



<p>5</p> <p>1 Proceedings taken at Pond Inlet Community Hall, 2 Pond Inlet, Nunavut</p> <hr/> <p>4 March 11, 2025 Morning Session</p> <p>6 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD</p> <p>7 L. Toomasie Chair of Hearing 8 U. Pukignak Panel Member 9 E. Baddaloo Panel Member</p> <p>11 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD STAFF</p> <p>12 S. Autut Executive Director 13 K. Kharatyan Director of Technical 14 Services 15 B. Kogvik Director of Board 16 Administration and 17 Communications 18 A. Jan Technical Advisor 19 R. Hunter Licencing Administrator 20 T. Meadows Legal Counsel</p> <p>22 (Via Remote Video) 23 Z. Bliss Meadows Law, Observer</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1 PROPONENT</p> <p>2 BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION</p> <p>3 M. Lord-Hoyle Vice President, 4 Sustainable Development 5 and Health, Safety, 6 Environment</p> <p>7 L. Kamermans Senior Director, 8 Sustainable Development</p> <p>9 P. Quassa Special Advisor 10 J. Tigullaraq Head of Northern Affairs 11 E. Luther Senior Manager, 12 Regulatory Affairs</p> <p>13 M. Schauerte Stantec, Technical 14 Advisor</p> <p>15 C. Sangoya Pond Inlet, Inuit 16 Knowledge-Holder 17 P. Enoogok Pond Inlet, Inuit 18 Knowledge-Holder 19 C. Kowbell Legal Counsel</p> <p>21 (Via Remote Video) 22 W. Bowden Environment Manager 23 S. Borcsok Approvals Manager 24 T. Swenson Environment 25 Superintendent 26 K. Kuchapski Minnow Technical Advisor</p>
<p>7</p> <p>1 INTERVENORS</p> <p>2 QUKIQTANI INUIT ASSOCIATION</p> <p>3 A. Kubeisinova Manager, Regulatory 4 Review 5 J. Ottenhof Director, Qikiqtani 6 Nunaliirijkkut</p> <p>7 A. MacDonald The Firelight Group 8 R. Nesbitt Hutchinson Environmental 9 Sciences Ltd.</p> <p>10 J. Cavallo LGL Limited 11 C. Shefman Legal Counsel</p> <p>13 (Via Remote Video) 14 K. Scott The Firelight Group 15 J. Carman LGL Limited 16 M. Kay LGL Limited</p> <p>18 CROWN-INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS</p> <p>19 A. Keim Manager, Water Resources 20 L. Perrin Water Management 21 Specialist 22 J. McHattie Legal Counsel</p> <p>24 (Via Remote Video) 25 J. Croston Technical Expert, 26 AtkinsRéalis</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA</p> <p>2 E. Walker Manager, Environmental 3 Assessment Group 4 S. Forte Water Quality Analyst</p> <p>6 (Via Remote Video) 7 R. Nissen Air Quality Analyst 8 R. Ejeckam Mining Expert 9 J. Kassir Environmental Assessment 10 Officer 11 J. Holman Environmental Assessment 12 Officer</p> <p>14 FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA</p> <p>15 P. Harper Senior Biologist 16 N. Wasilik Regulatory Review 17 Biologist</p> <p>19 (Via Remote Video) 20 C. Kovachik Regulatory Review 21 Biologist</p> <p>23 HAMLET OF ARCTIC BAY</p> <p>24 S. Qaunaq Community Representative 25 O. Naqitarvik Community Representative 26 R. Taqtu Community Representative</p>

<p>9</p> <p>1 HAMLET OF CLYDE RIVER</p> <p>2 J. Apak Community Representative</p> <p>3 R. Palituq Community Representative</p> <p>4 N. Qillaq Community Representative</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 HAMLET OF HALL BEACH</p> <p>7 A. Qammaniq Community Representative</p> <p>8 J. Kaerner Community Representative</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 HAMLET OF IGLOOLIK</p> <p>11 A. Attagutlukutuk Community Representative</p> <p>12 L. Idlout Community Representative</p> <p>13 N. Piugattuk Community Representative</p> <p>14</p> <p>15 HAMLET OF POND INLET</p> <p>16 J. Katsak Community Representative</p> <p>17 B. Merkosak Community Representative</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 INTERPRETORS/TRANSLATORS</p> <p>20 R. Katsak Inuktitut Language</p> <p>21 Translator</p> <p>22 T. Arnakallak Inuktitut Language</p> <p>23 Translator</p> <p>24</p> <p>25 J. King, CSR(A) Official Court Reporter</p> <p>26 C. Coomber Sound Technician</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:10 AM EDT)</p> <p>2 Opening Remarks by The Chair</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Good morning and welcome</p> <p>4 to the public hearing for the application filed</p> <p>5 by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation seeking to</p> <p>6 renew their existing Type A Water Licence</p> <p>7 Number 2AM-MRY1325 for the continued use of</p> <p>8 water and deposit of waste associated with iron</p> <p>9 ore mine at the Mary River Project, which is</p> <p>10 defined as "mining undertaking" under the</p> <p>11 Nunavut Water Regulations.</p> <p>12 My name is Lootie Toomasie, and I'm the</p> <p>13 Chair of Nunavut Water Board and Chair for this</p> <p>14 public hearing.</p> <p>15 Before we proceed with the hearing, let us</p> <p>16 begin with a prayer. I have asked Olayuk</p> <p>17 Naqitarvik. Let us stand and have opening</p> <p>18 prayer.</p> <p>19 (OPENING PRAYER)</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk, for</p> <p>21 your prayer.</p> <p>22 On behalf of the Nunavut Water Board, I</p> <p>23 welcome you to this public hearing in Pond</p> <p>24 Inlet.</p> <p>25 Now to provide some background and set the</p> <p>26 stage for the hearing. The Nunavut Water</p>
<p>11</p> <p>1 Board, which I will refer to as "the Board" or</p> <p>2 "NWB", is an institution of public government</p> <p>3 created under Article 13 of Nunavut Agreement</p> <p>4 and Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights</p> <p>5 Tribunal Act. The NWB is responsible for the</p> <p>6 use, management, and regulations of freshwater</p> <p>7 in Nunavut Settlement Area.</p> <p>8 The purpose of this public hearing is to</p> <p>9 review the application filed by Baffinland Iron</p> <p>10 Mines Corporation, which I might refer to as</p> <p>11 "Baffinland" or "the Applicant", to renew the</p> <p>12 existing Type A water licence for the continued</p> <p>13 use of water and deposit of waste associated</p> <p>14 with the Mary River Project.</p> <p>15 Baffinland operates the Mary River Mine and</p> <p>16 associated transportation infrastructure, which</p> <p>17 is located on Baffin Island in the Qikiqtani</p> <p>18 Region of Nunavut. The use of water and</p> <p>19 deposit of waste for this project is licenced</p> <p>20 under the Type A Water Licence 2AM-MRY1325,</p> <p>21 which was originally issued by the Board on</p> <p>22 July 10, 2013, and expires on June 10th, 2025.</p> <p>23 The existing licence was amended in 2015 to</p> <p>24 reflect changes to the Mary River Project under</p> <p>25 the early revenue phase modification proposal.</p> <p>26 Baffinland proposes the new -- to renew the</p>	<p>12</p> <p>1 existing water licence for a term of 15 years.</p> <p>2 The scope of renewal application is generally</p> <p>3 the same as the current water licence.</p> <p>4 As set out in Section 13.3.6 of Nunavut</p> <p>5 Agreement and Section 29 of Nunavut Waters and</p> <p>6 Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act, the Board</p> <p>7 has delegated its power to dispose of all</p> <p>8 matters related to the processing of the</p> <p>9 application to renew the Type A Licence</p> <p>10 2AM-MRY1325, including the conduct of this</p> <p>11 public hearing, to a panel of the Board, which</p> <p>12 is referred to as the "Mary River Panel" or</p> <p>13 "P4 Panel".</p> <p>14 I will be chairing this panel, and also</p> <p>15 with me today as members of the P4 Panel, Board</p> <p>16 members, Earle Baddaloo and Uriash Pukiqnak on</p> <p>17 this side. Several staff members who have</p> <p>18 contributed to the NWB's administration and</p> <p>19 technical review of the application are present</p> <p>20 with the legal counsel to the NWB, and I will</p> <p>21 introduce the individuals in attendance:</p> <p>22 Stephanie Autut, Executive Director; Karén</p> <p>23 Kharatyan -- I can't pronounce it proper.</p> <p>24 Never learn it for almost 20 years now. He's a</p> <p>25 Director of Board -- Director of Technical</p> <p>26 Services -- sorry -- and Ben Kogvik, Director</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>1 of Board Administration and Communication 2 sitting in the back -- in the interpreting 3 booth; Abid Jan, Technical Advisor; Robert 4 Hunter, Licence Administrator; and Teresa 5 Meadows from Meadows Law, the NWB legal 6 counsel; and joining us remotely is Teresa's 7 associate Zachary Bliss from Meadows Law. 8 Sorry. I never learned how to be good with 9 the names, so my pronouncing the names never 10 the same. I think I'm not the only one in the 11 room here. 12 In addition, we have an interpreter 13 available for simultaneous interpretation. I 14 believe Rhoda Katsak is supposed to be here but 15 not here yet, so -- but Titus Arnakallak is 16 here for interpreting, along with Ben, our -- I 17 guess on our staff, on the NWB staff. He's 18 from Pond Inlet. 19 For audio support, we have Chris Coomber 20 from PIDO Production. If you have -- 21 experience any difficulties with your headset, 22 Chris will be able to provide assistance. 23 To ensure we have an accurate record of the 24 proceedings, we have with us court reporter, 25 Julie Deanne King, from Dicta Court Reporting 26 Incorporated.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>1 Before I move to a review -- an overview of 2 this application and to what we expect today 3 public -- during this public hearing, there are 4 some important housekeeping items for everyone 5 here. 6 First, as indicated earlier, there's 7 interpretation available throughout the hearing 8 in English and Inuktitut. Earpieces can be 9 obtained from the table located just by the 10 door as you enter this room. Channel 2 is 11 English, and Channel 3, Inuktitut. 12 Second, the Board appreciate if everyone, 13 including Applicant, Intervenors, and members 14 of the public sign in on the sheet located at 15 the table as you come in. This is an important 16 record of the hearing, and we appreciate your 17 help making sure it is complete. 18 Thirdly, the agendas for the public hearing 19 and the community session are available at the 20 back. Please pick one up and follow along with 21 us as we proceed. 22 The washrooms are located near the entrance 23 to the hall, and the exits are in front of -- 24 in front and the back of the hall. There will 25 be coffee, tea, and snacks brought in during 26 the breaks throughout the hearing, and you are</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>1 welcome to help yourself throughout the day. 2 I would also like to remind everyone to 3 please turn off your cell phones or put them on 4 silent before we begin. 5 Make sure I'm okay with -- yeah. I'm a 6 good man. 7 Fourthly, although the Board directed that 8 this public hearing be held in person, due to 9 limitations of the accommodations available in 10 Pond Inlet, the Board has provided remote 11 access for those who were unable to travel to 12 Pond Inlet today. As we have all experienced 13 this, there might be some -- when due to 14 circumstances beyond the Board's control, the 15 remote links to the in-person proceedings may 16 be interrupted or fail. While the Board will 17 do everything we can to maintain the stable 18 link, as our priority is ensuring that we 19 complete our agenda during the in-person 20 proceedings, if the remote access links fail, 21 the Board may proceed with in-person proceeding 22 while we troubleshooting this to restore access 23 to remote participants. 24 Finally, to assist our interpreters, the 25 court reporter, and those joining us remotely, 26 please wait to have microphone before you speak</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>1 and then state your name, speak clearly and 2 slowly, and avoid the use of abbreviations. 3 Please do not speak over other speakers and be 4 respectful for all participants. We appreciate 5 your assistance in making sure this public 6 hearing a success and ensuring everyone's 7 comments are recorded, and the Board's record 8 of proceedings is accurate and complete. 9 Teresa. 10 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 11 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut 12 Water Board. 13 Mr. Chair, we do not have an indication 14 that media is present, but they may be present 15 online. We do have a remote access link, so I 16 would advise you to read the direction to media 17 anyway just in case we have media online. 18 Thank you, Mr. Chair. 19 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. 20 I would just like to remind all 21 participants in the proceedings that while the 22 Board is in these proceeding and afterwards 23 considering their decision for the file, they 24 will not be commenting on the file to anyone, 25 including the media. In the past, parties in 26 other proceedings have approached the media</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>1 prior to the release of the Board's decision  2 suggesting comments about what the Board is  3 going to do, either procedurally or in terms of  4 the final results.  5 Since the Board cannot comment on pending  6 matters, either by confirming or denying  7 accuracy of statements by others to the media,  8 the Board asks all parties to refrain from  9 making any comments that may imply a certain  10 action or decision by the Board.  11 Following the close of the record for this  12 public hearing, the Board decision and  13 recommendations with respect to the renewal  14 application will be communicated in a publicly  15 available decision report. Until that time,  16 the Board reminds everyone that the panel  17 members and the Board staff will not discuss  18 the substance of the hearing or the matters  19 before the Board with any of the parties or the  20 media.  21 If you have questions regarding the Board  22 and its practice or procedures, please speak  23 with the Executive Director, and she will  24 assist you.  25 Prior to identifying and introducing all  26 the parties in attendance today, I will provide</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>1 a brief history of the renewal application  2 which is before the Board.  3 As mentioned earlier, the application  4 before the Board is for the renewal to a Type A  5 Water Licence 2AM-MRY1325 requested by  6 Baffinland. The proposed terms of licence for  7 the renewal application is 15 years, expiring  8 in 2040. The scope of the renewal application  9 remains the same as that of the current Water  10 Licence 2AM-MRY132 -- sorry, 135 -- 1325.  11 That's the one. 1325. No changes are being  12 proposed in terms of scope, location, water-use  13 volumes, or deposit of waste.  14 The activities included within the scope of  15 the existing licence and that Baffinland  16 requests continue to be authorized under the  17 renewed licence including the following:  18 The existing licence allows for the use of  19 water for domestic and industrial purpose at  20 Milne Port site at Milne Inlet; the Mary River  21 mine site; the Steensby Port site, which has  22 yet to be constructed at the Steensby Inlet;  23 and the proposed railway camps as follows:  24 Water use during construction of phase -- of  25 construction phase, 689,000 cubic metre per  26 year; water use during operation phase, 353,000</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>1 cubic metre per year; water use authorized for  2 dust suppressions up to 1,500 cubic metres per  3 day to a maximum of 547,500 cubic metre per  4 year. The all-weather Tote Road that connects  5 the mine site to the Milne Port site. Water  6 management infrastructures, including  7 watercourse crossing, flood-control  8 infrastructure, and other measures, including  9 diversions, alteration of flow or storage by  10 means of dikes or dams, and related  11 maintenance. Treatment facilities for sewage,  12 wastewater and oily stormwater, contaminated  13 snow and soil. Waste sorting, management, and  14 disposal facilities, including landfills and  15 incinerator systems. Management of waste rock  16 stockpile, ore stockpile, and related runoff  17 management. Storage and management of fuel and  18 other hazardous material. Ongoing  19 decommissioning of existing and historic camp  20 infrastructure. And other activities in  21 support of engineering and scientific studies  22 for the project and ongoing maintenance of  23 existing project infrastructure.  24 I will now provide a summary of the  25 maintenance -- maintained -- sorry. I will now  26 provide a summary of main documents that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>1 Baffinland provided to the Board to support --  2 in support of the renewal application.  3 The application included the following  4 documents: Cover letter for water licence  5 renewal application; application for water  6 licence renewal; NPC conformity determination;  7 appendices with the management plans and  8 additional information.  9 Baffinland also submit additional  10 information and revised plans in response to  11 technical comment submissions from the  12 Intervenor and the Board during the technical  13 review of the renewal application.  14 Copies of all the materials filed by the  15 Applicant in support of a renewal application  16 are available on the NWB Public Registry.  17 In addition, our licencing administrator,  18 Robert Hunter, can make available for public  19 viewing at -- at this hearing the electronic  20 copies of the Public Registry for this  21 application and the key documents for the  22 application received to date. If you are  23 interested in reviewing any of the  24 documentation, please ask Robert.  25 Now I am going to provide you with a very  26 brief overview of key steps in the procedural</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>1 history for the renewal application that 2 outlines how we got to this public hearing 3 stage. 4 June 26, 2024, the NWB received a Type A 5 water licence renewal application and 6 supporting documentation from Baffinland. 7 June 27, 2024, the NWB commenced the 8 completeness check where parties were invited 9 to review the application and completeness and 10 provide information requests, "IRs", by 11 July 26, 2024. 12 July 26, 2024, submission and information 13 requests were received from Qikiqtani Inuit 14 Association ("QIA"), Environment and Climate 15 Change Canada ("ECCC"), and Fisheries and 16 Oceans Canada ("DFO"). Crown-Indigenous 17 Relations and Northern Affairs ("CIRNA") 18 advised they did not have any IRs. 19 August 15, 2024, Applicants provided 20 response to Intervenor's information requests. 21 September 3, 2024, the NWB received a 22 second round of submissions from QIA and the 23 completeness of renewal application. 24 September 9, 2024, Baffinland provided 25 response to the second round of submission from 26 QIA.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>1 September 23, 2024, the NWB deemed the 2 renewal application to be complete, gave notice 3 of the renewal application and invited parties 4 to conduct a full technical review and provide 5 their comments/recommendations by October 23, 6 2024. This correspondence also included 7 tentative type lines -- time lines for the 8 technical meeting and pre-hearing conference to 9 be held in Pond Inlet in December. 10 October 23, 2024, submissions were received 11 from QIA, CIRNA, ECCC, and DFO. 12 November 12, 2024, Baffinland responded to 13 Intervenor's comments. 14 December 3 to 4, 2024, NWB hosted the 15 technical meeting and pre-hearing conference in 16 Pond Inlet. A community session were -- was 17 held on the evening of December 3, 2024. 18 December 19, 2024, NWB issued a pre-hearing 19 conference decision for the file, including a 20 list of commitments, identifying issues to be 21 addressed at the public hearing, and tentative 22 time lines as the application proceeded to 23 public hearing. 24 December 27, 2024, NWB published a notice 25 of public hearing to be held in Pond Inlet in 26 the week of March 10, 2025.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>1 February 11th, 2025, Intervenor's filed 2 final written submission. 3 February 21, 2025, Baffinland provided 4 response to final written submissions. 5 February 27, 2025, all parties, except for 6 QIA, filed their public hearing presentation 7 with the Board. 8 February 27, 2025, QIA filed updated final 9 written submission and was granted an extension 10 to file their public hearing presentation. 11 March 5, 2025, QIA filed their public 12 hearing presentation. 13 March 11 to 12, 2025, NWB is here in Pond 14 Inlet to conduct this public hearing and the 15 community session on the evening of March 11, 16 2025. 17 Complete details on all procedural steps 18 and all submissions received in relation to the 19 renewal application are available on the NWB's 20 Public Registry. If you have any questions or 21 would like to see any materials, please see 22 Robert at the table as you came into the hall. 23 I will now move on to read a list of issues 24 that will be discussed at this hearing. This 25 list was prepared in December during the 26 Board's technical meeting and pre-hearing</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>1 conference: 2 Scope of the Type A Water Licence: 15-year 3 term of the licence. 4 Water Use and Management: Water balance 5 estimation; lake water quality and method of 6 tracking trends and change; river and tributary 7 water quality; aquatic habitat; adaptive 8 management responses; pit water quality, 9 potential for taliks within mined-out pit lake 10 and potential for impact on regional 11 groundwater through potential taliks -- 12 Is that the word, "talik"? Teresa? Is 13 that the word "talik" here on one of the 14 potential -- I thought it was kind of 15 misspelling or not. I don't know. I never 16 heard this before. 17 Well, anyway, Wastewater Management and 18 Treatment. 19 Waste Management: Changes to erosion and 20 sediment control program, including addition to 21 monitoring methodology -- it's my second 22 language. I did not pronounce it properly, I'm 23 sure -- as requested by Intervenor's; control 24 dust measures, including setback for snow piles 25 impacted by dust control mining activities; 26 waste rock characterization and waste rock</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>1 management.</p> <p>2 Monitoring and Reporting: Supplemental</p> <p>3 baseline collection more specifically along the</p> <p>4 future railway, specifically in relation to</p> <p>5 Steensby pre-construction on territory data</p> <p>6 collection; timing for activation of</p> <p>7 hydrometric stations along the railway;</p> <p>8 implementation of pre-construction and</p> <p>9 construction monitoring programs associated</p> <p>10 with activities by Steensby -- at Steensby</p> <p>11 Inlet; incorporation of Inuit Qaujimanituqangit</p> <p>12 and Inuit-led monitoring programs; integration</p> <p>13 of information generated by Inuit stewardship</p> <p>14 program, existing and in the future, and for</p> <p>15 other programs; incorporation of monitoring</p> <p>16 techniques, an example, sediment cores.</p> <p>17 Schedule 1, Monitoring Program: Update.</p> <p>18 Updates to Existing Management Monitoring</p> <p>19 Plans: Integration of Steensby component to</p> <p>20 support updated pre-construction baseline data</p> <p>21 collection; evaluation of existing plan</p> <p>22 performance, comparisons of operational</p> <p>23 monitoring data for FEIS prediction; timing,</p> <p>24 content, and review process of monitoring</p> <p>25 plans.</p> <p>26 Closure and Reclamation Planning: Interim</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>1 closure and reclamation plan.</p> <p>2 Amendment to the Water Licence: Security;</p> <p>3 security management agreement/modification to</p> <p>4 Part C and Schedule C, security.</p> <p>5 Discharge criteria per Baffinland response</p> <p>6 to ECCCC -- I think I said too many 'C's.</p> <p>7 Sorry -- TC-06 filed November 18, 2024, with</p> <p>8 NWB.</p> <p>9 Non-Substantive Updates: Et cetera,</p> <p>10 updated references to current approved plans.</p> <p>11 Draft renewal licence framework as proposed</p> <p>12 by Baffinland and the Intervenors.</p> <p>13 The addition of terms and conditions</p> <p>14 related to cumulative effects.</p> <p>15 If there are no concerns, I would like to</p> <p>16 move forward to a roll call. I will begin with</p> <p>17 roll call with Applicants, Baffinland and its</p> <p>18 representative.