



September 18, 2013

The Honourable Bernard Valcourt
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
10 Rue Wellington
Gatineau, QC.,
K1A – 0H3

Delivered Via Electronic Mail

Dear Mr. Valcourt,

**Re: Joint Review of Project Proposal for Early Revenue Phase (ERP)
of Mary River Project, DFO File NU-07, NIRB File 08MN053**

A project certificate was issued for the above-noted project in December of 2012. The proponent, Baffinland Iron Mines (Baffinland), asked the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) to reconsider the Mary River Project under Sections 12.8.2 and 12.8.3 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) to carry out the newly-proposed ERP. On February 11, 2013 the NIRB advised the Honourable John Duncan, Minister of AANDC that it would delay its reconsideration until the NPC had completed a conformity determination of the ERP. On June 24, 2013, the NPC received an application from Fisheries and Oceans Canada requesting a conformity determination for the ERP. On August 6, 2013, the NPC requested that the proponent make an application for the development of a transportation corridor under section 3.5.11 of the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). Baffinland submitted the requested application for an amendment to the NBRLUP for the development of a transportation corridor on August 9, 2013.

In accordance with section 3.5.12 of the NBRLUP, a joint review process for the proposed transportation corridor must be completed before the NPC can make a recommendation on whether to amend the plan. Section 3.5.12 of the NBRLUP requires the NPC, and either the NIRB or a panel acting under section 12.4.7 of the NLCA, to publicly review the proposed corridor. The NIRB is now proceeding with its reconsideration of the project, and in discussions with the NPC has expressed willingness to sit in joint review of the proposed corridor with the NPC.

The NPC hereby notifies the Minister that a corridor requires review under section 3.5.12 of the NBRLUP and section 12.4.7 of the NLCA, and asks that the Minister confirm the NPC may proceed with its joint review with the NIRB.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SEH', is written over the typed name of Ms. Sharon Ehaloak.

Ms. Sharon Ehaloak,
Executive Director,
Nunavut Planning Commission

Cc. Phillip Kadlun, Acting Chairperson, NIRB
Erik Madsen, BIMC