

COVER LETTER



NIRB File No.: 08MN053

March 17, 2014

The Honourable Bernard Valcourt
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
10 Wellington, 21st Floor
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H4

Sent via email and courier: bernard.valcourt@parl.gc.ca; minister@aandc.gc.ca

Re: Public Hearing Report for Baffinland Iron Mine Corporation's Mary River Early Revenue Phase Proposal

Please find enclosed the Public Hearing Report of the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) summarizing the NIRB's conclusions and recommendations arising from our assessment and reconsideration of the Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's Early Revenue Phase Proposal, NIRB File No.: 08MN053 (the ERP Proposal) under Article 12, Part 8, Section 12.8.2 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (NLCA). The enclosed Report contains the NIRB's assessment of the potential ecosystemic and socio-economic effects of the ERP Proposal and reflects the NIRB's primary objectives under Section 12.2.5 of the NLCA. The NIRB has concluded that the ERP Proposal may proceed, provided that the project complies with the recommended revised and additional Terms and Conditions of Project Certificate No.: 005 as outlined in the attached Report.

Translated versions of the Public Hearing Report are being prepared and will be made available as soon as possible. Please contact the undersigned in writing if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Copland', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Elizabeth Copland
Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: The Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, GOC
The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Environment, GOC
The Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, GOC
The Honourable Joe Oliver, Minister of Natural Resources, GOC
The Honourable Peter Taptuna, Premier, GN
Cathy Towtongie, President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Okalik Eegeesiak, President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Mr. Tom Paddon, President and CEO, Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Mr. Erik Madsen, Vice President Sustainable Development, Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Mr. Oliver Curran, Director Sustainable Development, Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Parties and Intervenors