</p> <p>19 Baffinland, can you please introduce your</p> <p>20 participants both here and -- both here in Pond</p> <p>21 Inlet and participating remotely.</p> <p>22 Roll Call</p> <p>23 M. LORD-HOYLE: Qujannamik. My name is</p> <p>24 Megan Lord-Hoyle with Baffinland, and here in</p> <p>25 the room with Baffinland we have Lou Kamermans,</p> <p>26 Paul Quassa, Joe Tigullaraq, and Elisabeth</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>1 Luther. Online with Baffinland, we also have</p> <p>2 William Bowden, Todd Swenson, and Steve</p> <p>3 Borcsok. Here in the room, we're supported by</p> <p>4 Morgan Schauerte with Stantec, technical</p> <p>5 advice, and Christine Kowbel from Lawsons</p> <p>6 Lundell providing legal advice. And online, we</p> <p>7 have Kathryn Kuchapski with Minnow providing</p> <p>8 technical advice. Qujannamiik.</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Applicant.</p> <p>10 I will now go to intervening parties.</p> <p>11 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, QIA.</p> <p>12 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My</p> <p>13 name is Assol Kubeisinova. Our team today</p> <p>14 consists of Alistair MacDonald, The Firelight</p> <p>15 Group; Richard Nesbitt, Hutchinson</p> <p>16 Environmental; Joe Cavallo, LGL Limited.</p> <p>17 Online are Keith Scott, The Firelight Group;</p> <p>18 Jake Carman, LGL Limited; and Dr. Mitchell Kay,</p> <p>19 also with LGL Limited. And in the audience is</p> <p>20 QIA legal counsel Corey Shefman with Olthuis,</p> <p>21 Kleer, and Townshend.</p> <p>22 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>23 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>24 I'll move on. Crown-Indigenous Relations</p> <p>25 and Northern Affairs.</p> <p>26 L. PERRIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>1 name is Lauren Perrin. I'm the water</p> <p>2 management specialist, and with me today, I</p> <p>3 have Andrew Keim, manager of water resources,</p> <p>4 Joseph McHattie, legal counsel. And online, we</p> <p>5 have Jonathan Croston from AtkinsRéalis as</p> <p>6 technical expert. Thank you.</p> <p>7 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>8 Next, Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>9 Canada.</p> <p>10 E. WALKER: Good morning. Thank you,</p> <p>11 Mr. Chair. My name is Eva Walker. I'm manager</p> <p>12 of environmental production and operations with</p> <p>13 Environment and Climate Change Canada. With me</p> <p>14 today in the room, we have Sarah Forte.</p> <p>15 Online, I have Reg Ejeckam and Robert Nissen,</p> <p>16 as well as Jessica Kassar and Jordan Hollman.</p> <p>17 Thank you.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>19 Next is Fisheries and Oceans Canada.</p> <p>20 P. HARPER: Good morning, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>21 I'm Paul Harper from Fisheries and Oceans</p> <p>22 Canada. I'm joined by my team Nick Wasilik</p> <p>23 here in the room and Colin Kovachik online.</p> <p>24 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>25 Is there any Intervenors that I have not</p> <p>26 mentioned who would like to speak? Please</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>1 identify yourself. If anybody wants -- if any  2 Intervenor would like to speak, please identify  3 yourself.  4 If there are participants on remote?  5 Teresa?  6 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  7 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  8 Water Board.  9 So if there are any participants that are  10 joining remotely that have not already been  11 introduced by your parties, if you can please  12 identify yourself and advise, and, again, it's  13 only parties that have not already been  14 introduced by the parties that you represent.  15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  16 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the  17 Nunavut Water Board.  18 So, Mr. Chair, it appears there are no  19 parties other than the ones that have already  20 been identified for the record. Subsequently,  21 if you will be having additional people joining  22 or any of the parties, when they do join, if  23 you can advise us that there are additional  24 people on the call, we would appreciate that.  25 We are trying to make sure that we have a  26 complete record of people who are participating</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>1 here in the hall but also remotely, so if  2 there's anybody new, please flag it for us, and  3 we will go to them, and they can introduce  4 themselves when they come online.  5 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Teresa.  7 It is our tradition to give respect to our  8 Elders; therefore, at any time during the  9 proceedings, an Elder may speak to the  10 application that is before the Board. All that  11 we ask is that when the Elders speak -- wishes  12 to speak, they let me know or our staff that --  13 and then we will get a microphone before you  14 speak so we can ensure your comments are  15 recorded in the transcript.  16 I would now like to know whether there are  17 any representatives from agencies,  18 associations, et cetera, who have not submitted  19 intervention but would like to make a  20 presentation or share their view about the  21 application? Will there be any comments from  22 any agencies?  23 I also want to mention that the Board will  24 also give opportunities to any members of the  25 public who may have questions for Baffinland or  26 the Intervenor throughout the hearing to ask</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>1 their questions or make comments at the end of  2 the technical presentation of each party and  3 during the community session that will be  4 held -- that will take place tonight at 7 PM.  5 Teresa.  6 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  7 I also want to acknowledge that we have in  8 the audience community representatives from the  9 communities of Arctic Bay, Igloolik, Hall  10 Beach, and Clyde River. Sorry, I didn't see  11 the Clyde River representatives. They came on  12 a different plane yesterday, so my apologies  13 for forgetting you, but they will be speaking  14 tonight as well and be introducing themselves  15 to the community as well tonight during the  16 community session, so I just wanted to flag  17 that for Mr. Chair as well.  18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Teresa.  19 I will now turn to identification of any  20 motions or any objection to the renewal  21 application that is before the Board.  22 Teresa.  23 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  24 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  25 Water Board.  26 So, Mr. Chair, we have not received any</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">32</p> <p>1 objections or notices of motion in respect of  2 this matter, so I have no additional procedural  3 matters at this time.  4 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  5 We will now proceed with Item 8 of the  6 agenda, the presentation by the application --  7 by the Applicants. So before we go on to that,  8 I think we need a -- we should take a break, a  9 15-minutes break.  10 (ADJOURNMENT)  11 THE CHAIR: Let's return to our  12 seats. The Proponent will be making their  13 presentations.  14 The Applicant has requested to make a brief  15 presentation on the renewal application for the  16 Board -- before the Board -- sorry.  17 Baffinland, how much time will you and your  18 representatives require?  19 Teresa, take the floor.  20 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  21 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  22 Water Board.  23 So, Mr. Chair, I would like to first affirm  24 or swear the witnesses in, and then I will  25 proceed to marking the exhibits. So if I can  26 have the witnesses who wish to be sworn, if you</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">33</p> <p>1 can put your left hand on the Bible and hold  2 your right hand up.  3 MEGAN LORD-HOYLE, PAUL QUASSA, JOE TIGULLARAQ,  4 MORGAN SCHAUERTE, Sworn  5 T. MEADOWS: Thank you.  6 For the witnesses who wish to be  7 affirmed ...  8 LOU KAMERMANS, ELISABETH LUTHER, Affirmed  9 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  10 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  11 Water Board.  12 So, Mr. Chair, I have two exhibits that  13 consist of the presentation materials in  14 English and Inuktitut and English and French,  15 and I will be marking those as the first two  16 exhibits in this public hearing, and that,  17 Mr. Chair, concludes my procedural matters.  18 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  19 EXHIBIT 1 - Baffinland Iron Mines  20 Corporation, Hard Copy, PowerPoint  21 Presentation 2AM-MRY1325 Type A Water  22 Licence Renewal NWB Public Hearing  23 dated March 11, 2025 (English and  24 Inuktitut)  25 EXHIBIT 2 - Baffinland Iron Mines  26 Corporation, Hard Copy, PowerPoint</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">34</p> <p>1 Presentation 2AM-MRY1325 Type A Water  2 Licence Renewal NWB Public Hearing  3 dated March 11, 2025 (English and  4 French)  5 THE CHAIR: Participants are reminded  6 to state their name prior to speaking to assist  7 the court interpreter -- court reporter --  8 sorry -- in keeping an accurate record of the  9 proceeding.  10 Thank you. Go ahead, Applicant.  11 Presentation by Baffinland Iron Mines  12 Corporation  13 M. LORD-HOYLE: Ulaakkut. Good morning.  14 My name is Megan Lord-Hoyle. I'm the vice  15 president of sustainable development and  16 health, safety, environment for Baffinland.  17 Qujannamiik. Thank you to the Nunavut  18 Water Board staff and the Board for organizing  19 and holding this meeting, to the participants  20 in the process for attending this meeting, and  21 to Mittimatalik for hosting us.  22 I earlier introduced our team members that  23 are present and online, but I failed to  24 introduce two team members that we have in the  25 audience, Caleb Sangoya and Phaniel Enoagok,  26 both from Baffinland.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">35</p> <p>1 Lou Kamermans, our senior director, will be  2 leading us through the technical portions of  3 this hearing, and I'll be passing off the  4 presentation to him when we come to that area.  5 Next slide.  6 Baffinland's mission and vision is to  7 ensure that the incredible mineral resource  8 located at Mary River are mined in a  9 sustainable manner and exported to ensure that  10 Nunavummiut, Canadians, and Baffinland benefit  11 from this deposit. Our values have been guided  12 by the Government of Nunavut's Inuit societal  13 values and ensure that people and environmental  14 stewardship are placed at the centre of what we  15 do.  16 At Baffinland, we are also consistently  17 striving for performance excellence. We have  18 been and will continue to work with the  19 interested parties to the project and very  20 intentionally with Inuit to ensure that the  21 project is responding to what we are hearing  22 directly from the communities. This is  23 demonstrated in the changes that we've made to  24 the project over the years and the continued  25 implementation of our adaptive management plan.  26 It is our intention to continue working with</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">36</p> <p>1 Inuit through the life of the project.  2 Next slide.  3 We are here today to discuss Baffinland's  4 application to renew the existing water licence  5 which expires in June of 2025 and is essential  6 for us to operate. This presentation will  7 provide an overview of our operation, the  8 application, as well as a summary and status  9 update on technical comments that we have  10 received from the parties participating in this  11 process.  12 Next slide.  13 In order to ensure that those in the room  14 are familiar with our project and the project  15 location, we provided an overview map  16 demonstrating where the Mary River Mine is and  17 the different components of the approved  18 project.  19 The Mary River Mine itself is approximately  20 160 kilometres away from Mittimatalik, and it's  21 about 100 kilometres inland from Milne Port.  22 The project area consists of three main areas:  23 The Mary River Mine, Milne Port to the north,  24 and the Steensby Inlet Port location located  25 approximately 160 kilometres south of the mine.  26 The Mary River Mine and Milne Port are both in</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">37</p> <p>1 current operation, and the Steensby components 2 of the project, including a rail and a port 3 facility, have yet to be constructed but were 4 approved in 2012.</p> <p>5 The mine has been producing and shipping 6 iron ore since 2015 through what's known as the 7 northern transportation corridor which takes 8 the crushed ore from the mine site to Milne 9 Port by truck and then ships the ore from Milne 10 Port through Eclipse Sound to customers located 11 predominantly in Europe.</p> <p>12 The only major component of the project 13 that has not been constructed or in operation 14 is the Steensby component, which will allow us 15 to transport ore from the mine site south by 16 rail and then shipping out through the Steensby 17 Port.</p> <p>18 This will be an important milestone for the 19 project. It will see us build and operate the 20 original vision of the project and has 21 significant benefits over the existing trucking 22 operation.</p> <p>23 A rail is essential for the long-term 24 viability of the project itself. It reduces 25 the overall operating costs, decreases the 26 maintenance and equipment needs of the mine,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">38</p> <p>1 and has significant benefits for the 2 environment, including reduced overall 3 emissions and less dust production through the 4 transportation of ore.</p> <p>5 Through 2025, Baffinland has decided to 6 downsize the operation from what we have been 7 approved to operate at since 2018. This means 8 that the current trucking operation has 9 reverted back to the originally approved early 10 revenue phase, 4.2 million tonnes per annum of 11 movement, and that includes layoffs that 12 Baffinland has had to implement through the end 13 of 2024 and into 2025. This has allowed us to 14 focus the resources that we have and that the 15 capacity of other parties participating in the 16 project to focus on reaching Steensby financial 17 close.</p> <p>18 We're currently in the process of 19 fundraising for the Steensby component of the 20 project, and should that be successful, we are 21 looking to move into the construction phase of 22 the project within the next year.</p> <p>23 Next slide.</p> <p>24 This slide demonstrates the different 25 components of the mine as operated and 26 envisioned. We have the mine site itself.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">39</p> <p>1 We're currently mining from Deposit 1 but have 2 access to multiple other deposits, which if, in 3 future, approved, will allow us to continue 4 mining for many generations.</p> <p>5 The transportation component, as I 6 mentioned, the current operation uses trucks 7 along the northern transportation corridor. In 8 future, should the Steensby rail be 9 constructed, we will move to a rail operation 10 and discontinue the use of trucks.</p> <p>11 Once crushed and moved to the port 12 facilities, the iron ore is stockpiled and then 13 moved onto vessels -- ships -- that transport 14 the ore to our customers.</p> <p>15 Our current shipping component for the 16 northern operation runs predominantly through 17 the open-water season. The approved project 18 for the Steensby component should see 19 year-round shipping.</p> <p>20 The ore at Mary River is what's known as a 21 high-grade ore, which means that it has a very 22 high iron component and very little other 23 substances within the ore itself.</p> <p>24 Oh, I think we just disconnected. I'll 25 pause. Thank you.</p> <p>26 The ore itself at Mary River is known as</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">40</p> <p>1 what is high-grade iron ore, which means that 2 the ore itself contains a high content of iron 3 and limited -- limited amounts of other 4 substances. Because of that, the ore does not 5 require any chemical processing. We blast the 6 ore from the mine. We move it to the mine site 7 to crush it into two different sizes of ore, 8 and then we transport it through a truck, 9 eventually a rail, and then by ship to our 10 markets in Europe. There are no tailings 11 produced from the mine, unlike the mines in 12 Kitikmeot and Kivalliq that you may be familiar 13 with.</p> <p>14 In the third photo of stockpiling, you may 15 be able to see the red colour associated with 16 the ore. This is a natural colouring and 17 typical of iron-rich areas, and we have learned 18 from Inuit that this colour was prevalent on 19 the land surrounding the mine prior to the Mary 20 River Mine being in operation.</p> <p>21 Next slide.</p> <p>22 This slide shows a summary of the history 23 of the Mary River Mine with some important 24 milestones on it.</p> <p>25 In the 1960s, following information from 26 Inuit in the local area, the mine location</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">41</p> <p>1 itself first started to be explored for the 2 potential of a mine site. In 1999, the Mary 3 River Project site was selected as Inuit-owned 4 land in the creation of Nunavut. The project 5 certificate for Baffinland was first issued in 6 2012, which was for the development of the 7 Steensby components of the project. In 2013, 8 the first Type A water licence was issued. In 9 2014, the trucking operation known as the 10 "early revenue phase" was approved, and 11 Baffinland went into operation shipping its 12 first iron ore in 2015.</p> <p>13 In 2018, Baffinland requested an increase 14 in the amount of ore to be trucked and shipped 15 to 6 million tonnes per year, which is what we 16 had been operating at up until 2024.</p> <p>17 I'll now turn over the remainder of the 18 presentation to Lou to discuss the application 19 itself and a summary of the technical comments 20 that we've received. I should note that we 21 have no other exhibits at this time, other than 22 this presentation, but we do intend to file an 23 updated disposition table, commitment list, and 24 water licence framework at the conclusion of 25 this hearing to demonstrate the progress we 26 have made with the parties since the final</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">42</p> <p>1 written submissions. 2 Qujannamiik. Next slide. 3 L. KAMERMANS: Thank you, Megan. 4 Lou Kamermans, Baffinland. 5 Our Type A water licence was originally 6 issued in 2013 and amended in 2015 with a 7 10-year life. 8 Consistent with Nunavut Water Board 9 guidance, we submitted a renewal application a 10 year in advance of the June 10th, 2025, expiry. 11 We applied for a simple renewal and did not 12 originally propose any modifications to the 13 existing terms from the licence issued in 2015, 14 aside from requesting a 15-year term, as 15 opposed to the original 10-year term. 16 As a result of the renewal process, parties 17 have suggested additional changes to terms and 18 conditions, and Baffinland has responded to 19 these recommendations in a revised draft water 20 licence framework which we most recently filed 21 with the Board on February 27th, 2025. 22 The water licence framework reflects 23 feedback we've received from parties, and 24 through these revisions, Baffinland and these 25 parties have reached consensus on many of the 26 technical comments raised through the review</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">43</p> <p>1 process. 2 A few key points to highlight. For QIA -- 3 or the Qikiqtani Inuit Association -- 4 emphasized the need for more clear licence 5 mechanisms to incorporate outcomes from 6 Qikiqtani Inuit Association or community-led 7 monitoring initiatives for relevant assessments 8 and other research studies.</p> <p>9 To address this concern, we suggested 10 wording in Part B and Schedule B of the licence 11 that requires Baffinland to consider this 12 information in updates to its management plans 13 and to address these topics in annual 14 reporting.</p> <p>15 At the technical meeting, Baffinland and 16 other parties did express interest and intent 17 to revisit Part C and Schedule C of the water 18 licence relating to the annual security review 19 process. We have since determined to leave 20 that section as is but in the future may 21 request targeted changes based on consensus 22 between parties.</p> <p>23 Other suggested modifications to the 24 licence include updating the list of management 25 plans, updates to Schedule 1, aquatic effects 26 monitoring -- and that could also be</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">44</p> <p>1 Schedule I, now that I think about it -- and 2 aligning our current licence wording with 3 relevant regulations like the Mining and 4 Diamond Mines Effluent Regulations.</p> <p>5 The current licence includes a number of 6 designated water-source locations with 7 associated limits based on use and project 8 stage, and Baffinland has not proposed any 9 changes to these stations' locations or 10 water-withdrawal limits.</p> <p>11 Baffinland and the Qikiqtani Inuit 12 Association are continuing to discuss a 13 technical comment related to this issue and 14 will provide an update throughout the hearing 15 as one becomes available.</p> <p>16 It's important to note that these 17 water-source locations have been identified for 18 all project components and locations, including 19 the Steensby railway and port locations, and 20 have been since the licence was initially 21 approved in 2013.</p> <p>22 The current licence also includes a number 23 of designated monitoring locations for the mine 24 site, Milne Port, and Steensby Port, and, 25 again, we have not proposed any changes to 26 these monitoring station locations under the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">45</p> <p>1 licence.</p> <p>2 The locations on this figure and the next</p> <p>3 are active stations and categorized based on</p> <p>4 their purpose, which is either aquatic, related</p> <p>5 to our aquatic effects monitoring program;</p> <p>6 regulated, meaning they are specific compliance</p> <p>7 locations under the licence; or for</p> <p>8 verification, meaning they're included in the</p> <p>9 monitoring programs but are not compliance</p> <p>10 points. There are posters at the back of the</p> <p>11 hall with these images that we're happy to</p> <p>12 discuss further at break, if you'd like.</p> <p>13 Prior to the development of Steensby Port,</p> <p>14 Baffinland will establish similar monitoring</p> <p>15 locations based on our licence and the</p> <p>16 monitoring program requirements.</p> <p>17 This is Baffinland's on-site environment</p> <p>18 team that's focused on implementing the terms</p> <p>19 of our water licence. This is also an area of</p> <p>20 the business where we've seen a lot of success</p> <p>21 in Inuit hiring. Under direct Baffinland</p> <p>22 employment, we have seven Inuit staff, and</p> <p>23 there are another four environmental monitors</p> <p>24 hired by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association.</p> <p>25 Our freshwater monitoring programs are</p> <p>26 extensive and cover a range of project areas</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">46</p> <p>1 and freshwater values. They were developed and</p> <p>2 periodically updated with extensive input from</p> <p>3 participants in the Nunavut Water Board</p> <p>4 processes, including regulators and Inuit.</p> <p>5 The aquatic effects monitoring program is</p> <p>6 focused on the mine site. It's the area of the</p> <p>7 project with the greatest potential for project</p> <p>8 effects to water. An objective of this program</p> <p>9 is to monitor whether the effects of the</p> <p>10 project on the freshwater environment are</p> <p>11 within those predicted in our approved</p> <p>12 application. The outcomes of the aquatic</p> <p>13 effects monitoring program also help inform</p> <p>14 whether or not other areas of the project may</p> <p>15 be experiencing similar effects and can trigger</p> <p>16 additional monitoring, if required.