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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYIT
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

NWB –File No.: 2AM-MRY----

December 14, 2012

Erik Madsen, Vice-President
Sustainable Development, Health, Safety & Environment
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
120 Adelaide Street West, Suite 1016
Toronto, Ontario M5H 1T1

Email: erik.madsen@baffinland.com

Re: *Technical Meeting and Pre Hearing Conference – 2AM-MRY--- Type “A” Water Licence Application by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation for the Mary River Project*

Further to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) correspondence¹ in which interested parties were invited to provide written submissions pertaining to Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's (Proponent or BIMC) Type “A” water licence application (Application) for the Mary River Project (Project), the NWB has been in receipt of written representations from four (4) intervening parties. They include Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Environment Canada (EC), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA).

All interveners' submissions and document related to the Application have been placed in the NWB's Public Registry and are available on the NWB's ftp site using the following link (Username: “public”; Password: “registry”):

<ftp://nunavutwaterboard.org/1%20PRUC/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MRY----%20BIMC/2%20ADMIN/3%20SUBMISSIONS/>

Now that intervening parties and the NWB have had opportunities to review and/or comment on the Application that is before the Board, and that the proponent has responded to or is in the process of responding to submissions and concerns expressed by intervening parties, the Board determined that the Application has advanced to the stage of holding a Technical Meeting and Pre-Hearing Conference. Accordingly, the Board in accordance with Rule 14 of the *Rules of Practice and Procedure for Public Hearing* (2005) has directed staff to schedule a Technical Meeting and Pre-Hearing Conference (TM-PHC) in support of the Application for **January 16 -**

¹ Letter from D-Hohnstein, NWB, to E.Madsen, BIMC, Re: Completeness Review and Notice of Type “A” Water Licence Application No. 2AM-MRY----dated, April 13, 2012.

17, 2013 in the **Hamlet of Pond Inlet**, Nunavut, a community likely to be affected by the application. Following the TM-PHC, the NWB's staff, with the consent of its Board, will be issuing a PHC decision.

In preparation for the upcoming TM-PHC for the Application, the NWB recommends that prospective participants review the above-mentioned submissions in addition to relevant documents distributed in relation to the Application between the period July 23, 2012 and the date of this letter. Further, the NWB requests that parties consider the relevant terms and condition in the NIRB's Final Hearing Report² for the Project and the implication that those terms and conditions may have on this Application.

Attached to this correspondence is a copy of the proposed Agenda for the TM-PHC. As part of this Agenda, the NWB is proposing to hold a community session on the evening of January 16, 2013 to allow for residents of the Hamlet of Pond Inlet to express any concerns that they may have about the Application that is before the Board and ask any questions to the proponent and Parties in attendance.

By copy of this letter, the Board is inviting interested parties to confirm their attendance at the TM-PHC for the Application as well as provide comments on the proposed Agenda by **January 8, 2013**.

In addition, the NWB requests that all parties bring with them, copies of the application and correspondence/submission (either hard copy or electronic) for reference, as the NWB will likely only have a few hard copies available for viewing and for the Public.

Should you have any inquiries on technical matters related to the above, please contact Sean Joseph, Technical Advisor, at (604) 321-8185 or by email to sjoseph@nunavutwaterboard.org, or David Hohnstein, Director of Technical Services, at (780) 443-4406 or by email to dts@nunavutwaterboard.org. For any inquiries pertaining to procedural matters, please contact Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing, at (867) 360-6338 or by email to licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org.

Sincerely,



Damien A. Côté
Executive Director | Directeur général
Nunavut Water Board | Office des eaux du Nunavut

Attachments: Proposed Agenda

Cc: Mary River Distribution List

² Nunavut Impact Review Board, Final Hearing Report, Mary River Project, Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation, NIRB File No. 08MN053



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PROPOSED AGENDA

TECHNICAL MEETING & PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation – Mary River Project

Type “A” Water Licence Application: 2AM-MRY---

January 16-17, 2013 - Pond Inlet Community Hall

January 16, 2013, 8:30 AM

1. Introduction and Registration
2. Application to the Board
3. Purpose of the Technical Meeting/Pre-Hearing Conference
4. Pre-Hearing Review of the Application
 - a. Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation presentation on the current status of the Mary River Project
 - b. Identification of Interested Parties
 - c. Presentations from Interested Parties

January 16, 2013, 7:00 PM

5. Community session

January 17, 2013, 8:30 AM

4. Pre-Hearing Review of the Application (cont'd)
 - d. Formulation of Issues
 - e. Identification and Service of Documents to Parties (deadline, public registry, form)
 - f. Translation and the Record (language)
6. Hearing
 - a. Date, Time and Location
 - b. Site Visit, if any
 - c. Order of Events
 - d. Equipment
7. Other Issues
8. Closing of the Meeting