

Ministre des Affaires autochtones
et du développement du Nord



Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and
Northern Development

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

AUG 08 2012

Mr. Jobie Tukkiapik
President
Makivik Corporation
CP 179
KUUJJUAQ QC J0M 1C0



Dear Mr. Tukkiapik:

Thank you for your letter of June 6, 2012, regarding Baffinland Iron Mine Corporation's Mary River Project. On behalf of the Makivik Corporation, you have requested that the Government of Canada consent to a Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board review of the Mary River Project.

As you have noted, my predecessor, the Honourable Chuck Strahl, in referring the Mary River Project for review by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, asked the Board to carry out a very thorough assessment of the impacts related to the year-round shipping associated with this project. He also asked the Nunavut Impact Review Board to encourage parties in adjacent jurisdictions to participate in the review.

In conducting its review, the Nunavut Impact Review Board has sought evidence on and will consider information provided with respect to potential transboundary impacts in adjacent jurisdictions due to the project's shipping activity in the scope of its assessment. It has included your organization, the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board and the Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission in its project distribution list, and has held a series of meetings in seven Nunavik communities identified by the Makivik Corporation as being potentially impacted. Further to this, I understand that representatives from your organization, as well as from the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board, participated in the Board's hearing held in Iqaluit in July 2012.

I note Makivik Corporation's concerns regarding the potential impacts related to shipping, and with certain conclusions reached by Baffinland in its Final Environmental Impact Statement. I am confident that prior to issuing its determination to me, the

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Nunavut Impact Review Board will consider information submitted by all parties and weigh the evidence accordingly including assessing the transboundary impacts of the Mary River Project on Nunavik Inuit interests. The Nunavut Impact Review Board has demonstrated a strong track record for completing comprehensive project reviews.

It is for these reasons that the Government of Canada does not consent to your request for a review of Baffinland's Mary River project by the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board review of the project.

I would like to assure Makivik Corporation and the Nunavik Inuit that the ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of the Mary River Project will be fully considered before any decision is issued for the project by federal Ministers.

Again, I would like to thank the Makivik Corporation for bringing its concerns to the Government of Canada's attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Duncan', with a stylized, wavy line extending from the end.

John Duncan, PC, MP

c.c.: The Honourable Keith Ashfield, PC, MP
The Honourable Peter Kent, PC, MP
The Honourable Joe Oliver, PC, MP
The Honourable Denis Lebel, PC, MP
The Honourable James Arreak, MLA
Mr. Putulik Papigatuk
Mr. Johnny Oovaut
Mr. Henry Alayco
Ms. Elizabeth Copland
Mr. Tom Paddon
Mr. Michael T. Zurowski
Mr. Eric Madsen
Ms. Okalik Eegeesiak
Ms. Cathy Towntongie