</p> <p>17 Through this program, we have identified</p> <p>18 year-over-year that the effects of the project</p> <p>19 are generally within those predicted in our</p> <p>20 original applications and within the developed</p> <p>21 guideline criteria included in the relevant</p> <p>22 management plans.</p> <p>23 I have a number of slides here detailing</p> <p>24 different components of the aquatic effects</p> <p>25 monitoring program, but in the interest of</p> <p>26 time, I won't go into any in detail, but like</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">47</p> <p>1 the posters in the back, we're happy to discuss</p> <p>2 any of our programs further at break, if</p> <p>3 there's interest.</p> <p>4 At a high level, you can see that the</p> <p>5 aquatic effects monitoring program looks at the</p> <p>6 lakes in the area of the mine site, including</p> <p>7 referenced lakes, streams, sediments in those</p> <p>8 lakes and streams, and it's also complemented</p> <p>9 by a surveillance network program.</p> <p>10 Freshwater continues to be a critical</p> <p>11 valued component raised by communities and</p> <p>12 Inuit, which we work hard to understand,</p> <p>13 address, and report back on. Community</p> <p>14 engagement is a core input into our</p> <p>15 environmental management system, and we are</p> <p>16 continuously building our understanding of</p> <p>17 Community Knowledge through our Inuit-led</p> <p>18 Northern Affairs team.</p> <p>19 In the last several years, we've largely</p> <p>20 transitioned to conducting our community</p> <p>21 engagements entirely in Inuktitut. In this</p> <p>22 same time period, we've hired additional</p> <p>23 community staff focused on Inuit</p> <p>24 Qaujimanituqangit and Community Knowledge.</p> <p>25 Megan previously introduced Caleb and</p> <p>26 Phanuel, who are our community resource guides</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">48</p> <p>1 and Inuit Knowledge-Holders respectively in</p> <p>2 Pond Inlet, and we have similar positions in</p> <p>3 all five North Baffin communities and the</p> <p>4 seven -- or the two South Baffin communities of</p> <p>5 Kimmirut and Kinngait.</p> <p>6 Together, they help us interpret Inuit</p> <p>7 Qaujimanituqangit and incorporate it properly</p> <p>8 into our project. This also gives us a new</p> <p>9 pathway to explain our project and existing</p> <p>10 measures to the community.</p> <p>11 We've also funded Mary River focused Inuit</p> <p>12 Qaujimanituqangit initiatives led by the</p> <p>13 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, including through</p> <p>14 the Inuit stewardship program, and this has</p> <p>15 been occurring since 2020. We continue to</p> <p>16 support that program and are working with the</p> <p>17 Qikiqtani Inuit Association on a long-term</p> <p>18 commitment.</p> <p>19 Baffinland, the Qikiqtani Inuit</p> <p>20 Association, Crown-Indigenous Relations and</p> <p>21 Northern Affairs Canada, Environment and</p> <p>22 Climate Change Canada, as well as the</p> <p>23 Department of Fisheries and Oceans have</p> <p>24 diligently worked together to advance the</p> <p>25 resolutions and commitments we'll be presenting</p> <p>26 and discussing today. The slides that follow</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">49</p> <p>1 identify key topics at a high level, including  2 the resolution status, and we expect additional  3 details will be part of each party's individual  4 presentations.  5 The Qikiqtani Inuit Association submitted a  6 total of 38 technical comments and has met with  7 us on many occasions to advance resolution on  8 the variety of themes listed here. As of the  9 date we submitted this slide deck, only 11 of  10 the technical issues had not been fully  11 resolved.  12 We acknowledge the update provided by the  13 Qikiqtani Inuit Association on February 28th  14 which reversed the resolution status on 12  15 technical comments in relation to our support  16 for the Inuit stewardship plan. Baffinland  17 confirms we remain committed to supporting the  18 Inuit stewardship plan, and pending the  19 development and acceptance of commitment  20 language between the two parties and submission  21 to the Board, we expect those technical  22 comments to again be resolved.  23 We've extended additional commitments for  24 Qikiqtani Inuit Association consideration  25 related to several issues. This includes a  26 technical memorandum analysis of water quality</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">50</p> <p>1 data and predictions. That's in relation to  2 QIA-TR-1.  3 We will provide rationale for the use of  4 professional judgment as required in future  5 annual reports in relation to Technical Comment  6 2.  7 We've committed to update the aquatic  8 effects monitoring program to include  9 event-based monitoring and modifications to the  10 adaptive management framework, and this relates  11 to Technical Comments 2, 11, and 17.  12 The Qikiqtani Inuit Association has also  13 indicated that Technical Comment 9 has been  14 resolved.  15 We continue to work with the Qikiqtani  16 Inuit Association to finalize the commitment  17 language we provided and to explore additional  18 commitments, and we look forward to providing  19 an update on that throughout the hearing with  20 joint recommendations for the consideration of  21 the Board.  22 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  23 Affairs Canada submitted a total of 37  24 technical comments related to the listed --  25 listed topic areas, and they've continued to  26 meet with us bilaterally to reach better</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">51</p> <p>1 consensus. As of the date we submitted this  2 slide deck, all but four of the their technical  3 issues had been resolved.  4 We continue to work with Crown-Indigenous  5 Relations on additional commitments to resolve  6 their outstanding issues. We're currently  7 working on language in relation to a  8 supplementary analysis of dust data to be  9 presented in our 2025 annual report, criteria  10 for soil and sediment in the interim closure  11 and reclamation plan, and the inclusion of  12 different scenarios and climate-change  13 modelling. Those are in relation to Technical  14 Comments 4, 8, and 11. We will continue to  15 work on those throughout the day and look  16 forward to presenting joint recommendations for  17 the Board's consideration during the hearing.  18 We've also worked with Environment and  19 Climate Change Canada to identify and resolve  20 outstanding issues.  21 They submitted a total of 11 technical  22 comments, and as of the date we submitted this  23 slide deck, only 4 of those comments remained  24 outstanding. We're happy to confirm that this  25 morning, we were able to communicate agreement  26 on two additional commitments that resolve</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">52</p> <p>1 three of those four outstanding technical  2 comments. One relates to the consideration of  3 permafrost and hydrogeology in relation to pit  4 development research under the interim closure  5 and reclamation plan, and the other concerns a  6 revision to Part E, Item 4 in the licence  7 relating to recycled water, and those technical  8 comments were 4, 5, and 6.  9 Fisheries and Oceans Canada submitted a  10 total of two technical comments, and through  11 technical meetings or technical bilateral  12 discussions, we were able to resolve both of  13 those issues fairly early in the process, and  14 the commitments we offered have been reflected  15 in the commitment list submitted to the Water  16 Board on February 27th.  17 This -- this summary is a work-in-progress.  18 I think we've already made really good process  19 [sic] in the last 24 hours of being here, and  20 there are material updates to -- to already  21 provide, and -- and we'll continue to provide  22 throughout the hearing.  23 I want to extend a sincere thank you to the  24 parties that have worked with us over the last  25 six months and more intensively as the process  26 has -- has moved on. You know, this, as it is,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">53</p> <p>1 shows we've resolved the majority of technical 2 issues and comments that have been presented, 3 and we're working very hard to -- to minimize 4 that as much as possible. 5 Even where Baffinland and parties aren't 6 able to submit joint resolutions and 7 recommendations, we feel there is a path 8 forward for the Water Board to consider in 9 relation to each issue, and in the next several 10 slides, I'll touch on some of those themes. 11 So as I've mentioned, on February 27th, we 12 did provide an updated commitment list. This 13 built on the one included in Appendix D of the 14 Water Board's pre-hearing conference decision 15 report released in December. This commitment 16 list is live, and we will resubmit before the 17 end of the hearing. And as you look at this 18 commitment list -- and this will also be 19 supported by a disposition table -- you will 20 see that there are common themes between the 21 comments and common resolutions. 22 We lost connection. Technical break. 23 Mr. Chair, I did take your note about a 24 brief presentation to heart, so we only have 25 seven slides left, and I'll -- I'll be very 26 brief.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">54</p> <p>1 So we've addressed comments on updating 2 management plans by committing to various plan 3 updates and to submit those updates for review 4 in a process distinct from the annual 5 operations reporting process and to generally 6 do this within six months of the issuance of a 7 renewed water licence or at a time otherwise 8 agreed to between parties. 9 We've also proposed ongoing management plan 10 updates as the most appropriate means to 11 address several outstanding issues, should they 12 exist at the conclusion of the hearing. We've 13 found that some recommendations include a level 14 of detail that are more appropriate to explore 15 through the public review of management plans 16 than as an amendment to the water licence 17 itself. 18 As Megan mentioned, the Steensby component 19 to the project is essential to the long-term 20 viability of the mine, and we've executed its 21 planning based on the terms and conditions that 22 were developed for the approved project. We 23 appreciate the interest the parties have in the 24 Steensby component of the project, and we want 25 to assure them of Baffinland's intention to 26 comply with all requirements of our existing</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">55</p> <p>1 and yet-to-be-issued authorizations. 2 We have been collecting supplemental 3 baseline information in the Steensby component 4 project area since 2021 and will continue to do 5 so as we approach construction. To this end, 6 we will ensure we have complete and current 7 datasets to support the development of our 8 monitoring programs prior to those construction 9 activities occurring. 10 Over time, we've adapted our approach to 11 sediment and erosion control to match the 12 unique high arctic setting where we operate. 13 The area that the Tote Road is built in is 14 naturally very sandy, and there is a lot of 15 natural sedimentation and many water bodies in 16 that area. We take this topic very seriously 17 and have implemented targeted training for 18 personnel involved in the planning, 19 installation, and maintenance of sediment and 20 erosion control. 21 We've also heard community concerns 22 regarding dust from the project, and we 23 continue to take action to address this 24 important issue. There is now an Inuit-led 25 dust audit committee in place to directly 26 incorporate Inuit Qaujimanituqangit, Inuit</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">56</p> <p>1 views, and Inuit advice into our 2 dust-management programs, and this has an 3 obvious relationship with those plans under the 4 water licence related with water and waste. 5 We understand that our mine site -- we 6 understand that other mine sites also deal with 7 this issue, and we stay in close contact with 8 others in the industry to identify solutions 9 that we could also implement at Mary River. 10 This is what we mean when we say that we apply 11 best industry standards at our site. We will 12 continue to work with all parties to 13 investigate additional controls during all 14 stages of proposed developments, including the 15 construction phase of the Steensby railway and 16 port. 17 We recognize the importance of the land and 18 waters on which we operate to Inuit, and we 19 continuously aim to reduce and avoid our 20 project effects. 21 Our project certificate, Inuit Impact 22 Benefit Agreement, and water compensation 23 agreement all help ensure Inuit water values 24 are understood and respected. 25 We have worked closely with the Qikiqtani 26 Inuit Association to develop and propose</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">57</p> <p>1 wording in the water licence framework that  2 will provide an explicit mechanism to consider  3 QIA and other Inuit-led monitoring outcomes  4 into project management plans.  5 The above commitment will also be  6 complemented by an update to be provided during  7 this hearing between Baffinland and the  8 Qikiqtani Inuit Association in relation to the  9 Inuit stewardship plan. Baffinland will also  10 continue to engage with and learn from Inuit  11 and the communities directly through its  12 northern affairs team, and the views expressed  13 in this process will be integrated into our  14 decision-making processes.  15 As I've previously mentioned in the  16 presentation, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association,  17 Baffinland, and Crown-Indigenous Relations and  18 Northern Affairs Canada are not recommending  19 any changes to Part C or Schedule C of the  20 licence relating to the annual security review  21 at this time. The parties are also not  22 proposing any changes to the split and security  23 percentages that are held by the Qikiqtani  24 Inuit Association or Crown-Indigenous Relations  25 and Northern Affairs Canada. These three  26 parties are committed to negotiate a security</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">58</p> <p>1 management agreement that generally aligns with  2 Part C and Schedule C of the licence. With  3 this commitment the three parties are in  4 agreement that a security management agreement  5 is not required in order for the Board to close  6 the record and complete its decision-making on  7 the renewal licence.  8 We appreciate the opportunity to present  9 this information to the Board, parties, and  10 community representatives, and we're happy to  11 answer any questions through the hearing or at  12 break or at dinner. We believe we've addressed  13 the majority of technical comments received to  14 date and that there's more progress that will  15 be made through this hearing and presented to  16 the Board for its consideration.  17 During the hearing, we will provide an  18 updated commitment list, disposition table, and  19 draft water licence framework for the Board's  20 consideration.  21 Thank you for your time.  22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Applicant, for  23 your presentation.  24 Now, we are turning to Item 9 in our  25 agenda. Do the Intervenor have any questions  26 for Applicants?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">59</p> <p>1 Let me start with QIA. If you have any  2 questions, please come forward to the  3 Intervenor's table.  4 Questions for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation  5 by Qikiqtani Inuit Association  6 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you very much,  7 Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinoval, Qikiqtani Inuit  8 Association.  9 I would like to ask subject matter expert  10 Richard Nesbitt with Hutchinson Environmental  11 to pose a question to the Applicant.  12 R. NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt on  13 behalf of the QIA.  14 This is a clarification. In Baffinland's  15 introduction to its presentation or  16 introductory presentation, Baffinland had  17 described a red colour of iron ore dust and  18 indicated that Inuit may have told Baffinland  19 about how red colouration was present on the  20 land prior to the mine's existence. Can  21 Baffinland clarify where this information has  22 come from and whether Inuit have raised  23 concerns, since the mine has started, about  24 increasing dust on the land greater than these  25 natural concentrations that were observed  26 before?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">60</p> <p>1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  3 Applicant.  4 P. QUASSA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  5 and I'm glad that you asked that question. My  6 name is Paul Quassa. I'm with Baffinland.  7 We have heard about this originally from  8 the Igloodik area, and if I do recall, I  9 believe it was a David Ingaurt who was  10 chairperson of Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization  11 when the project first started out, and,  12 subsequently, he made the same comments when he  13 was a child or a young person during nightly or  14 a day use to be in the Mary River area, and  15 also people who are originally from Pond Inlet  16 area would go to caribou hunting, and they  17 would travel in the project area, and I do  18 recall when David Ingaurt mentioned when he was  19 a child, he did say that when there was a  20 spring runoff and melting of snow, there used  21 to be some areas where the ground was all red,  22 and that's -- that's typical of, like, once the  23 ground becomes wet, then a red colour will be  24 dispersed. That's something that happened even  25 before we were born. Like, Inuit you used to  26 hunt in there, so that's my response.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">61</p> <p>1 Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Qujannamiik, Applicant.</p> <p>3 QIA.</p> <p>4 R. NESBITT: Richard on behalf of</p> <p>5 QIA.</p> <p>6 Thank you for that response. It certainly</p> <p>7 addressed the initial part of our question.</p> <p>8 The second part of our question was whether</p> <p>9 Inuit have raised concerns, since the mine has</p> <p>10 started, about increasing dust on the land</p> <p>11 greater than these previous observations. Can</p> <p>12 you confirm that this information has also been</p> <p>13 brought forward to Baffinland?</p> <p>14 THE CHAIR: Applicant.</p> <p>15 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle,</p> <p>16 Baffinland.</p> <p>17 Yes, certainly we've heard concerns related</p> <p>18 to dust and the spread of dust from the</p> <p>19 operating mine. I think Lou touched on that in</p> <p>20 his present -- part of the presentation, as</p> <p>21 well, and it's certainly something that</p> <p>22 Baffinland has consistently been working on to</p> <p>23 reduce dust and dust emissions out onto the</p> <p>24 land and the marine environment.</p> <p>25 That said, I think it's an expectation that</p> <p>26 as part of an operating mine, there will be</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">62</p> <p>1 dust produced, and we will do everything we can</p> <p>2 to minimize and reduce that dust; and we have</p> <p>3 been consistently studying the impacts of that</p> <p>4 dust and changes in the environment, and our</p> <p>5 findings show that there have been limited to</p> <p>6 no changes in the baseline information that's</p> <p>7 been provided as part of the approved project.</p> <p>8 Thank you.</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>10 QIA, do you have any more comments or</p> <p>11 questions?</p> <p>12 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>13 We have no more comments or questions at this</p> <p>14 time. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>15 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I would ask</p> <p>16 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>17 Affairs, do you have questions or comments to</p> <p>18 the Applicant's presentation?</p> <p>19 A. KEIM: Qujannamiik, Iksivautaa.</p> <p>20 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Andrew Keim</p> <p>21 representing CIRNAC and the Federal family.</p> <p>22 CIRNAC would like to thank Baffinland for</p> <p>23 working so closely with us and echos it from</p> <p>24 the rest of the Federal family. On behalf of</p> <p>25 Environment Canada, CIRNAC, and DFO, we have no</p> <p>26 questions at this time.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">63</p> <p>1 Thank you very much.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, CIRNAC.</p> <p>3 I would like to ask Environment and Climate</p> <p>4 Change Canada. If you have any questions or</p> <p>5 comments, come forward to the Intervenor.</p> <p>6 I think sorry to mention, but go ahead.</p> <p>7 E. WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>8 Eva Walker, Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>9 Canada. We have no questions at this time.</p> <p>10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>11 Next, Fisheries and Oceans Canada?</p> <p>12 P. HARPER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>13 Paul Harper, Fisheries and Oceans. We have no</p> <p>14 comments.</p> <p>15 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>16 Members of the public, any comments from</p> <p>17 the members of the public or ...</p> <p>18 Questions for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation</p> <p>19 by Community Representatives</p> <p>20 JOAMIE APAK: My name is Joamie Apak.</p> <p>21 I represent the Hamlet of Clyde River. Like --</p> <p>22 like, the dust, there used to be a dust control</p> <p>23 committee, and that was working really well</p> <p>24 when we first started, and it was under the</p> <p>25 guidance of the Hamlet and HTOs, and we had to</p> <p>26 report to these committee members, but that all</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">64</p> <p>1 stopped, so everything -- the monitoring</p> <p>2 process stopped, so I would want that to be</p> <p>3 reinstated where there are dust monitors</p> <p>4 representing the Hamlets and the HTOs, and I</p> <p>5 wish that Baffinland can initiate this program</p> <p>6 again because we used to make timely reports,</p> <p>7 and I would prefer that they be reinstated.</p> <p>8 Thank you very much.</p> <p>9 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,</p> <p>10 Baffinland.</p> <p>11 Thanks for that comment and thanks for your</p> <p>12 participation in that audit committee so far.</p> <p>13 That audit committee, the dust audit committee,</p> <p>14 is -- we're continuing to maintain that. It's</p> <p>15 run by a third-party organizer.</p> <p>16 Nunami Stantec manages that committee, and</p> <p>17 if you're interested in -- in ongoing</p> <p>18 participation, I would suggest talking to the</p> <p>19 hunting -- Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization in</p> <p>20 your Hamlet and let them know you're</p> <p>21 interested, and -- and they may put you forward</p> <p>22 as the representative; but we are hearing from</p> <p>23 a representative from Clyde River through that</p> <p>24 committee, and -- and we find that information</p> <p>25 very valuable, and an updated report will be</p> <p>26 submitted to the Impact Review Board in the</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">65</p> <p>1 next month or so.</p> <p>2 Thank you.</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>4 Are there any more questions? Please</p> <p>5 approach the microphone. State your name.</p> <p>6 LLOYD IDLOUT: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).</p> <p>7 Qujannamik, Iksivautaa.</p> <p>8 I want to ask, in the last 24 hours, we</p> <p>9 were talking -- I guess Baffinland's been</p> <p>10 spending with -- some time with the Water</p> <p>11 Board, if I heard -- heard correctly -- just</p> <p>12 qujannamik (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN) and I feel</p> <p>13 that the people that will be impacted, too, if</p> <p>14 this is to be approved, I feel that, too, the</p> <p>15 local hunters and trappers should have equal</p> <p>16 time to -- to -- just like Baffinland just had</p> <p>17 time with you guys, and us, the people of</p> <p>18 Nunavut.