

May 29, 2015

To: Mary River Distribution List

Re: 2AM-MRY1325 -- Close of the Public Hearing Record in Respect of the Type "A"

Water Licence Amendment No. 1 Application by Baffinland Iron Mines

**Corporation for the Mary River Project** 

As indicated in the Nunavut Water Board's (the NWB or the Board) correspondence of May 11, 2015, the Record associated with the Public Hearing<sup>1</sup> to consider the Application filed by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (BIMC or Applicant) to amend Type "A" Water Licence No. 2AM-MRY1325 for the Mary River Project (the Application or Amendment No. 1 Application) remained open following adjournment of the in-person portion of the Public Hearing in order to allow the Applicant and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (the QIA or the Intervener) to provide additional submissions with respect to the quantum of security pertaining to Water Licence No. 2AM-MRY1325.

As directed in the Board's letter, the Intervener and the Applicant has filed additional materials before the deadline of Monday, May 25, 2015. The Board has placed this information on its public registry and these materials are now added to the Public Hearing Record for the NWB's file in respect of Amendment No. 1 Application. In addition, public access to this information is made available through the NWB's ftp site using the following link:

## ftp://ftp.nwb-

oen.ca/1%20PRUC%20PUBLIC%20REGISTRY/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2A M%20-%20Mining/2AM-

MRY1325%20BIMC/2%20ADMIN/4%20HEARINGS/2%20HEARING/2014%20Amen dment%201/

<sup>1</sup> Public Hearing held by the Nunavut Water Board for the Mary River Project, Type "A" Water Licence, Amendment No.1 Application, in Pond Inlet, Nunavut, May 6 - 7, 2015.

On May 29, 2015, the Mary River Panel (P4), the duly appointed Board Members designated to address the Application, reviewed the additional information provided by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Banffinland Iron Mines Corporation and decided that all required evidence is now before the Board. Consequently, by way of Panel Motion #: 2015-09-P4-03, the Panel confirms the Public Hearing record for the Nunavut Water Board's Public Hearing regarding Amendment No. 1 Application for the Type "A" Water Licence No. 2AM-MRY1325, issued to the Mary River Project, is complete and is now CLOSED. Accordingly, no additional evidence in respect of the Amendment No. 1 Application may be filed with the Board, and the Hearing Record will consist of the documentation filed in advance of the Hearing, the oral evidence and Exhibits filed during the Hearing and the further comments filed with the Board by May 25, 2015.

Now that the Hearing Record is closed, the Application has been remitted to the Panel who will, in due course (typically within 30-45 days from the date the Application was remitted to the Panel), issue a decision report to the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada regarding whether or not to issue the requested amendment to the Type "A" Water Licence. If the Board's decision is to recommend that an amended Type "A:" Water Licence be issued, the Board will also attach a copy of the amended licence to the decision report for the review of the Minister.

As stated above, the Public Hearing Record is now closed and the Panel in deliberations; the Board will not provide any further comment regarding this Amendment Application until the Board publicly issues its decision regarding the Application.

In closing, the Board extends its thanks to all the parties, community members and general members of the public who were involved in the Board's processing of this Application, and in particular, the Board appreciates the contributions of everyone who attended the Public Hearing in Pond Inlet earlier this month.

Sincerely,

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Thomas Kabloona Chairperson Nunavut Water Board