (Review and Monitoring files)

Several of the NIRB's staff members will remain in the office during the Final Hearing and will continue with the advancement of regular file administration, including receipt of new project proposals, maintenance of the Board's online public registry, and regular communications with outside agencies, project proponents and the general public. Following July 31, the NIRB will endeavour to move forward on all open files as expeditiously as possible, and it is our hope that this advance notice will assist in preventing any significant delays or inconvenience.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact Amanda Hanson, NIRB's Director of Technical Services via email at ahanson@nirb.ca or via phone at (867) 983-4615.

Best regards,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board