</p> <p>19 As you know, it's the youngest territory,</p> <p>20 and we're still having issues trying to voice</p> <p>21 our -- our concerns properly. We don't have --</p> <p>22 with -- with us growing and very young as a</p> <p>23 territory, we're still learning stuff. I feel</p> <p>24 that HTO should have a -- the -- the five</p> <p>25 impacted community that will be impacted should</p> <p>26 have a technical advisor, too. QIA has one.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">66</p> <p>1 Baffinland has one. You have one. But the</p> <p>2 impacted communities still don't have one, so</p> <p>3 if you -- I -- I'm hoping to talk later on. I</p> <p>4 can go on for, but this just for Baffinland,</p> <p>5 and I'll continue on with a different question.</p> <p>6 Paul Quassa mentioned a couple of names</p> <p>7 from I -- where he, I guess, gathered IQ. He</p> <p>8 mentioned David Ingaurt, and I didn't catch</p> <p>9 the -- the first person he had mentioned.</p> <p>10 If -- if I -- if you may answer me with the</p> <p>11 people you have gathered IQ information. Thank</p> <p>12 you, and I'll -- I have another</p> <p>13 question/comment after that.</p> <p>14 Thank you.</p> <p>15 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>16 Applicant, go ahead.</p> <p>17 M. LORD-HOYLE: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair,</p> <p>18 and thank you for the questions and comments.</p> <p>19 I will start, and then I will pass it over</p> <p>20 to Paul. Megan Lord-Hoyle with Baffinland.</p> <p>21 Just to clarify the first comment, when it</p> <p>22 was mentioned in the presentation that we've</p> <p>23 had time, even just in the last 24 hours, that</p> <p>24 was very specific to Baffinland working with</p> <p>25 the parties in this process, including the</p> <p>26 Government of Canada and the Qikiqtani Inuit</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">67</p> <p>1 Association, to specifically resolve technical</p> <p>2 comments that those parties had been brought</p> <p>3 forward, so we were dealing with very specific</p> <p>4 issues between Baffinland and those parties to</p> <p>5 report back to the Nunavut Water Board on how</p> <p>6 we were reaching resolution.</p> <p>7 That said, thank you for the comments about</p> <p>8 wanting to continue working with us. We meet</p> <p>9 often with hunters and trappers, Hamlets, and</p> <p>10 the public, and we're certainly happy to do so.</p> <p>11 As Lou said, we're happy to meet with you over</p> <p>12 lunch, on breaks, at dinnertime throughout the</p> <p>13 time period that we're here on this or other</p> <p>14 issues, but we will certainly be continuing to</p> <p>15 meet with hunters and trappers, and we're very</p> <p>16 happy -- happy to do that and receive the</p> <p>17 feedback. Thank you.</p> <p>18 Paul.</p> <p>19 P. QUASSA: Thank you, Madam [sic]</p> <p>20 Chair. Thank you for your question. My name</p> <p>21 is Paul Quassa. I'm an advisor for Baffinland.</p> <p>22 I just referred to one individual, David</p> <p>23 Ingaurt, but I have heard other people from</p> <p>24 Pond Inlet expressing that in the '60s, the</p> <p>25 sand was in that situation. I can only mention</p> <p>26 that, Mr. Chair.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">68</p> <p>1 And also, too, I want to add supplementary,</p> <p>2 like, there are technical advisors, and I -- if</p> <p>3 we do recall, like, we heard recently in the</p> <p>4 news that Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporation and</p> <p>5 the federal government just signed an</p> <p>6 agreement. You know, it was an implementation</p> <p>7 agreement, and I have heard about all of the</p> <p>8 details, like, Nunavut wildlife organizations</p> <p>9 and Hunters &amp; Trappers Organizations will</p> <p>10 receive funding. That's what I heard from the</p> <p>11 news. So, like, the fact that these</p> <p>12 organizations will need to have their own</p> <p>13 technical advisor, and we can expect that all</p> <p>14 of the hunters anywhere in Nunavut, there will</p> <p>15 be some funding available with -- I believe</p> <p>16 there was 1.5 billion dollars for a five-year</p> <p>17 commitment, and I think most people have heard</p> <p>18 about.</p> <p>19 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairperson.</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: Qujannamiik. Thank you.</p> <p>21 Do you have any more questions from HTO?</p> <p>22 LLOYD IDLOUT: No, I don't have any more</p> <p>23 questions at this time.</p> <p>24 Yes, tonight, we apparently will have</p> <p>25 another opportunity to make comments, and I</p> <p>26 will say I am grateful for you to respond to my</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">69</p> <p>1 question, so I will meet with you. I think  2 we'll still have an opportunity to converse  3 with each other.  4 Thank you.  5 THE CHAIR: Teresa Meadows.  6 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  7 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  8 Water Board.  9 So I just want to make it clear that when  10 Baffinland was talking about meetings before  11 the proceedings here, the Nunavut Water Board  12 did not participate in those, has not been  13 meeting with any of the people that are here  14 directly to talk about the public hearing. The  15 only meetings that the Board has had with all  16 of the parties here in the room were at the  17 technical meeting, and the technical meeting  18 was conducted publicly here in Pond Inlet in  19 December. So the Nunavut Water Board does not  20 meet with any of the participants outside of  21 this hearing venue to hear evidence or discuss  22 anything. All the evidence that's being heard  23 is on the public record and being heard today  24 and in public or at the technical meeting, just  25 to be clear.  26 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">70</p> <p>1 I think we should take a lunch break now,  2 but we'll continue on with this questioning of  3 Applicant's presentation after lunch. We'll  4 continue with that, but -- so before the -- we  5 go for lunch (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN) Ben  6 Kogvik, our -- one of the staff -- (OTHER  7 LANGUAGE SPOKEN) representative from Arctic Bay  8 and Clyde River please remain in the building  9 when everyone else goes for lunch. Ben Kogvik  10 will be meeting with your delegations during  11 the lunch hour.  12 We will return at 1 PM -- sorry -- 1:15.  13  14 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 1:15 PM EDT  15  16  17  18  19  20  21  22  23  24  25  26</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">71</p> <p>1 Proceedings taken at Pond Inlet Community Hall,  2 Pond Inlet, Nunavut  3  4 March 11, 2025 Afternoon Session  5  6 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD  7 L. Toomasie Chair of Hearing  8 U. Pukiqnak Panel Member  9 E. Baddaloo Panel Member  10  11 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD STAFF  12 S. Autut Executive Director  13 K. Kharatyan Director of Technical  14 Services  15 B. Kogvik Director of Board  16 Administration and  17 Communications  18 A. Jan Technical Advisor  19 R. Hunter Licencing Administrator  20 T. Meadows Legal Counsel  21  22 (Via Remote Video)  23 Z. Bliss Meadows Law, Observer  24  25  26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">72</p> <p>1 PROPONENT  2 BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION  3 M. Lord-Hoyle Vice President,  4 Sustainable Development  5 and Health, Safety,  6 Environment  7 L. Kamermans Senior Director,  8 Sustainable Development  9 P. Quassa Special Advisor  10 J. Tigullaraq Head of Northern Affairs  11 E. Luther Senior Manager,  12 Regulatory Affairs  13 M. Schauerte Stantec, Technical  14 Advisor  15 C. Sangoya Pond Inlet, Inuit  16 Knowledge-Holder  17 P. Enooagok Pond Inlet, Inuit  18 Knowledge-Holder  19 C. Kowbell Legal Counsel  20  21 (Via Remote Video)  22 W. Bowden Environment Manager  23 S. Borcsok Approvals Manager  24 T. Swenson Environment  25 Superintendent  26 K. Kuchapski Minnow Technical Advisor</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">73</p> <p>1 INTERVENORS</p> <p>2 QUKIQTANI INUIT ASSOCIATION</p> <p>3 A. Kubeisinova      Manager, Regulatory</p> <p>4                      Review</p> <p>5 J. Ottenhof            Director, Qikiqtani</p> <p>6                      Nunilirijikkut</p> <p>7 A. MacDonald        The Firelight Group</p> <p>8 R. Nesbitt            Hutchinson Environmental</p> <p>9                      Sciences Ltd.</p> <p>10 J. Cavallo            LGL Limited</p> <p>11 C. Shefman          Legal Counsel</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>14 K. Scott              The Firelight Group</p> <p>15 J. Carman            LGL Limited</p> <p>16 M. Kay               LGL Limited</p> <p>17</p> <p>18 CROWN-INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS</p> <p>19 A. Keim               Manager, Water Resources</p> <p>20 L. Perrin             Water Management</p> <p>21                      Specialist</p> <p>22 J. McHattie          Legal Counsel</p> <p>23</p> <p>24 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>25 J. Croston            Technical Expert,</p> <p>26                      AtkinsRéalis</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">74</p> <p>1 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA</p> <p>2 E. Walker            Manager, Environmental</p> <p>3                      Assessment Group</p> <p>4 S. Forte               Water Quality Analyst</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>7 R. Nissen             Air Quality Analyst</p> <p>8 R. Ejeckam           Mining Expert</p> <p>9 J. Kassir              Environmental Assessment</p> <p>10                      Officer</p> <p>11 J. Hollman           Environmental Assessment</p> <p>12                      Officer</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA</p> <p>15 P. Harper            Senior Biologist</p> <p>16 N. Wasilik           Regulatory Review</p> <p>17                      Biologist</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>20 C. Kovachik          Regulatory Review</p> <p>21                      Biologist</p> <p>22</p> <p>23 HAMLET OF ARCTIC BAY</p> <p>24 S. Qaunaq            Community Representative</p> <p>25 O. Naqitarvik        Community Representative</p> <p>26 R. Taqtu               Community Representative</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">75</p> <p>1 HAMLET OF CLYDE RIVER</p> <p>2 J. Apak               Community Representative</p> <p>3 R. Palituq            Community Representative</p> <p>4 N. Qillaq             Community Representative</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 HAMLET OF HALL BEACH</p> <p>7 A. Qammaniq        Community Representative</p> <p>8 J. Kaerner            Community Representative</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 HAMLET OF IGLOOLIK</p> <p>11 A. Attagutalukutuk   Community Representative</p> <p>12 L. Idlout             Community Representative</p> <p>13 N. Piugattuk        Community Representative</p> <p>14</p> <p>15 HAMLET OF POND INLET</p> <p>16 J. Katsak            Community Representative</p> <p>17 B. Merkosak          Community Representative</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 INTERPRETORS/TRANSLATORS</p> <p>20 R. Katsak            Inuktitut Language</p> <p>21                      Translator</p> <p>22 T. Arnakallak        Inuktitut Language</p> <p>23                      Translator</p> <p>24</p> <p>25 J. King, CSR(A)      Official Court Reporter</p> <p>26 C. Coomber           Sound Technician</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">76</p> <p>1 (PROCEEDINGS RECOMMENCED AT 1:19 PM EDT)</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR:           Good afternoon. We can</p> <p>3 start now from this morning's session,</p> <p>4 continuing from this morning.</p> <p>5        Okay. We're still on the questioning of</p> <p>6 the Applicant's presentation from this morning.</p> <p>7 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN)</p> <p>8        Questions, if you have pictures or</p> <p>9 questions that you want.</p> <p>10 CALEB SANGOYA:     So I'm here. I'm a</p> <p>11 hunter. I work for Baffinland, but I'm also</p> <p>12 one of the hunters.</p> <p>13        My question to the Water Board, last year,</p> <p>14 the birds, the seagulls, and the ravens, and</p> <p>15 fulmars had a flu. They were experiencing that</p> <p>16 flu coming here, and we were included in that</p> <p>17 epidemic. With the Water Board or with the</p> <p>18 help of Baffinland, would they be tested to</p> <p>19 find out if there's an effect to the lakes or</p> <p>20 to the rivers? Is there something that could</p> <p>21 be studied because it affects the hunters</p> <p>22 because we're told by biologists that Nunavut</p> <p>23 Government didn't want us to touch those. If</p> <p>24 we see birds with sick birds, don't go to the</p> <p>25 lakes or don't go to the rivers. It might be</p> <p>26 one warning.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">77</p> <p>1 Perhaps Teresa and staff could answer that 2 question? 3 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and 4 thank you for your question. 5 The short answer is the Nunavut Water Board 6 wouldn't have jurisdiction over the birds with 7 avian flu or the monitoring program for that. 8 I don't know if Environment and Climate Change 9 Canada would know about that, but Health Canada 10 perhaps would know about that, so maybe we'll 11 leave that with the Government of Canada, and 12 if they can follow up with the people that they 13 might know. 14 Government of Nunavut Wildlife Service may 15 also have some information, so maybe in your 16 travels, if you can check in with the federal 17 government and see if they would be able to 18 provide some advice and direction, we can get 19 somebody to maybe answer that question for you; 20 but the Nunavut Water Board would not be aware 21 of that or have jurisdiction over that. 22 And I don't know if Baffinland has 23 participated in perhaps collecting any birds 24 that you might see for testing that you 25 might -- if you -- if you saw any migratory 26 birds that might have been -- died on site or</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">78</p> <p>1 near site or that sort of thing. 2 So, Mr. Chair, the Nunavut Water Board will 3 not be able to answer that, but we'll try and 4 get an answer for you from the Government of 5 Canada. 6 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 7 Any more? Okay. Olayuk. 8 OLAYUK NAQITARVIK: My name is Olayuk. My 9 question is something that perhaps not many 10 people know about. 11 The area around the Tote Road, about a 12 kilometre, we're told that dust is not further 13 than one kilometre from the road. If it was to 14 go one kilometre over the Tote Road, and there 15 are things that happen around there like a -- a 16 dog-team quest, a Nunavut quest, we're not sure 17 if the water around that area -- how good it 18 is. Is it good water, or is the snow -- is it 19 good to melt and to use as drinking water close 20 to the Tote Road? Does anyone know anything 21 about this, or has there been tests done for 22 this area? Thank you for anticipated answer. 23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk, from 24 Arctic Bay. When they have had a chance to 25 answer, there will be another question 26 follow-up from Arctic Bay.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">79</p> <p>1 Go ahead. 2 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 3 Baffinland. 4 We look at the water quality around the 5 project through a number of our monitoring 6 programs. When it comes to questions around 7 the safety of drinking the water in the project 8 area, our -- the statement we've released 9 before -- and this is supported by the work we 10 do -- is that the project has not changed the 11 risks of drinking untreated water, so generally 12 organizations do not recommend drinking 13 untreated water out on the land, but we know 14 people do that. 15 What we want to say is that our project has 16 not changed the ability of people to drink that 17 water and change the potential risks. It's the 18 same risks that were there before the project 19 are there after, and that's just us being very 20 careful and not recommending that that's done 21 in case, you know, anything were to ever 22 happen, just because there's natural things in 23 the water that can make you sick, so ... 24 We understand how important this is, and 25 it's something we will look at for the life of 26 the project, and we know we will always have to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">80</p> <p>1 provide these updates to people, and -- and 2 people need those updates, so I hope that helps 3 answer the question. 4 I don't know. Do you have anything else? 5 Okay. Thank you. 6 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 7 Sakiasie Qaunaq, Arctic Bay. 8 SAKIASIE QAUNAQ: Sakiasie Qaunaq from 9 Arctic Bay. I think you can hear me now. 10 Sakiasie Qaunaq from Arctic Bay. I'm a 11 member of the dust committee. I'm coming from 12 the Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization, and also 13 the Hamlet Council has also asked me if they 14 haven't appointed anyone yet because I'm also a 15 member of the Hamlet Council, and they're 16 asking for me to be a member with the dust 17 committee, but none has been appointed yet. 18 So we're talking about the same things as 19 what we are being discussed here, and I do 20 understand what they're talking about and 21 recognize the topics that are covered. 22 I went to the site once with the dust 23 committee. We had gone there before in 24 previous times because the whole area is all 25 red, and the crunching area, if you go over 26 the -- the crunching here, you can see that</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">81</p> <p>1 there's red dust all around, if you go over on  2 the plane; but once it has been reduced down  3 with water to stop the -- to stop the dust from  4 flying, but even -- even my room, there was red  5 drip coming down my room prior to that dust  6 control being done. Now, the -- the area --  7 and when we even got to the site where we did  8 not see any red stuff, there has been a big  9 change to what has happened and what has  10 happened to the dust. The foxes were not also  11 red anymore, even though they were a little bit  12 sooty, so there has been some changes.  13 Once they dampen -- dampen the dust, and it  14 made a big change, but when you see it in the  15 written report and through people who are  16 talking, we're always talking about water.  17 There's always water monitoring, freshwater  18 monitoring, so I think I would be supporting  19 the request by Baffinland regarding the water.  20 Thank you.  21 THE CHAIR: I don't think that was  22 much of a question.  23 Is there any more questions from the  24 general public? Since I don't see any hands,  25 Water Board Staff, any questions to the  26 Applicant's presentation?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">82</p> <p>1 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  2 Yes, the staff do have a point of clarification  3 they would like to raise, so I'll ask Karén to  4 speak.  5 Questions for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation  6 by Nunavut Water Board Staff  7 K. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  8 Karén Kharatyan, Water Board.  9 Just to -- because we heard about  10 Baffinland stating about the water compensation  11 agreement, just to have this within our record  12 whether you have valid water compensation  13 agreement with QIA, whether it's standalone  14 document or part of your number of agreements  15 related to this renewal application.  16 Thank you.  17 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  18 Applicant, go ahead.  19 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,  20 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks for  21 the question, Karén.  22 So we do have a water compensation  23 agreement we negotiated in 2013 that remains in  24 effect. We've not re-filed it with this  25 application, but it would be the same document  26 that we'd placed on the record in 2013.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">83</p> <p>1 Do you need us to resubmit it as part of  2 this?  3 K. KHARATYAN: Not really, yes. Karén  4 Kharatyan, just to get your confirmation. Very  5 likely we will seek also QIA's confirmation  6 that they are okay with this agreement.  7 Thank you.  8 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Okay. Panel  9 members, do you have any questions?  10 Okay. There's none, so thank you for your  11 presentation, Applicants. We'll move on.  12 The next presenters will be QIA, if you  13 want to make your way to the table.  14 Okay. Thank you. Teresa, would you take  15 the floor?  16 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  17 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  18 Water Board.  19 Do the witnesses wish to be sworn or  20 affirmed?  21 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  22 Thank you, Teresa. Affirmed, please.  23 T. MEADOWS: If I can have each  24 witness state and spell your name for the  25 record, and then I will administer the  26 affirmation after you've all stated and spelled</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">84</p> <p>1 your names.  2 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  3 Thank you, Teresa.  4 My name is Assol Kubeisinova. That is  5 A-S-S-O-L K-U-B-E-I-S-I-N-O-V-A. Thank you,  6 Mr. Chair.  7 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you very much. My  8 name is Jared Ottenhof, J-A-R-E-D  9 O-T-T-E-N-H-O-F. Thank you.  10 A. MACDONALD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My  11 name is Alistair MacDonald. That is  12 A-L-I-S-T-A-I-R, last name M-A-C capital  13 D-O-N-A-L-D. Thank you.  14 J. CAVALLO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My  15 name's Joseph Cavallo, J-O-S-E-P-H  16 C-A-V-A-L-L-O.  17 R. NESBITT: My name is Richard  18 Nesbitt, R-I-C-H-A-R-D N-E-S-B-I-T-T.  19 A. KUBEISINOVA: And thank you, Mr. Chair.  20 Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.  21 I would like to ask our subject matter experts  22 online to also spell out their names.  23 J. CARMAN: Thanks, Assol. I can  24 start. My name's Jake Carman, J-A-K-E  25 C-A-R-M-A-N.  26 M. KAY: My name is Mitchell Kay,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">85</p> <p>1 M-I-T-C-H-E-L-L K-A-Y.  2 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  3 Thank you, Teresa. That is the Qikiqtani Inuit  4 Association team.  5 ASSOL KUBEISINOVA, JARED OTTENHOF, ALISTAIR  6 MACDONALD, JOSEPH CAVALLO, RICHARD NESBITT, JAKE  7 CARMAN, MITCHELL KAY, Affirmed  8 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  9 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  10 Water Board.  11 Mr. Chair, it's my understanding that the  12 presentation materials that were provided to  13 the Board have since been updated and replaced  14 by a more updated copy of the presentation  15 materials. It's also my understanding that the  16 Board will be circulating that.  17 It's already done. Sorry. My internet's a  18 bit slow. It has not refreshed yet, but that  19 the updated copy of the materials -- the  20 presentation materials will be circulated or  21 have been circulated to those of you whose  22 internet is a little bit faster, and I propose  23 to file those exhibits electronically because  24 it's my understanding we don't have hard copies  25 of those presentation materials at present. So  26 I will be filing those as the next exhibits in</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">86</p> <p>1 the public hearing, and thank you, Mr. Chair.  2 Those are my procedural matters.  