



October 7, 2013

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

Mr. Brian Aglukark
Nunavut Planning Commission
P.O. Box 2101
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0

Dear Mr. Barry and Mr. Aglukark:

Re: NIRB 12.8.2 Process with NPC

We are writing in response to the letter of September 23, 2013 from Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) setting out the process map relating to the review of the Early Revenue Phase (ERP), and highlighting the anticipated coordination between the NIRB and the NPC. We have a particular concern respecting the timing of decisions and actions by the NPC within the process.

The process map included with your letter of September 23, 2013 indicates a tentative date of early March 2014 for a hearing report from NIRB, with a Ministerial decision following on that report. However, the process map seems to indicate that an NPC determination respecting any requirements of the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP) may come later than the NIRB hearing report, and the process map does not indicate any timeline for that NPC determination. In particular, NPC should determine whether the information requirements of NBRLUP Appendices J and K have been met in the Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement as soon as possible, so that any deficiencies can be addressed by the proponent prior to technical meetings.

We do not wish to delay the timing of the NIRB process which has been underway for some time. However, we do request that the NPC schedule its process so that any determination and recommendation made by the NPC be scheduled to be ready to go to the Minister at the same time as when NIRB issues its Section 12.8.2 hearing report and recommendations to the Minister. This would mean that the Minister would have the reports and recommendations of both the Board and the Commission to address simultaneously.

We know of no reason why any NPC determination and recommendation would need to take longer than the NIRB process. In fact, it is generally expected that land use plan issues be resolved more expeditiously.

The requested timeline for the NPC determination/recommendations would provide the Minister with a foundation for making a decision on all issues, and would be consistent with regulatory expectations. It would also be consistent with the assurances that we received from the NPC that their consideration of the transportation corridor issue would not result in any extension of or delays in the NIRB review of the ERP.

We look forward to your confirmation that any NPC determination and recommendations will be scheduled to be issued by the NPC on or before the date when NIRB issues its hearing report.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik Madsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Erik Madsen, Vice President
Sustainable Development, Health, Safety & Environment

Cc: Sharon Ehloak, Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC)
Damien Cote, Nunavut Water Board (NWB)
Karen Costello, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)
Mitch Bloom, Northern Project Management Office (NPMO)