3 EXHIBIT 3 - Qikiqtani Inuit  4 Association, Electronic Copy Only,  5 PowerPoint Presentation, Nunavut  6 Water Board Public Hearing,  7 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation  8 Application for Renewal Water Licence  9 No: 2AM-MRY1325 dated March 11, 2025  10 (English and Inuktitut)  11 THE CHAIR: Thank you. You may --  12 QIA, you may have your presentation. Thank  13 you.  14 Presentation by Qikiqtani Inuit Association  15 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My  16 name is Assol Kubeisinova, and I'm the manager  17 of regulatory review with the Department of  18 Lands and Resource Management at the Qikiqtani  19 Inuit Association or QIA.  20 To my right is Jared Ottenhof, director  21 Qikiqtani Nunilirijikkut. Our team today  22 includes the subject matter experts supporting  23 QIA both in person and online: Alistair  24 MacDonald, The Firelight Group; Richard  25 Nesbitt, Hutchinson Environmental; Joe Cavallo  26 LGL Limited. Online are Jake Carman, LGL</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">87</p> <p>1 Limited, and Dr. Mitchell Kay also from LGL  2 Limited. In the audience today, we have QIA  3 legal counsel Corey Shefman with Olthuis, Kleer  4 and Townshend.  5 QIA's mandate is to safeguard, administer,  6 and advance the rights and benefits of Inuit,  7 to promote the Inuit language and traditions,  8 Inuit environmental values, Inuit  9 self-sufficiency, as well as economic, social,  10 and culture well-being through succeeding  11 generations.  12 As a designated Inuit organization under  13 the Nunavut Agreement, QIA manages Inuit-owned  14 lands in the Qikiqtani region, including the  15 project area.  16 QIA represents the rights and interests of  17 over 14,000 Inuit in the Qikiqtani region.  18 QIA conducted a technical review of  19 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's application  20 for renewal Water Licence Number 2AM-MRY1325.  21 As a result, QIA presented to the Nunavut Water  22 Board 38 technical comments. There are 16  23 resolved and 22 unresolved comments, some  24 involving recommendations to the Nunavut Water  25 Board.  26 This presentation focuses on unresolved</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">88</p> <p>1 concerns and includes references to specific  2 comments where possible, so not all comments  3 will be referenced in this presentation.  4 QIA's comments focus on a number of areas  5 with some areas overlapping: Compliance with  6 environmental assessment predictions, adaptive  7 management, impacts on fish habitat, monitoring  8 including monitoring for baseline conditions,  9 management of impacts of water withdrawal,  10 Inuit engagement, incorporation of Inuit  11 Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Qaujimaningit, and  12 consideration of cumulative effects.  13 The first focus area is compliance with  14 environmental assessment predictions.  15 A comparison of collected monitoring data  16 with environmental assessment predictions is  17 necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the  18 Applicant's management and mitigation plans,  19 and the management and mitigation measures  20 should be adjusted based on the findings.  21 This comment is now partially resolved  22 based on Baffinland's Commitment Number 26, and  23 partially the concern remains outstanding.  24 Reliance on professional judgment in the  25 trigger action response plan is a significant  26 uncertainty in the valuation of an</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">89</p> <p>1 exceedance -- exceedance of a trigger. QIA's  2 proposed solution is event-based monitoring,  3 which means surveillance in times of high flows  4 when contaminant loads are high.  5 Baffinland has suggested event-based  6 monitoring is not necessary as freshet should  7 capture the worst annual conditions. While  8 freshet monitoring may capture the largest  9 event-based total loading of dust mobilized to  10 the receiving environment, that isn't the only  11 measurement that matters.  12 The signal Baffinland is measuring differs  13 from one which may be experienced during the  14 ice-free season. QIA's concern is not  15 exclusively focused on the acute environmental  16 effects of dust as total suspended solids  17 mobilized from the terrestrial to the aquatic  18 environment. QIA has two additional concerns  19 that Baffinland's response has not addressed.  20 First, we are concerned with the influence  21 of repeated periodic pulses of total suspended  22 solids which increases distress on aquatic  23 organisms. Further, Inuit are concerned with  24 the volumes of dust deposited in the  25 environment and Baffinland's effort to mitigate  26 it.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">90</p> <p>1 This is a concern about Inuit rights in  2 addition to being a concern about environmental  3 impacts, and Baffinland's existing processes do  4 not adequately account for those rights-based  5 concerns.  6 QIA is seeking to understand the actual  7 volumes of dust or total suspended particles  8 reaching the aquatic environment to better  9 inform the need for management and mitigation  10 options. We continue to suggest that  11 event-based monitoring is a more effective  12 approach to characterize those effects.  13 QIA remains concerned with the recurrence  14 of cases where water withdrawal for the  15 purposes of dust suppression exceeded the  16 limits set in the licence. QIA acknowledges,  17 as highlighted by Baffinland in their response,  18 that water withdrawal exceedances have been  19 decreased in recent years but remains concerned  20 for the recurrence.  21 QIA also has issues with monitoring  22 programs along the Steensby Corridor and  23 whether existing and updated baseline datasets  24 will be sufficient for comparison to the  25 monitoring that will be initiated to identify  26 project effects.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">91</p> <p>1 Baffinland's response to updated baseline  2 references their response to another comment,  3 QIA-TR-7, that that response focuses on  4 hydrology. QIA continues to reiterate the need  5 for updated water quality data along the  6 Steensby Corridor.  7 QIA's requested information on water  8 withdrawals from Ravn Lake prior to  9 commencement of construction of the Ravn Camp.  10 This concern can now be considered resolved  11 with the information provided by the Applicant  12 in its final submission.  13 QIA welcomes Baffinland's commitment to  14 direct hydrometric data in 2025. In addition,  15 QIA recommends that additional hydrometric data  16 be collected along the Steensby Corridor. If  17 the 2025 data does not -- do not fall within  18 the range of natural variation a default  19 requirement should be for Baffinland to  20 continue updating the hydrometric dataset  21 annually for the coming three years. That  22 requirement may be alleviated following review  23 by QIA and other stakeholders of an assessment  24 of the updated hydrometric dataset prepared by  25 Baffinland.  26 We note that collection of hydrometric data</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">92</p> <p>1 needed to characterize the current baseline  2 should not wait for a yet-to-be-determined  3 start date for Steensby construction. That is  4 because Baffinland has confirmed the plan to  5 proceed with construction of that  6 infrastructure as soon as possible once funding  7 is available.  8 We heard at the Board's technical meeting  9 here in Pond Inlet that there exists a  10 community concern about the effects of blasting  11 on fish. QIA requests a condition to the water  12 licence requiring that Baffinland engage with  13 communities and draw on Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit  14 and Inuit Qaujimaningit to ensure that blasting  15 and tunnel construction and associated impacts  16 on freshwater and fish account for Inuit  17 concerns and that the Board be updated on the  18 results of these consultations and associated  19 adjustments to construction monitoring and  20 management plans three months prior to starting  21 any Steensby blasting activities.  22 QIA recommends Baffinland refine its lake  23 sediment core sampling to discern the relative  24 roles of natural and anthropogenic activities  25 influencing metal concentrations.  26 QIA also recommends that the Applicant</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">93</p> <p>1 account for grain size of the sediment when  2 evaluating for temporal or spatial trends.  3 Despite consistent sampling techniques,  4 variation in grain size may still hinder  5 ability to detect trends.  6 QIA is concerned about elevated  7 concentrations of arsenic, copper, iron,  8 manganese, and phosphorus in Camp Lake.  9 Adequate data resolution is required to detect  10 change from mine-related impacts to sediment  11 and water quality, particularly to Camp and  12 Sheardown Lakes. QIA's would like to  13 understand how the five parameters -- arsenic,  14 copper, iron, manganese, and phosphorus --  15 found to have elevated concentrations compare  16 to the aquatic environment monitoring plan and  17 benchmark values compare with the elements  18 associated with the ore body and/or Tote Road  19 chemical composition.  20 The Kilometre 105 treatment facility no  21 longer functions as intended. The facility was  22 designed to treat runoff from the mountain as  23 drainage is conveyed towards fish-bearing  24 habitat in Sheardown Lake and tributary.  25 During 2024 assigned inspections, QIA  26 observed contact water flowing down the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">94</p> <p>1 hillside from the active mining area into the  2 drainage ditch upstream of the pond. During  3 seasonal inspections, the turbidity observed  4 within the drainage network has not been  5 notably different between upstream and  6 downstream stream locations of Kilometre 105.  7 The current treatment drain design approach  8 infrequently achieves water treatment goals.  9 The updates to the treatment drain approach  10 that Baffinland proposed to QIA in its January  11 correspondence have much room for improvement  12 to achieve adequate sediment removal. This is  13 why QIA requires a more robust description and  14 justification of the proposed treatment design.  15 QIA recommends detailed adaptive management  16 actions be taken to prevent further impacts to  17 the water quality in the CLT1 tributary to Camp  18 Lake. This detection of significant small  19 magnitude changes in parameters of potential  20 concern in sediment and water quality should be  21 considered a major win for the monitoring  22 program. This allows adaptive management  23 actions to be taken before any water or  24 sediment quality exceedances occur and  25 environmental risks to be mitigated before they  26 can have significant impacts on the local</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">95</p> <p>1 ecology in Camp Lake.  2 The motivation for the core receiving  3 environment monitoring plan is to make these  4 detections resulting in adaptive management  5 actions on site. In the case where these  6 detections do not result in adaptive management  7 practices, the entire environmental monitoring  8 process does not provide the necessary  9 protection to the environment.  10 Now I would like to provide some background  11 to the Inuit stewardship program that will give  12 context to our technical comments and  13 recommendations to the Board, which I will  14 speak about later in this presentation.  15 The Inuit stewardship program is an  16 arm's-length Inuit-led and community-based  17 monitoring program. The program enables Inuit  18 to evaluate how the project interacts with the  19 surrounding environment. The program includes  20 a feedback loop to enable Baffinland to review  21 findings and implement project improvements to  22 address concerns. The program was envisioned  23 to be funded by Baffinland, administered by  24 QIA, and overseen by an arm's-length Inuit  25 oversight committee: Inuit Avatimut  26 Kamattiarnimut Katimajajit.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">96</p> <p>1 The oversight committee consists of members  2 from the seven impacted communities of  3 Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Sanirajak, Igloodik,  4 Clyde River, Kimmirut, and Kinngait.  5 QIA's Inuit stewardship program  6 administration team successfully completed five  7 programs in 2024, 2025, and is preparing to  8 release respective reports on March 31st, 2025.  9 The Inuit stewardship program has multiple  10 programs relating to freshwater, including, but  11 not limited to, the dust and wildlife  12 monitoring program aimed on understanding the  13 interaction between mine, dust, and water,  14 including lakes, rivers, snow, and ice --  15 THE INTERPRETER: Sorry. I wasn't  16 finished.  17 A. KUBEISINOVA: -- and the Pond Inlet  18 freshwater Inuit Qaujimanituqangit study  19 directed on understanding Inuit  20 Qaujimanituqangit as it relates to freshwater  21 values and impacts from the perspective of  22 Mittimatalingmiut.  23 Tusaqtavut -- or "what we heard" -- studies  24 are proposed from 2025 and 2026 to take place  25 in Kimmirut and Kinngait. The objective of  26 these studies is to develop a fulsome</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">97</p> <p>1 understanding of Inuit culture, resource, and 2 land use surrounding the project. 3 On February 28th, 2025, QIA wrote to the 4 Board to clarify that several of QIA's concerns 5 with Baffinland's application, which QIA had 6 previously said were resolved, specifically 7 those described at -- in QIA-TR-24 and 8 QIA-TR-27 to 37 were no longer resolved and 9 still needed to be addressed. 10 We want to clarify that this change did not 11 affect QIA's support for the proposed amendment 12 to Part B, Item 17 of the water licence and 13 Baffinland's commitment. You can find the 14 proposed amendment to Part B, Item 17 and the 15 commitment in QIA's submission to the Board 16 dated February 7th, 2025, and posted on the NWB 17 Public Registry. 18 QIA is continuing to consider whether the 19 proposed amendment to Part B, Item 17 and the 20 commitment are enough to address QIA's concerns 21 about incorporation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit 22 and Inuit Qaujimaningit into the licence. 23 We're not yet able to inform the Board whether 24 QIA's satisfied, but we hope to be able to do 25 so before the end of the hearing tomorrow; 26 therefore, we ask the Board's permission to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">98</p> <p>1 make further submissions on this issue 2 tomorrow. Therefore, QIA considers the 3 comments on such topics as incorporation of 4 Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit 5 Qaujimaningit, impacts on Inuit water rights, 6 and Inuit engagement at this time unresolved. 7 QIA makes a recommendation to the NWB to 8 consider the results of Pond Inlet freshwater 9 Inuit Qaujimanituqangit study and Tusaqtavut 10 studies in its decisions. These are efficient 11 mechanisms to identify and address Inuit 12 environmental and rights-based concerns about 13 impacts to freshwater resources, culture, and 14 land use. 15 One of the best avenues for this to happen 16 is by integrating the results of Inuit-led 17 studies into Baffinland's adaptive management 18 mechanisms. It is essential for the project to 19 integrate Inuit stewardship program studies' 20 results on project impacts to Inuit water 21 rights and culture resources and land use into 22 relevant management plans. 23 QIA recommends that if the Board grants the 24 application, a licence condition is set 25 requiring the Applicant to update the aquatic 26 monitoring plans to demonstrate how the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">99</p> <p>1 existing freshwater baseline characterization 2 of the Steensby component will be validated and 3 updated as soon as feasible so that the 4 collection of baseline data does not provide a 5 barrier to progressing with construction 6 activities; provide freshwater baseline 7 information for the Steensby component, 8 including Inuit use, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit 9 and Inuit Qaujimaningit at least 180 days prior 10 to the commencement of construction of the 11 Steensby component for Board's review; and 12 update the relevant management plans to reflect 13 the freshwater baseline information and provide 14 these updated management plans for Board 15 approval 90 days prior to the commencement of 16 construction of the Steensby component. 17 The Applicant should provide the 18 trend-over-time monitoring along the Steensby 19 railway and port prior to construction so that 20 updated information on Inuit use and Inuit 21 Qaujimanituqangit is meaningfully considered. 22 If the application is granted, QIA 23 recommends the inclusion of a licence condition 24 requiring the Applicant to provide a Steensby 25 component construction time line that is 26 adequate to allow more time -- more</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">100</p> <p>1 information -- excuse me -- to be collected 2 about Inuit Qaujimanituqangit and impacts to 3 water rights and culture, resource, and land 4 use related to freshwater no less than 90 days 5 prior to construction. 6 QIA recommends that the Applicant review 7 and modify the monitoring program annually in 8 line with the findings of applicable scientific 9 studies and Inuit-led monitoring. Any such 10 modifications shall be included in annual 11 reporting to the NWB with supporting rationale. 12 In Comment Number 27, it is QIA's 13 recommendation to the Board to integrate the 14 results of the forthcoming Nunavut Impact 15 Review Board overseeing cumulative effects 16 assessment process if this application is 17 approved. 18 If and when the Nunavut Impact Review 19 Board, Baffinland, or the designated Inuit 20 organization brings forward updated cumulative 21 effects assessment data, QIA recommends that 22 the applicant be required by a water licence 23 condition to report the results of such 24 cumulative effects assessment as mentioned 25 above within six months of completion and that 26 the it -- and that the licence, if issued by</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">101</p> <p>1 NWB, allows the Board to incorporate the 2 findings into the licence. 3 It is important to keep in mind that QIA is 4 not asking that -- the Water Board to involve 5 itself into the conduct of the cumulative 6 effects assessment or NIRB's activities, just 7 that when the information that results from 8 that assessment becomes available, it should 9 inform the water licence. 10 To assist the Board in considering our 11 recommendations, QIA would like to provide a 12 brief overview of the cases in the Northwest 13 Territories where Indigenous knowledge was 14 incorporated in permitting. 15 In the water licence issued for the Ekati 16 Diamond Mine, the Wek'èezhii Land and Water 17 Board set the following requirements: 18 (as read) 19 In conducting its activities under 20 this licence, the licensee shall make 21 best efforts to consider and 22 incorporate any scientific information 23 and Traditional Knowledge that is made 24 available to the licensee. 25 In each submission required by the 26 licence or a directive from the Board,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">102</p> <p>1 the licensee is to identify all 2 recommendations based on Traditional 3 Knowledge received, describe how the 4 recommendations were incorporated into 5 the submission, and provide 6 justification for any recommendation 7 not adopted. 8 The licensee shall operate in 9 accordance with the Traditional 10 Knowledge management framework that 11 describes particles for collecting, 12 storing, managing, and using 13 Traditional Knowledge. 14 A waste rock storage area design 15 plan shall include, but not be limited 16 to, description of how the waste rock 17 storage area design has used 18 Traditional Knowledge and western 19 science to maximize caribou movement 20 through the Point Lake Project area. 21 The interim reclamation and 22 closure plan shall include, but not be 23 limited to, description of how the 24 input received from the Traditional 25 Knowledge Elders group was 26 incorporated for closure planning</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">103</p> <p>1 initiatives. 2 The Board mandates that the Proponent 3 consider and incorporate all Traditional 4 Knowledge into project activities guided by a 5 Traditional Knowledge management framework. 6 NG [phonetic] culture camp supports fish health 7 monitoring through practices like fish tasting 8 by Elders enabling the inclusion of Indigenous 9 objectives, indicators, thresholds, and 10 response measures in assessing potential 11 impacts of the aquatic environment. 12 In the water licence issued to Fortune 13 Minerals, the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board 14 mandates that the aquatic effects monitoring 15 program, design plan, shall include a summary 16 of how Traditional Knowledge has been collected 17 and incorporated into the aquatic effects 18 monitoring program as well as a summary of how 19 traditional knowledge will be incorporated into 20 further studies related to the aquatics effects 21 monitoring program. 22 The Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board also 23 set the following conditions in the water 24 licence to Diavik Diamond Mines for the 25 engagement plan to demonstrate how the licensee 26 will include all potentially affected</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">104</p> <p>1 Indigenous communities: (as read) 2 Ensure potentially affected Indigenous 3 communities access to meaningful and 4 plain-language results from monitoring 5 programs, include traditional 6 knowledge in monitoring plans and 7 management programs, enhance 8 opportunities for potentially affected 9 Indigenous communities to provide 10 feedback in the form as determined by 11 the affected party directly to the 12 licensee about the project, its 13 potential impacts and mitigation 14 options, and include reporting back to 15 potentially affected Indigenous 16 communities on how the licensee acted 17 or reasons for not acting in response 18 to feedback from communities, a 19 description of the culturally 20 appropriate engagement protocols 21 developed in collaboration with each 22 potentially affected Indigenous 23 community, which were Intervenor and 24 the environmental assessment for the 25 project as well as the Kitikmeot Inuit 26 Association.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">105</p> <p>1 The licensee shall support  2 involvement of communities represented  3 by the Indigenous Intervenor from the  4 environmental assessment for the  5 project and the Kitikmeot Inuit  6 Association to develop and implement  7 long-term monitoring informed by  8 Traditional Knowledge of the Pit Lakes  9 containing processed Kimberlite using  10 the cultural use criteria developed.  11 In addition to the Traditional Knowledge  12 monitoring program, the Wek'èezhii Land and  13 Water Board requires the development of a  14 post-closure aquatic effects monitoring plan  15 for the Diavik mine. As part of that plan, the  16 Proponent must provide a summary of how  17 Indigenous knowledge has been integrated along  18 with any future related studies.  19 Part J of that licence requires that  20 monitoring be informed by Indigenous knowledge.  21 QIA would like to note that when other  22 participants in this hearing make their  23 presentations, other issues may arise which we  24 have not discussed in this presentation. If  25 necessary, QIA will make further submissions to  26 respond to new issues raised by any party. We</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">106</p> <p>1 continue working with the Applicant on finding  2 solutions to satisfy our technical comments.  3 The Qikiqtani Inuit Association will be keeping  4 the Board apprised of any developments. This  5 concludes our presentation.  6 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  7 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you for  8 your presentation, QIA.  9 So we'll go -- could we take at this time a  10 break before going to questions? So take a  11 five-minutes break for -- we need some air, I  12 guess. Oh, ten minutes probably better. Even  13 better. Thank you.  14 (ADJOURNMENT)  15 THE CHAIR: We need to reconvene from  16 the break.  17 Okay. We're on a questioning period now.  18 I'd like to start with the Applicant. If you  19 have a question to the QIA presentation, you  20 may go ahead.  21 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by  22 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation  23 C. KOWBELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  24 Christine Kowbell, legal counsel for the  25 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation.  26 We just have a few questions, Mr. Chair,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">107</p> <p>1 but before I start, I just want to preface by  2 saying QIA did update their presentation that  3 was filed earlier last week. We do need some  4 time to absorb that and think about it. We  5 don't want to waste any Board time clarifying  6 things we could clarify out of this room, and  7 so what we propose to do is ask a few questions  8 now, and then if we -- if we have further  9 questions we need to ask in front of the Board,  10 we can do that in the morning.  11 You know, one -- one aspect -- sorry. I  12 know I'm talking too fast -- one aspect, for  13 example, is we think perhaps the wording that  14 we worked on with QIA in Part B may cover a lot  15 of the items relating to incorporation of  16 Traditional Knowledge and IQ, so we'll talk a  17 bit about that offline with QIA. So I will ask  18 one question, and then I'll turn it over to Lou  19 Kamermans to ask some clarifying questions.  20 So my first question is one topic that  21 wasn't addressed in QIA's presentation was the  22 security management agreement, and I just  23 wanted to confirm that as Baffinland said in  24 our presentation that QIA, Baffinland, and  25 Crown-Indigenous Relations are all committed to  26 working together to come to an agreed security</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">108</p> <p>1 management agreement that aligns with the  2 security review process outlined in Part C of  3 the water licence in the current schedule, and  4 I would just ask QIA to confirm that.  5 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, QIA.  6 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and  7 thank you to Baffinland for the question.  8 We can confirm that we are looking to work  9 with Baffinland and Crown-Indigenous Relations  10 and Northern Affairs Canada to put the effort  11 in to complete a security management --  12 security management agreement prior to the  13 Minister issuing the licence for the project.  14 It's a commitment to get it done before then,  15 and we believe that there's been progress made  16 to date that can allow that to happen.  17 Thank you.  18 THE CHAIR: Okay. Any more questions  19 from the Applicant?  20 Go ahead.  21 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,  22 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  23 Just noting the work that the Qikiqtani  24 Inuit Association and Baffinland have been  25 doing over the last couple days that wasn't  26 entirely reflected in the speaking points to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">109</p> <p>1 the presentation, so I just want to go through  2 some of the technical comments that we've  3 issued draft commitment language for and  4 confirm that they're under consideration by the  5 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, so I'm going to  6 rattle off some numbers here, and this is  7 consistent with Baffinland's presentation as  8 well.  9 So we have provided draft commitment  10 wording to the Qikiqtani Inuit Association in  11 relation to Technical Comments 1, 2, 6, 7, 11,  12 and 17 that are currently under consideration.  13 Thank you.  14 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, QIA.  15 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  16 Assol Kubeisinoval, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.  17 As QIA noted in their presentation, the  18 discussions with the Applicant are currently  19 ongoing, and we will update the Board if there  20 is any new information to share.  21 Thank you.  22 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,  23 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thanks,  24 Assol.  25 I'm going to have to double-down because  26 it's part of the second set of questions, as</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">110</p> <p>1 well, but could you confirm that Baffinland has  2 provided draft wording for QIA consideration in  3 relation to those technical issues?  4 THE CHAIR: Go ahead.  5 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  6 Assol Kubeisinoval, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.  7 I would like to note that we have received  8 some wording for some of the commitments. I  9 believe we got back on one of the suggested  10 wordings, and Baffinland was in discussions  11 last I heard on it.  12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  13 THE CHAIR: Applicant, go ahead.  14 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,  15 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  16 Sorry. I actually have two -- one question  17 and one statement.  18 So we've continued offline discussions, but  19 we have also, you know, verbally developed an  20 understanding of some potential paths forward,  21 and Baffinland has committed to follow up with  22 commitment language in writing specifically  23 related to Qikiqtani Inuit Association  24 Technical Comments 14 and 15, and that's in  25 addition to the comments we've already provided  26 commitment language for.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">111</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: QIA, go ahead.  2 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  3 Assol Kubeisinoval, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.  4 We are still in discussions with the  5 Applicant on the listed issues, and as we've  6 already mentioned, we will be providing updates  7 as they come.  8 Thank you.  9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  10 Go ahead, Applicant.  11 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,  12 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks  13 Assol.  14 I'd like to just take this opportunity to  15 read in an update in relation to Qikiqtani  16 Inuit Association Technical Comment 16 related  17 to the Kilometre 105 dam at the mine site.  18 In discussions with the Qikiqtani Inuit  19 Association, we indicated there's additional  20 information we could provide, so we'll just  21 read it into the record now for the benefit of  22 the Board and as well as the Qikiqtani Inuit  23 Association. So I have a prepared statement:  24 (as read)  25 The Kilometre 105 memo provided  26 earlier in January provides an</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">112</p> <p>1 overview of temporary measures to be  2 implemented to address operational  3 issues. Baffinland is currently  4 conducting engineering studies to  5 develop a long-term solution which  6 will include the development of a new  7 regulated final discharge point.  8 Engineering underway is to design  9 the flow monitoring location for  10 registration with Environment and  11 Climate Change Canada as a final  12 discharge point. Once the design is  13 finalized, Baffinland will submit a  14 water licence modification request in  15 alignment with water licence  16 requirements. We will focus on  17 improving water quality controls  18 within the infrastructure valley,  19 including chemical treatment  20 injections, new filter berms, silt  21 curtain installations, as well as  22 redefining the discharge location to  23 an area that is up-gradient of fish  24 habitat that will not seep and is at  25 the terminus valley infrastructure.  26 As outlined above, engineering for</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">113</p> <p>1 the final discharge point is ongoing;  2 however, monitoring will occur as per  3 regulations regardless of when the  4 final discharge point or water licence  5 modification is submitted.  6 I hope that update's helpful. We can discuss  7 further how to integrate this into the record.  8 Thank you for the opportunity, Mr. Chair.  9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  10 Response, do you have any more response,  11 QIA? Okay. Thank you.  12 Is there any more questions from Applicant?  13 Go ahead.  14 C. KOWBELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  15 Christine Kowbell, legal counsel for Baffinland  16 Iron Mines Corporation.  17 We have no further questions at this time,  18 but we may have further questions in the  19 morning.  20 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  21 THE CHAIR: Okay. I'd like to ask if  22 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  23 Affairs, if you have questions to the QIA  24 presentation?  25 A. KEIM: Qujannamiik, Iksivautaa.  26 CIRNAC has no questions at this time.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">114</p> <p>1 Thank you very much.  2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, CIRNAC.  3 Environment and Climate Change Canada?  4 E. WALKER: Thank you, Chair. It's  5 Eva Walker with Environment and Climate Change  6 Canada. We have no questions at this time.  7 THE CHAIR: Next, Fisheries and  8 Oceans Canada?  9 P. HARPER: Paul Harper, Fisheries  10 and Oceans. We have no questions at this time.  11 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.  12 Members of the public, for those that have  13 questions to the Qikiqtani -- comments.  14 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by  15 Community Representatives  16 THE CHAIR: Please state your name.  17 JOAMIE APAK: I'm from the Hamlet in  18 Clyde River. I'm trying to find out from QIA,  19 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, for the water,  20 oceans, are they checked properly? About  21 living organisms in the water, you know, bugs  22 and stuff at the bottom of the lake, there's  23 some studies around those?  24 THE CHAIR: Do you have an answer to  25 the question, QIA? Go ahead.  26 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">115</p> <p>1 thank you for the question.  2 QIA does not run specific monitoring  3 programs like that at this time. We generally  4 look to studies done by Department of Fisheries  5 and Oceans Canada or other parties. We would  6 look to integrate those findings into our own  7 work and implement any mitigation measures,  8 monitoring programs accordingly; but as of  9 right now, we don't run any of our own  10 monitoring programs, if I'm understanding the  11 question correctly.  12 Thank you.  13 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  14 Any more general questions from the public  15 to Qikiqtani Inuit Association?  16 THE INTERPRETER: Titus, who is it? Sorry.  17 Wrong name.  18 CALEB SANGOYA: I'm Caleb from Baffin --  19 I'm working with Baffinland, but I live here.  20 I have a comment to the -- to the report, and  21 when people make reports, I would think -- I  22 wonder if the people in my community also, so  23 the -- whoever is not from here is -- is making  24 a report. For those that are dealing with the  25 Water Board, some of these -- I think the  26 information coming from the community itself,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">116</p> <p>1 the people who know the community, none of  2 these delegates here are from the community,  3 and perhaps some of the items that are listed  4 here, a lot of the information here is not  5 known by the general public, and if people who  6 are not born here and when people who are not  7 giving their reports, they're just hearing from  8 hearsay, and I know that in here, if you go to  9 the school here, there's a technical advisor.  10 We would say, no, the students are not  11 interested in these projects, and it's very  12 unsettling to see that, you know, the students  13 are being used in this presentation, and some  14 of the members need to be removed because the  15 technical advisor has given this information,  16 especially people that live in Igloolik, and  17 people are seeing how the conditions are in the  18 same situation. I think they're exactly the  19 same.  20 Thank you.  21 THE CHAIR: I don't think that much  22 of a question, Caleb. I don't think. It's  23 just a comment recommendation, yes?  24 Jopie has the -- up.  25 JOPIE KAERNERK: My name is Jopie Kaernerker  26 from the Hamlet in Hall Beach. The one that's</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">117</p> <p>1 being planned at Milne Inlet -- oh, at  2 Steensby, there's going to be a lot of  3 construction there and there's a lot of fish  4 there and there's a lot of animals there.  5 We -- only at Sanirajak, we don't get narwhal  6 but only in the fall time does the narwhal come  7 through, so -- so at Steensby, would there be a  8 studies done on the ocean -- living things  9 around Steensby, would there be some studies  10 done prior to the project happening?  11 THE CHAIR: QIA, do you have a  12 response?  13 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  14 I believe it's Baffinland that would be  15 doing studies in the Steensby project area. We  16 have heard community interest in the Inuit  17 stewardship program to conduct similar, perhaps  18 smaller scale, programs in the area, but  19 largely it would fall on -- we believe on  20 Baffinland to be carrying out those studies.  21 Thank you.  22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  23 Applicant, do you have response for that?  24 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,  25 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank  26 you for that question, Jopie, about the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">118</p> <p>1 Steensby baseline.  2 This is a subject with a lot of interest,  3 and it -- in part, it relates to the water  4 licence, and -- and in -- it also relates to  5 the Impact Review Board and our project  6 certificate, so I'll try to focus this as much  7 as possible, but ...  8 We've been collecting what we referred to  9 as supplemental or additional baseline along  10 the Steensby railway alignment and at Steensby  11 Port, including the marine area. We've been  12 doing that continuously since 2021. So this  13 has included extensive studies of the lakes and  14 streams that the railway will either cross or  15 run close to. That also includes studies of  16 the fish that occupy some of those streams and  17 lakes. In the marine area, we've studied the  18 marine environment, you know, benthic  19 invertebrates, fish, and marine mammals. In  20 2021 and again in 2024, we ran aerial surveys  21 looking at ringed seal birth lair locations.  22 So this has been done to support additional  23 environmental authorizations we need to move  24 forward with the construction of the Steensby  25 railway and port. It's required under our  26 water licence and project certificate, and it's</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">119</p> <p>1 just part of the best practice we implement at  2 the project when it comes to building our  3 monitoring programs.  4 Each year we've done these studies, we've  5 communicated directly with the Hamlet and the  6 Hunters &amp; Trappers Organizations in Sanirajak  7 and Igloodik. We've been in the community many  8 times to engage the community generally on  9 those programs and their outcomes, and we've  10 had people from those communities also  11 participate directly in those baseline  12 collection programs.  13 This is all in addition to the baseline  14 information we collected between 2006 and 2012  15 to support the initial project approvals, and,  16 you know, this relates to one of the first  17 questions the Qikiqtani Inuit Association  18 received about the type of monitoring that's  19 being done in the marine environment, but  20 Baffinland has an incredibly extensive amount  21 of information. This information relates to  22 the environment, and it's -- it's scientific,  23 and we also have a large amount of Inuit  24 Qaujimanituqangit that's been shared with us,  25 and all of that is available to support our  26 monitoring programs and how we look at our</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">120</p> <p>1 operations each year now and in the future to  2 understand if we're having an effect on the  3 environment.  4 The last thing I'll say when it comes to  5 Steensby and the collection of supplemental  6 baseline is, there's more work to do, and we're  7 committing to doing it in advance of  8 construction and with continued engagement with  9 the communities closest to -- to that project  10 area.  11 Thank you. I hope that was helpful.  12 THE CHAIR: Thank you. (OTHER  13 LANGUAGE SPOKEN)  14 ELIJAH PANIKPAKOOCHOO: My name is Elijah  15 Panikpakoochoo. We used to live in the Dundas  16 Harbour and also at Alexandra Fiord and also --  17 and also further up north, and during the  18 summer, my -- my father was working for the  19 RCMP as a special constable at Alexandra Fiord.  20 There were no Inuit. It was just our family,  21 and we lived there temporarily for two years,  22 and we left behind our family members, but I  23 know that in Dundas Harbour and at Craig  24 Harbour, there -- there are lots of walrus in  25 that area. I know that for a fact, and also --  26 also in Igloodik and Hall Beach and beyond also</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">121</p> <p>1 have a majority of walrus in that area, and  2 also in our area, there is also a walrus  3 habitat called Inuvalituq [phonetic]. It's  4 near Clyde River, a little island, and during  5 the summertime, there are a lot of walrus  6 congregate there and also -- and also and near  7 Guisebite [phonetic] at Ikloudju [phonetic],  8 there are lots of walrus in that area because  9 it's a shallow area because that's where walrus  10 tend to congregate, in shallower waters, and I  11 know for a fact that there are a lot of walrus  12 in the Foxe Basin area. And we once  13 observed -- John Henderson's wife, she was away  14 one morning, and we were observing the  15 migration of the narwhal, and lots of walrus  16 and seals and all kinds of marine mammals were  17 traversing through the channel, apparently  18 swimming away from something to the other side;  19 and during the summertime the -- like,  20 Qikiqtani approved Baffinland to go ahead with  21 the project, and right now, there's hardly any  22 seals in our area during the summertime.  23 Like, it appears, like, you're just  24 reaching your time, and you're hunting seal  25 during the summertime, but in the past, like,  26 you see a lot of sea birds and seals foraging.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">122</p> <p>1 That seemed to be the case.  2 Right now, a lot of marine mammals used to  3 be in the area, but now that is not the case  4 because it's a shipping corridor, and I know,  5 like, all of the communities or settlements  6 that I used to frequent used to have a lot of  7 wildlife.  8 And also we are told that the -- the  9 shipping will go through Steensby Inlet. It  10 appears that walrus will move away, and they  11 never return to their original habitat, once  12 they move to another relocation. So before you  13 actually start construction at Steensby Inlet,  14 so you need to be aware of these things. I'm  15 just an ordinary Inuk person, and I'm just an  16 ordinary hunter, but nowadays I don't hunt as  17 much because I'm too old.  18 And also in another channel, there are two  19 small islands. They -- they called Oogalid  20 [phonetic]. It's just a name now.  21 In the -- in the past, those two islands, a  22 lot of -- around those two islands, a lot of  23 walrus used to congregate in those area, but  24 there is no longer any walrus during the  25 summertime, and even once in a long while, you  26 spot a walrus.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">123</p> <p>1 And also, too, the Milne Inlet area, the  2 walrus are no longer congregating in that area  3 because I travel through it once I was out  4 hunting, but I don't hunt as much as I used to  5 because of old age, so I want you to hear it  6 firsthand from community members. Once the  7 walrus move away from their original habitat,  8 they never go back to their original habitat,  9 and we are told that shipping will traverse  10 through Steensby Inlet when Baffinland  11 completed the dock, and we have heard -- I want  12 you to be aware that walrus never returns to  13 their original habitat once they move away.  14 And also the seals, ringed seals in our  15 areas are -- like, they are -- the seals are  16 mostly used to human beings, but during  17 summertime, it appears, like, you're in a lake  18 because there are hardly no seals; but in the  19 past, there used to be plenty of seals, but now  20 there during the summertime, there are hardly  21 any seals, so that is for your information.  22 And also during the springtime and the fall  23 season is where you see seals and you're able  24 to see the juvenile seals in that area. For  25 those of -- like, they were born in this area,  26 in the snow, so I am trying to explain these</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">124</p> <p>1 things to you so you will be aware of what we  2 have seen.  3 So it appears, like, during the summertime,  4 it appears, like, it's a waste of time hunting  5 seals because there are hardly any seals  6 because their ships -- the reason why we can't  7 hunt any marine mammals. And also narwhal used  8 to swim to this area swimming away from  9 something.  10 But also near the Foxe Basin area, the lot  11 of walrus will be impacted, and they never  12 return to their original habitat once they move  13 away. So this information is -- so you will be  14 aware.  15 And also sometime during snowmobile [sic],  16 we travel to the Foxe Basin area towards  17 Igloolik and Sanirajak during springtime by  18 snowmobile because that's where walrus  19 congregate, in that area.  20 And also I want you to be aware of what --  21 what it's like hunting in our area. Sometimes  22 it's almost a waste of time hunting for seals  23 during the summertime. It appears like you're  24 in a lake. There's hardly any seals anymore.  25 That -- that's how much of a big impact the  26 ships have on marine mammals, so some of us</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">125</p> <p>1 started regretting the fact that the mine was  2 approved to go ahead, and I just want to relate  3 to something that I have observed, that walrus  4 never return to their original habitat.  5 So it's a main ulliit, and it used to mean  6 that a lot of walrus congregate in that area  7 during the summertime and also in the fall  8 especially.  9 Nowadays, there are no more walrus in that,  10 so I'm explaining this to you in detail. Like,  11 I have not seen some there because I'm not used  12 to the area. I don't know how much walrus  13 congregate in that area, but I have heard that  14 there a lot more walrus in the Foxe Basin area  15 and beyond that will be impacted; but it seems  16 like I'm speaking nonsense, but I know for a  17 fact that once walrus move from their original  18 habitat, they tend to forage for food, and also  19 they look for clams, and that's why I'm trying  20 to explain to you in detail so you will be  21 aware before you actually start building the  22 railway through Steensby Inlet. Maybe you can  23 try to find alternate routes which will have  24 less impact on marine wildlife and the fact  25 that you try to ensure the shipping corridor  26 goes through areas where there are not too many</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">126</p> <p>1 walrus because we rely on marine mammals for  2 our food, and I hope Baffinland's made aware  3 because they have adequate funds, and yet we  4 all know for a fact that all funds tend to run  5 it.  6 And also I used to be a caribou monitor  7 when I first started out, and I also used to be  8 a polar bear monitor and also I helped count  9 caribous in that area when that mine first  10 started operating. There would be lots of  11 caribou, but also we know that there are hardly  12 any caribou in some regions. Yes, I used to  13 work at Mary River as well. It's in there  14 there are hardly any seals.  15 Like I know for a fact that all terrestrial  16 wildlife, their cycles change, but also for  17 your information, I want you to be aware that  18 there are hardly any seals.  19 Sometimes my voice tends to be really low,  20 so I am just want to explain this to you.  21 So maybe people from the Foxe Basin area  22 will start to regret it once they found out  23 that walrus will be impacted.  24 And also narwhal started travelling to this  25 area recently. There are never used to be any  26 narwhal in the Foxe Basin and Igloolik area,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">127</p> <p>1 but now there is because they been chased away  2 to the region, so I'm explaining this to you.  3 You know, that's not just something that I  4 say through hearsay, but I am -- I'm used to  5 that area. When I was young, I grew up in that  6 area, so I try to explain to you in detail.  7 Also walrus tend to bask on top of  8 icebergs, and once they move somewhere else, I  9 know for a fact that they'll never return to  10 their original habitat; and if they find a  11 better food foraging area, they tend to move  12 into that area, so I want you to be aware of  13 the -- I want Baffinland to be aware of this.  14 So I'm explaining what I have observed and  15 that. Thank you. I hope you have a clear  16 understanding.  17 My name is Elijah Panikpakoochoo. I used  18 to be a caribou monitor in the Mary River area.  19 Thank you. So you can -- you have never see or  20 experience this, and so you will probably see  21 or have seen walrus basking on icebergs. Thank  22 you for the opportunity to come, so please make  23 a careful decision. Thank you. Think  24 carefully before you actually make a decision.  25 THE CHAIR: I think that's not really  26 a question, more like advising, but, QIA, you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">128</p> <p>1 want to say a word for that?  2 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  3 Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.  4 Thank you very much for -- to the Elder for  5 the background on the wildlife and how it was  6 in the past. We don't really have much to add  7 to that, just that this information is very  8 valuable for the projects that -- that are  9 related to the marine environment. Thank you.  10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  11 Does Applicant want to say a word for that  12 as well? Go ahead.  13 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle,  14 Baffinland.  15 Qujannamiik, Elijah, for the comments and  16 the information. I also do want to publicly  17 acknowledge Elijah's support in advising  18 Baffinland in setting up specifically our  19 height of land caribou monitoring program as  20 well as the Bruce Head narwhal monitoring  21 program, and he worked directly with us for a  22 number of years and has continued to provide  23 advice to us, so thank you for that.  24 I did just want to address a few comments  25 that were made in terms of the Steensby project  26 and ensuring Inuit Qaujimanituqangit has been</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">129</p> <p>1 taken into consideration.</p> <p>2 We worked with Inuit over a number of years</p> <p>3 on the Steensby project which led to the</p> <p>4 approval of the baseline information that went</p> <p>5 into it as well as now we have an operating</p> <p>6 project certificate that has terms and</p> <p>7 conditions specific to the Steensby project.</p> <p>8 One of the areas in which we looked</p> <p>9 specifically or took advice from Inuit and</p> <p>10 ended up as a term and condition in the project</p> <p>11 certificate is our shipping route specifically</p> <p>12 to avoid and minimize impacts to walrus, so</p> <p>13 that change to the project design came</p> <p>14 specifically back from working with Inuit a</p> <p>15 number of years ago, and that change to the</p> <p>16 project design holds today.</p> <p>17 I also do want to acknowledge as well that</p> <p>18 we have in place an Inuit Impact Benefit</p> <p>19 Agreement with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association</p> <p>20 that is specifically put in place because it is</p> <p>21 not possible to have a mine with no impacts.</p> <p>22 We acknowledge that impacts are a requirement</p> <p>23 of having a mine, and we will do what we can to</p> <p>24 minimize those impacts, and we take advice from</p> <p>25 the parties to minimize those impacts, but that</p> <p>26 is why there's a requirement to have that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">130</p> <p>1 benefit agreement in place to compensate or to</p> <p>2 ensure that continuous evolutions of the</p> <p>3 project will minimize and/or compensate for</p> <p>4 impacts that will occur.</p> <p>5 I think Paul would like to say something,</p> <p>6 if that's okay, Mr. Chair? Qujannamiik.</p> <p>7 P. QUASSA: Thank you,</p> <p>8 Mr. Chairperson. Thank you, Elijah.</p> <p>9 Yes. Yes, we have been to Igloodik and</p> <p>10 Sanirajak area. Just as Megan has indicated,</p> <p>11 like, we followed the changes from the island.</p> <p>12 We were told to -- the ship -- we were told</p> <p>13 that the ship traverse past around the island.</p> <p>14 That's what -- I just want to add complementary</p> <p>15 to what Megan said.</p> <p>16 So we were told to go through the west</p> <p>17 around the island because people hardly go</p> <p>18 harvest walrus in that area. People from</p> <p>19 Igloodik or Sanirajak hardly go there, but we</p> <p>20 know for a fact that they go walrus hunting</p> <p>21 much closer to the settlement. And also we</p> <p>22 tried to follow the advice of the Inuit, and,</p> <p>23 therefore, we made changes to the shipping</p> <p>24 route from Steensby Inlet for the sake of the</p> <p>25 walrus. I just want to add supplementary,</p> <p>26 Mr. Chairman.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">131</p> <p>1 Thank you.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>3 Are there any more comments from the</p> <p>4 general public to Qikiqtani Inuit Association</p> <p>5 presentation?</p> <p>6 Olayuk Naqitarvik from Arctic Bay.</p> <p>7 OLAYUK NAQITARVIK: Olayuk Naqitarvik. My</p> <p>8 name's Olayuk Naqitarvik. I'm from the Hamlet</p> <p>9 of Arctic Bay. My question is maybe I'm the</p> <p>10 only one who has not been informed about the</p> <p>11 river that they want to build a dam, and maybe</p> <p>12 I don't know where it is or I don't know if the</p> <p>13 fish migrate through that river, and apparently</p> <p>14 I think he's talking about building a dam.</p> <p>15 Where is it?</p> <p>16 Thank you.</p> <p>17 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>18 QIA, do you have an answer for that</p> <p>19 question?</p> <p>20 ASSOL KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>21 Assol Kubeisinova with the Qikiqtani Inuit</p> <p>22 Association.</p> <p>23 We're not aware of a project like that.</p> <p>24 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>25 THE CHAIR: Applicants? Thank you.</p> <p>26 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">132</p> <p>1 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>2 Apologies. I could see that was confusing,</p> <p>3 the way I would have been talking about it</p> <p>4 throughout the morning and since after lunch.</p> <p>5 There is a -- what we call a dam at the mine</p> <p>6 site. It's really a retaining pond, and it's</p> <p>7 just referring to the infrastructure we built</p> <p>8 up to -- to hold the water back while it</p> <p>9 settles. So that deals with -- with water</p> <p>10 generated out of the mine site, and it's not in</p> <p>11 fish-bearing waters, and it's -- it's not</p> <p>12 outside of the project area. It's right in the</p> <p>13 middle of the mine site. I hope that clears</p> <p>14 things up.</p> <p>15 Thank you.</p> <p>16 THE CHAIR: Thank you. That probably</p> <p>17 makes sense. Okay.</p> <p>18 LLOYD IDLOUT: Lloyd Idlout, Igloodik</p> <p>19 HTA -- HTO -- or HTA.</p> <p>20 Question to Inuit Qaujimanituqangit to</p> <p>21 Baffinland and to Qikiqtani. How is it going</p> <p>22 to be used? When -- when you say "Inuit</p> <p>23 Qaujimanituqangit", how do you utilize that</p> <p>24 statement?</p> <p>25 It's a concern for us when we say that we</p> <p>26 need to be noted as a recognizable comment to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">133</p> <p>1 when we ask for Inuit input into these things,  2 that when we submit our concerns, we don't  3 really get a response. What does it mean when  4 you say -- talk about Inuit Qaujimanituqangit?  5 Just now, when people were talking about  6 dust, there was a mention about Ingaurt. If  7 they're going to use our name -- that  8 particular person has no voice here right now,  9 so if they're going to use a name, that they  10 should consider who they are referencing to.  11 So what does that mean when you say "Inuit  12 Qaujimanituqangit", that whoever you're  13 referencing to with that particular knowledge  14 is not able to be present to provide that?  15 THE CHAIR: That question's  16 directed -- more directly to Applicant. Do you  17 have a response?  18 P. QUASSA: Qujannamiik (OTHER  19 LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Paul Quassa for Baffinland.  20 There are several things that Inuit  21 Qaujimanituqangit -- recommendations are given  22 to us from Qikiqtani telling us to implement  23 this particular area of Inuit  24 Qaujimanituqangit, so we try to follow their  25 recommendations, even though we have heard  26 ourselves that references to Inuit</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">134</p> <p>1 Qaujimanituqangit -- because mining is not  2 connected to Inuit, so there is no connection  3 to -- if we -- we understand this very clearly,  4 that mining was not a general concept for  5 Inuit, and so we understand that there is no  6 Traditional Knowledge for mining, for example,  7 because Inuit didn't mine. I'm talking about  8 the people that lived before us. There is no  9 particular knowledge about Inuit Traditional  10 Knowledge on mining, but what we reference to  11 is how the Inuit think.  12 For example, that the -- the thought  13 process or the value of having a good  14 relationship and being able to be agreeable to  15 each other and reasoning and by talking, by  16 doing things that Inuit values are is what we  17 are implementing when we're asked to do such  18 things.  19 Just to say further, I think we all as  20 Inuit know -- all of us know as Inuit we didn't  21 mine, so Inuit already know that. Perhaps we  22 would, you know, mine soapstones for the -- for  23 the lamps, for the stoves, the cooking stoves,  24 when we know that as Inuit. We did not use  25 metal or iron for that matter, but by talking,  26 trying to implement what the Inuit value and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">135</p> <p>1 way of doing things would be, this is how we  2 would try to implement Inuit Qaujimanituqangit  3 into the project, and these are the sorts of  4 urgency or recommendations the Qikiqtani's  5 giving to us because Inuit didn't mine. Just  6 recently. That's all I can comment on that  7 matter. Perhaps someone would add to it from  8 here, but I don't know. Thank you.  9 THE CHAIR: Was there another hand  10 up? There's two -- two more.  11 Nysana Qillaq from Clyde River.  12 NYSANA QILLAQ: Nysana Qillaq from the  13 Hunters Organization in Clyde River.  14 The question is they have Elders  15 committees. What do they discuss on those  16 Elders committees?  17 In our community, I never heard what the  18 Elders committee talks about on regarding  19 Baffinland. They seem to be speakers, but I  20 never hear them, what meetings they talk about  21 and what do they talk about. Wildlife? Do  22 they talk about the land? What do they talk  23 about? That's my question because I don't  24 know. I wasn't given that information.  25 Because Caleb say it, I don't -- I don't -- I  26 don't live in Pond Inlet. I cannot know about</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">136</p> <p>1 my knowledge about Pond Inlet. Only -- only  2 from hearsay. We'll be the ones born later.  3 People did say that mining is not the only  4 thing, but it's the mining that is here that's  5 the first for Nunavut. There's also other  6 things like diamonds or oil or gas, and so with  7 not even having -- not being part or not having  8 knowledge about such things, that there's  9 comments about studies on the marine  10 environment at Steensby and about water  11 licences, Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Nunavut  12 Tunngavik, are you going to try to find out  13 about the environment? Would you be doing a  14 similar study for the marine and the  15 environment as well?  16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  17 In regards to the last question, perhaps  18 Qikiqtani would answer that question.  19 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  20 Jared Ottenhof with Qikiqtani Inuit  21 Association.  22 I believe it's related to a response we  23 provided earlier. We have heard from  24 communities that there's a desire for studies  25 in the marine environment, which we're willing  26 to undertake through the Inuit stewardship</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">137</p> <p>1 program, if it makes it into the work plan for 2 that year.</p> <p>3 With respect to the Elders committee, I was 4 unclear if he was asking about the QIA Elders 5 committees, which are carried out by our Inuit 6 Qaujimanituqangit and engagement department. 7 If that's the case, I'll have to ask some 8 follow-up questions, and I can provide a 9 response at a later time; otherwise, I would 10 defer to Baffinland if it's their committee 11 that he's referring to and, again, on the more 12 in-depth marine studies.</p> <p>13 Thank you.</p> <p>14 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>15 Applicant.</p> <p>16 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle, thank 17 you.</p> <p>18 I was actually going to ask a point of 19 clarification to the questioner, as well, on 20 which committees they're speaking to right now. 21 The Qikiqtani Inuit Association has a committee 22 under the Inuit stewardship program. 23 Baffinland runs a dust audit community. As 24 well in the community, we have community 25 relations guiding knowledge-holders. We also 26 have Inuit from all seven communities sitting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">138</p> <p>1 on our environmental working group, so we're 2 happy to provide the information, just we don't 3 want to flood information if it's not 4 necessary. Qujannamiik.</p> <p>5 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>6 Is there a comment from Nysana? Maybe?</p> <p>7 NYSANA QILLAQ: It seems that Baffinland 8 has an Elders group. They seem to have 9 employees at Baffinland coming from the 10 communities. What discussions do they have 11 with the Elders? Do they talk about the 12 environment, or do they talk about marine 13 environment? What do they talk about? They 14 seem to employ Elders.</p> <p>15 THE CHAIR: Applicant, go ahead.</p> <p>16 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle.</p> <p>17 Qujannamiik for the clarification. I'm 18 going to ask Joe Tigullaraq to respond more 19 directly on this, but I will also encourage 20 conversations to happen in this room. We have 21 our Inuit Knowledge-Holder here from 22 Baffinland -- Phaniel is here -- and you could 23 have a direct conversation from his perspective 24 as well about what happens in any of the 25 meetings or -- or community representations 26 that those individuals do. So, Joe.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">139</p> <p>1 J. TIGULLARAQ: My name is Joe 2 Tigullaraq. I work with Baffinland. What I'm 3 going to talk about is regarding the employee 4 in our communities. If that's okay with you, 5 Chairperson, I would like to make a little bit 6 of a comment about Inuit Qaujimanituqangit in 7 addition to that.</p> <p>8 For Inuit Qaujimanituqangit comments, it's 9 stated as "IQ". I was part of that group while 10 there was a -- Nunatsia [phonetic] government 11 is in place. I was one of the people that was 12 in that part and based on the department of -- 13 department of sustainable development, and I 14 was a director there, and the economic 15 development group was also there, and the 16 environmental protection also was there.</p> <p>17 At that time, Inuit Qaujimanituqangit, we 18 had a committee set up, and we didn't know what 19 to call them, the committee. We would call 20 them in English. We called it "Inuit 21 Traditional Knowledge Committee", and they 22 would met -- meet our Inuit Traditional 23 Knowledge, and they would meet, and they would 24 call it "Inuit Ecological Knowledge".</p> <p>25 So there was -- as a committee, we were 26 asked to add, and we -- we organized it with</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">140</p> <p>1 Peter Ittinuar and Jaypetee Arnakak and Paul 2 Pemik and Tom Patterk from Rankin and Solomon 3 Awa, and we were all in a meeting to try to 4 find out or make a definition of what Inuit 5 Traditional Knowledge would be, and we -- we 6 would translate it a literal translation. We 7 would call it "Inuit Traditional Knowledge".</p> <p>8 Perhaps we would have named it a different 9 thing, but on all the years that have happened 10 into the communities, when we go to the 11 communities, we were told that if we talk about 12 Inuit Knowledge, in regards to mining, mining 13 is not a traditional Inuit activity, and other 14 things that are relating to Inuit Traditional 15 Knowledge and there are some things that 16 just -- talk about Ski-Doos -- about caribou 17 hunting by Ski-Doo, if people say it's a 18 Traditional Knowledge. We're doing, you know, 19 boating on a narwhal hunt in a fast boat. 20 It's -- if that's Inuit Traditional Knowledge, 21 narwhal hunting, Inuit did not have fast 22 motors, and they didn't have snowmobiles, so 23 based on the -- those, and to call them 24 Traditional Knowledge, it -- it seems something 25 that is not really true and maybe not something 26 one could refer to as "Traditional Knowledge".</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">141</p> <p>1 What do we call it then?</p> <p>2 So that's what we're thinking about as</p> <p>3 Baffinland, that perhaps we should name it not</p> <p>4 as "Inuit Traditional Knowledge", but name it</p> <p>5 as "Inuit Knowledge", what the Inuit know for</p> <p>6 Inuit Knowledge, their values and their core</p> <p>7 values and their way of thinking and the</p> <p>8 knowledge that they hold. So I see that</p> <p>9 Qikiqtani issues in that word now saying "Inuit</p> <p>10 Knowledge", so we talk about what we are known</p> <p>11 today and what Inuit knew then. And things</p> <p>12 changing and things the way they are evolving</p> <p>13 these days, perhaps in the future, we can talk</p> <p>14 about Inuit Knowledge. For this reason, we're</p> <p>15 trying to implement that particular concept so</p> <p>16 that the senior people of Qikiqtani, we meet</p> <p>17 with them every three months, and we talk about</p> <p>18 this. So we talk to it about that. I think</p> <p>19 that's why it's being utilized as a -- as a</p> <p>20 language by Qikiqtani Inuit Association.</p> <p>21 So that's what I wanted to comment first in</p> <p>22 regards to Inuit Knowledge, Inuit Traditional</p> <p>23 Knowledge. It's -- perhaps it's -- you know,</p> <p>24 there might be a better way to acknowledge</p> <p>25 the -- the input of the Inuit way of thinking.</p> <p>26 We would call it "Inuit Knowledge" instead.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">142</p> <p>1 So that I also wanted to mention a little</p> <p>2 bit about the employees in our communities, and</p> <p>3 we talk -- go to communities with Baffinland</p> <p>4 work, and when we go there for Baffinland work,</p> <p>5 sometimes we notice in the communities, they</p> <p>6 say, you know, we should try to do what -- how</p> <p>7 the community's doing their kind of work.</p> <p>8 That's what we've been told. Sometimes we</p> <p>9 think, you know, perhaps the way of -- the way</p> <p>10 we -- we do things may not be as -- you know,</p> <p>11 so we wanted to employ people that know about</p> <p>12 the community and have the knowledge of the</p> <p>13 community.</p> <p>14 It used to be just the five community, but</p> <p>15 if we're dealing with Steensby, we're going to</p> <p>16 have to include Kinngait and the other two</p> <p>17 communities. So we are basing that knowledge</p> <p>18 based on the Inuit Knowledge, so we try to get</p> <p>19 more employees from the seven communities we</p> <p>20 have -- basing what they know of that community</p> <p>21 and basing of what they know of Inuit</p> <p>22 Knowledge, they're the ones that telling us --</p> <p>23 advising to us. We call them "community</p> <p>24 relations people", and they work with us, and</p> <p>25 we meet with them every week trying to find out</p> <p>26 what's happening in the community, what people</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">143</p> <p>1 are thinking of, concerns that they might have,</p> <p>2 and we try to give them an update on what</p> <p>3 Baffinland is doing and if there's any way we</p> <p>4 could try to help. And so with the seven</p> <p>5 communities, we employ them all to help us, and</p> <p>6 so they help. And I can mention a little bit</p> <p>7 of what they help on.</p> <p>8 Close to Mary River, there's some counting</p> <p>9 of caribou close to the mine site. So based on</p> <p>10 the Inuit Knowledge and based on what these</p> <p>11 people know, they said perhaps you could fix it</p> <p>12 a little bit this way when you're doing caribou</p> <p>13 monitoring, especially these things -- two</p> <p>14 things that we tried to fix.</p> <p>15 In March -- if you're going to do aerial</p> <p>16 view in March, don't do it in May. Do it in</p> <p>17 March when there is plenty of snow on the</p> <p>18 ground. That's one of the things that they</p> <p>19 said. They also said when they look at the</p> <p>20 map, we're specifying this particular area that</p> <p>21 we want to look at, and we tried to tell --</p> <p>22 tell them -- you know, they tell us what about</p> <p>23 this area. You should look at this area. So</p> <p>24 based on the recommendations, we were able to,</p> <p>25 you know, look at what sort of studies or where</p> <p>26 we should be concentrating based on Inuit</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">144</p> <p>1 Knowledge.</p> <p>2 So these are the examples of the kind of</p> <p>3 help that we have been getting from the -- the</p> <p>4 employees, and we learn from them how much</p> <p>5 they -- more they could help us -- how they can</p> <p>6 help us, and we try to find out from them is</p> <p>7 there some way we could help them.</p> <p>8 From these seven communities, we have two</p> <p>9 people from each community. They are the</p> <p>10 communicators of what Baffinland is doing.</p> <p>11 They're called BCL. They're called Baffinland</p> <p>12 community liaison officers. So if they need</p> <p>13 help with Zoom meetings or computer internet</p> <p>14 meetings and stuff, they could help out or if</p> <p>15 there's information that needs to be given out</p> <p>16 to the community, and we give that information</p> <p>17 to them.</p> <p>18 I also wanted to mention that Baffinland, a</p> <p>19 lot -- a lot of these people don't speak</p> <p>20 English, and they are employees. We don't --</p> <p>21 we don't really think about the language.</p> <p>22 Sometimes I don't know how many employees</p> <p>23 in Nunavut have -- I don't know how many</p> <p>24 employees in Nunavut employ people that are not</p> <p>25 able to speak English, but they're very helpful</p> <p>26 to our work and to the advice and very helpful</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">145</p> <p>1 to what we do as staff.  2 Thank you. I can say that right now.  3 That's the end.  4 THE CHAIR: Abraham coming up from  5 Hall Beach wanted to comment.  6 ABRAHAM QAMMANIQ: Abraham Qammaniq,  7 Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization.  8 When we had a break, like, someone  9 mentioned there nothing is impossible. Like,  10 for example, in Hall -- Sanirajak, like,  11 Qikiqtani Inuit Association represent the  12 people from Baffin Region, and maybe if we have  13 some more dialogue between the people, the  14 communities, and also from Qikiqtani Inuit  15 Association representatives. Sometimes it  16 appears, like, we -- those people who are being  17 impacted are -- their comments are being  18 ignored, so to speak, so a representative and  19 maybe QIA should have a more closer working  20 relationship. That's all I wanted to say.  21 And also I wanted to add, like, in the  22 past, there used to be no mining activity going  23 on, but our forefathers were totally in tune  24 with the land -- the land, the ecological  25 system, and now we know, like, when you're  26 trying to extract something from the ground,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">146</p> <p>1 you damage the environment. That's all I  2 wanted to say.  3 Thank you.  4 THE CHAIR: Thank you. So in regards  5 to that first question to Qikiqtani Inuit  6 Association, maybe does QIA have an answer for  7 that question?  8 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  9 Jared Ottenhof of the Qikiqtani Inuit  10 Association, and thank you, Abraham, for your  11 question.  12 I would agree that we can engage more with  13 our communities on the project. We are trying  14 to put structures in place right now. Not to  15 harp on it too much, but the Inuit stewardship  16 program is intended to cover those avenues for  17 engagement with our impacted communities.  18 And I just want to address a question from  19 earlier, as well, on how Inuit knowledge can be  20 integrated into the project when it's provided  21 from a community or community member.  22 The intention of what QIA is trying to  23 accomplish with Baffinland through the Inuit  24 stewardship program is through arm's-length  25 community-led initiatives driven by the Inuit  26 committee for the IAKK, as it's now called, and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">147</p> <p>1 the intention there is to carry out community  2 priorities for research studies/monitoring  3 programs so that the outcomes can be integrated  4 into the project through changes to monitoring  5 programs or mitigation measures or to confirm  6 that what's in place is actually adequate; but  7 the other overall intent is to bring  8 communities closer to the project to better  9 understand the impacts of the project and how  10 they're being mitigated or monitored.  11 So I think that -- if the program is fully  12 launched, we will see greater engagement from  13 communities with QIA and with the project to  14 make sure that impacts are very well-known and  15 not just through regulatory proceedings such as  16 this.  17 Thank you.  18 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  19 And, Applicant, that was not necessarily a  20 question, but if you want to add supplementary  21 or respond, you may do so, Baffinland.  22 Okay. Thank you. If there are no more  23 questions.  24 Does someone want to ask a question? Yeah,  25 go ahead. Ask a question.  26 JONAH KOONARK: Hello. My question will</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">148</p> <p>1 be directed to QIA.  2 There is a -- near -- there are lots of  3 lakes at Steensby Inlet. Have you ensured that  4 you identified all of the lakes which have  5 char? In some of the lakes have landlocked  6 char, and when you make report to Mittimatalik  7 Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization -- like,  8 whenever Baffinland makes a report of these  9 findings, we are requesting that the Pond Inlet  10 Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization receives a  11 copy. My name's Jonah Koonark, and I'm a  12 member of the HTO, and I want to, like, see if  13 you can determine which lakes have char.  14 And also the water reservoir, like --  15 THE INTERPRETER: I think he's referring to  16 Mary River.  17 JONAH KOONARK: -- is there Arctic -- is  18 there char near there?  19 THE INTERPRETER: I think he's referring to  20 Mary River.  21 JONAH KOONARK: And to -- I make a  22 request to Baffinland. I want to hear a report  23 every ten years about the wildlife which are  24 located near the Foxe Basin and Steensby Inlet.  25 THE CHAIR: So the question directed  26 to QIA. Go ahead.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">149</p> <p>1 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  2 Assol Kubeisinoва, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.  3 So to answer your question, this is -- this  4 was the concern that led QIA to request that  5 Baffinland conduct additional baseline studies  6 at Steensby. So baseline studies would  7 determine what is the initial condition of the  8 environment there before any construction  9 starts.  10 We are also advocating for Inuit monitoring  11 for the Steensby component, including for  12 baseline determination.  13 As for the studies, we mentioned a few that  14 have been done just recently, and, for certain,  15 they will be published, available to the  16 public, and the Hunters &amp; Trappers  17 Organizations will receive them.  18 Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.  19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  20 His second question was directed to  21 Applicant. If you have a response, go ahead.  22 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,  23 Baffinland. Thank you, Chair.  24 So we've been studying the waters in the  25 Steensby project area, so along the rail  26 corridor and -- and at Steensby Port, for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">150</p> <p>1 almost 20 years now. We've been collecting  2 information more recently to supplement to  3 support the work we had done in the past and  4 mostly for the purpose of developing a  5 Fisheries Act authorization.  6 So these applications are necessary to --  7 to move into construction, and they are very  8 large documents, and they rely on a very  9 intensive understanding of -- of the waters in  10 the Steensby area, so we know all of the  11 streams and lakes that the project will  12 interact with that has fish; and DFO, the  13 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, a key part  14 of our application is an offsetting plan that  15 has us outline exactly how we plan to offset  16 for any fish habitat that may be affected by  17 our project infrastructure. So that could be  18 the culverts that may sit in the streams,  19 the -- the posts and pilings that the bridges  20 will sit on, or where we may have to in-fill  21 the side of -- of a lake where the railway runs  22 that close to it, and what we'll do is either  23 build and improve fish habitat in other areas  24 around the project, and we're going to work  25 directly with the community on priority  26 community initiatives that give some benefit to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">151</p> <p>1 the environment and where possible, you know,  2 specifically improve fish habitat, fish health,  3 and research.  4 This information was brought to the  5 communities of Sanirajak and Igloolik in  6 particular where we engaged in really detailed  7 conversations around this offsetting plan, and  8 the same was done for -- for Pond Inlet with  9 respect to the railway.  10 The federal government's been engaging in  11 those communities as well, and like I  12 mentioned, the final plan, should it be  13 approved, will include the communities.  14 Another important licence applicable to the  15 project that brings us all here today is the --  16 the Type A water licence, and as I mentioned,  17 there are strict requirements in that approval  18 for where we will set up water withdrawal  19 points, monitoring stations, and discharge  20 locations, and those were all influenced by the  21 baseline information we collected prior to and  22 during our first approval, and they'll be  23 verified through the work we're doing now in  24 advance of construction.  25 And on the last point you mentioned, you  26 know, wanting to ensure that the Mittimatalik</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">152</p> <p>1 Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization or -- and other  2 Hunters &amp; Trappers Organizations have access to  3 our monitoring reports. So those are generated  4 every year, and we provide them in print to the  5 HTOs through our community liaison officers.  6 We also support and fund the participation of  7 Hunter &amp; Trapper Organization representatives  8 from all five North Baffin communities to  9 participate in both our marine and terrestrial  10 environment working groups.  11 So I just want to, you know, provide that  12 certainty that the communities are engaged in  13 our project, in our monitoring programs, and we  14 report back, you know, as much as we can,  15 whether it's through direct engagement or  16 through the sharing of -- of written materials.  17 That being said, we're always open to -- to  18 feedback and suggestions, and we're happy to  19 take those in and see if we can make further  20 improvements in, you know, how we approach this  21 stuff, so thank you for letting me provide that  22 response there.  23 THE CHAIR: Thank you for your  24 response. If there's no more questions or  25 comments from the public, I'd like to ask NWB  26 staff.</p>


<p style="text-align: right;">153</p> <p>1 Go ahead.</p> <p>2 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by</p> <p>3 Nunavut Water Board Staff</p> <p>4 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>5 Yes, I'd like to ask Karén to take the mic.</p> <p>6 He's got a couple questions for QIA.</p> <p>7 Thank you.</p> <p>8 K. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>9 Thank you, Stephanie. Karén Kharatyan, Water</p> <p>10 Board. Yes, just a very quick question to QIA</p> <p>11 and maybe follow-up clarification to</p> <p>12 Baffinland.</p> <p>13 Can QIA confirm that you have a water</p> <p>14 compensation agreement -- valid water</p> <p>15 compensation agreement with Baffinland, please?</p> <p>16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>17 Applicant -- sorry -- QIA, go ahead.</p> <p>18 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>19 Assol Kubeisinovala, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.</p> <p>20 Yes, we can confirm that.</p> <p>21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>22 K. KHARATYAN: Thank you. And one quick</p> <p>23 follow-up question or clarification for</p> <p>24 Baffinland.</p> <p>25 When you did speak about potential</p> <p>26 regulated monitoring at final discharge point</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">154</p> <p>1 at KM 105, did you mean the Station ST-11</p> <p>2 included within draft licence framework and</p> <p>3 Criteria Table Number 10?</p> <p>4 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,</p> <p>5 Baffinland.</p> <p>6 Yeah, I can confirm the discharge point is</p> <p>7 MS-11, and it's Table 10 in the revised</p> <p>8 framework we provided.</p> <p>9 K. KHARATYAN: Thank you. Karén</p> <p>10 Kharatyan, Water Board.</p> <p>11 We are good. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>12 THE CHAIR: Do you have any more --</p> <p>13 is there -- Water Board staff, you are done</p> <p>14 your questions? Okay.</p> <p>15 Okay. Panel members, do you have</p> <p>16 questions?</p> <p>17 Okay. Thank you, QIA, for your</p> <p>18 presentation.</p> <p>19 He had questions, Panel Member Uriash.</p> <p>20 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by</p> <p>21 the Nunavut Water Board Panel</p> <p>22 U. PUKIQNAK: Thank you. Thank you,</p> <p>23 Chairperson.</p> <p>24 I just have a quick question regarding to</p> <p>25 Qikiqtani Inuit Association. They are here. I</p> <p>26 think they have stated regarding the dust.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">155</p> <p>1 When you're making the roads and making dust on</p> <p>2 the roads, and they wanted to try and find out</p> <p>3 from Gjoa Haven, they had smaller trucks.</p> <p>4 They're called heavy equipment trucks, but</p> <p>5 they're smaller trucks. I know, and I can</p> <p>6 visualize those reports.</p> <p>7 When you talk about the railroad, those ore</p> <p>8 carriers carrying ore or possibly gravel, they</p> <p>9 are bigger -- they're not even compared to the</p> <p>10 kind of trucks used at Gjoa Haven.</p> <p>11 So I think you talked about today regarding</p> <p>12 the long trail of dust that would come, so for</p> <p>13 Baffinland, perhaps it's a question that</p> <p>14 Baffinland should answer. How do you -- how do</p> <p>15 you suppress dust in -- for that situation when</p> <p>16 the -- when the train is travelling, and you</p> <p>17 have these long carriers along the train,</p> <p>18 behind the train? And along the road of the</p> <p>19 train road, how do you reduce the dust on that?</p> <p>20 How?</p> <p>21 And also with our community, the</p> <p>22 environment is -- has not changed. I was born</p> <p>23 out on the land, and I ate meat out on the</p> <p>24 land. There was no additional food. And in</p> <p>25 the wintertime, I was born in the wintertime in</p> <p>26 that situation, so I remember how -- how it was</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">156</p> <p>1 then and how it is today. 70 years ago,</p> <p>2 there's been quite a change in the environment.</p> <p>3 It seems that these days, there's not</p> <p>4 enough moisture in the air and in the ground,</p> <p>5 and there's a lot of dust flying around</p> <p>6 everywhere in our communities, and people</p> <p>7 are -- because they -- I see people putting a</p> <p>8 mask on their nose and on their face because</p> <p>9 that water truck is passing by, and, you know,</p> <p>10 they're trying to suppress the dust going into</p> <p>11 the baby when they're driving on the road</p> <p>12 because of these trucks coming by. It's so dry</p> <p>13 on the communities now, so this environment is</p> <p>14 different nowadays.</p> <p>15 Perhaps Baffinland has made some plans how</p> <p>16 to mitigate all this dust and how to suppress</p> <p>17 the dust if it's so much in -- around a dry</p> <p>18 environment these days.</p> <p>19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>20 QIA, do you have a response to that?</p> <p>21 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>22 Assol Kubeisinovala, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.</p> <p>23 I understand that the Applicant would be in</p> <p>24 a better position to answer this question.</p> <p>25 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>26 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">157</p> <p>1 Applicant, do you have a response for that?</p> <p>2 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle,</p> <p>3 Baffinland.</p> <p>4 Thank you for the question. I'll talk</p> <p>5 maybe about a couple of different components of</p> <p>6 the project in relation to dust.</p> <p>7 So you are correct. We do produce dust off</p> <p>8 the road itself from the existing trucking</p> <p>9 operation, and the dust that's created is from</p> <p>10 the wheels of the trucks on the road itself,</p> <p>11 rather than from the truck bed where the iron</p> <p>12 ore is -- is moving.</p> <p>13 So along the Tote Road, we have used a</p> <p>14 number of different types of dust suppressants,</p> <p>15 but we found that the use of water is our -- is</p> <p>16 our main form of dust suppressant that we apply</p> <p>17 along the Tote Road, and that is one of the</p> <p>18 reasons why we would like to keep the existing</p> <p>19 sources of our water -- water takes in the</p> <p>20 existing water licence the way that they are as</p> <p>21 of now. We need that water in order to</p> <p>22 suppress dust along the Tote Road.</p> <p>23 It's also one of the benefits that we see</p> <p>24 moving from a trucking operation to a rail</p> <p>25 operation. The embankment of the rail is going</p> <p>26 to be made of large gravel, rocks, as well, the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">158</p> <p>1 rail bed is going to be steel, so we're --</p> <p>2 we're going to see a reduction along our</p> <p>3 transportation corridor, despite the increased</p> <p>4 production and dust produced from those two</p> <p>5 different types of transportation.</p> <p>6 Okay. Qujannamiik.</p> <p>7 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>8 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by</p> <p>9 Community Representatives</p> <p>10 SAKIASIE QAUNAQ: Can you hear me?</p> <p>11 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, we can hear you.</p> <p>12 SAKIASIE QAUNAQ: Sakiasie Qaunaq from</p> <p>13 Arctic Bay.</p> <p>14 I have thought about this for quite some</p> <p>15 time. The iron ore -- any kind of metal</p> <p>16 minerals are different. In Nanasivik, there</p> <p>17 was various minerals. Some of them were</p> <p>18 contaminants. And the lead, it has some sort</p> <p>19 of a chemical attached to it that is white, and</p> <p>20 for copper, there's also a contaminant that is</p> <p>21 reddish. It's kind of green -- green, and</p> <p>22 the -- the iron ore that is being done is rust</p> <p>23 and the rock rust; but in Mary River, I don't</p> <p>24 think I've ever noticed whether the -- the</p> <p>25 rock's rusted or not. I've never seen rusted</p> <p>26 rocks.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">159</p> <p>1 I'm not sure if, you know, there's no</p> <p>2 additives to it, and people are concerned, and</p> <p>3 if there's red, I -- I think it's pure, as far</p> <p>4 as I know. So this is what I know.</p> <p>5 I don't know if there's -- you know, with</p> <p>6 the various minerals whether there's a</p> <p>7 contaminant associated with the iron ore at</p> <p>8 Mary River. That's what I think about. Maybe</p> <p>9 it's not something of a concern. I really</p> <p>10 would like to understand if there's a</p> <p>11 contaminant associated with that particular</p> <p>12 mineral because you're talking about dust and</p> <p>13 dust out from the rocks and from the trucks.</p> <p>14 So I -- I don't think there's -- you know,</p> <p>15 if -- if there's a train, it may not be a dust</p> <p>16 involved in that train. Perhaps Qikiqtani</p> <p>17 could answer whether there's a contaminant in</p> <p>18 the mineral.</p> <p>19 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair,</p> <p>20 Assol Kubeisinoва, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.</p> <p>21 This was the -- the concern that was just</p> <p>22 expressed served as a basis for a couple of</p> <p>23 technical comments that QIA provided, and that</p> <p>24 is to make sure that lake sediment is properly</p> <p>25 tested and analyzed and that the results are</p> <p>26 interpreted; and those results, when they are</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">160</p> <p>1 interpreted, will tell us what -- what the</p> <p>2 effects of the -- the ore and any waste rock</p> <p>3 have -- have on -- on the environment.</p> <p>4 I would also like to point out the dust and</p> <p>5 wildlife study that the Inuit stewardship</p> <p>6 program managed. It was -- it has been</p> <p>7 completed. We have not -- QIA has not yet</p> <p>8 released the results, but they will -- or they</p> <p>9 will be available to the public on March 31st,</p> <p>10 and that study examined the impacts of dust on</p> <p>11 water resources in the area.</p> <p>12 Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>13 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>14 Applicant, do you have a response for that?</p> <p>15 Thank you. Go ahead.</p> <p>16 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle. Thank</p> <p>17 you.</p> <p>18 I'd -- I would like to say that -- that</p> <p>19 these studies have been done already. We have</p> <p>20 a full geochemical characterization of the ore,</p> <p>21 and we monitor the environment very</p> <p>22 specifically for certain substances to ensure</p> <p>23 that any of the dust that is falling on the</p> <p>24 land, we can understand if there are substances</p> <p>25 that are accumulating or building up in</p> <p>26 vegetation, soil, sediment, freshwater, marine</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">161</p> <p>1 water, to ensure that that -- those areas are  2 remaining at what we call the baseline  3 conditions.  4 Within the ore itself, we see trace  5 elements like silica, sulphur, and we monitor  6 the environment for set parameters depending on  7 what we're looking at, if it's terrestrial  8 environment or freshwater or marine  9 environment, and some of those parameters are  10 set out in our permits and our authorizations.  11 In the terrestrial environment, we're  12 monitoring for arsenic, lead, zinc, selenium,  13 and I'm missing two -- team, if you can help  14 me -- yeah, cadmium, and, sorry, two other  15 parameters that have now escaped me in the soil  16 and vegetation to see if it's building up. In  17 the marine environment, we also monitor for  18 mercury, cadmium, and other substances as well.  19 So we are doing these studies already. We  20 have that full geochemical characterization of  21 the ore, and we are monitoring the correct  22 parameters within the environment.  23 Qujannamiik.  24 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Joshua  25 Katsak.  26 JOSHUA KATSAK: My name is Joshua Katsak,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">162</p> <p>1 and I'm a QIA representative.  2 I want to ask the question in regards to  3 dust. Near -- basically near all of the roads,  4 there are some dust. Also, we have the same  5 issue here in Pond Inlet. Like, the dust is  6 being dispersed, and apparently the dust near  7 the road doesn't seem to really -- like,  8 blueberries, blackberries, and those things,  9 they don't seem to be too impacted, even though  10 they're really close to the road where there is  11 lots of sand and dust.  12 What about the dust from the iron ore. Is  13 it -- is being dispersed on the ground. How  14 much impact does it have on blueberries,  15 blackberries, and any lichen or any food that  16 is foraged by either caribou or ptarmigan? How  17 much in -- does -- has any monitoring been done  18 to determine how much impact it has?  19 Thank you.  20 THE CHAIR: QIA, do you have a  21 response to that?  22 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  23 Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association.  24 So to that, I would like to direct your  25 attention to, again, the dust and wildlife  26 study that has been recently completed. I</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">163</p> <p>1 cannot yet speak to the results of that study  2 because it's not published yet. It's still  3 being finalized, but it will be available very  4 soon, at the end of March.  5 THE CHAIR: Okay. (OTHER LANGUAGE  6 SPOKEN)  7 Okay. Go ahead.  8 A. KUBEISINOVA: That is all from my side.  9 Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.  10 THE CHAIR: Applicant? Does  11 Baffinland have a response to Joshua's question  12 regarding dust -- how much impact does the iron  13 ore dust have on the environment and wildlife?  14 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle. I will  15 start, and then I'm going to ask Morgan to  16 follow up.  17 I believe the question was around berries  18 in the environment and vegetation specifically.  19 So we are monitoring the health of the soil  20 as well as vegetation. We do vegetation survey  21 plots. We do a combination of matched soil and  22 lichen sampling so that we can understand the  23 concentrations or the amount of a substance in  24 the soil as well as what is going into the  25 vegetation.  26 One of the constituents that we monitor for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">164</p> <p>1 is also, of course, iron. I can't believe that  2 I missed that in my last listing. But the --  3 the quality of the -- the ore itself, iron,  4 we're looking at 65, 68 percent of -- of what's  5 in the -- the ore itself is -- is iron, and  6 then there's other minor constituents of -- of  7 some of those elements that I spoke to as well.  8 So we are monitoring for those things, and  9 we have, from time to time, seen exceedances of  10 what we call guidelines or sort of this base  11 level that we compare to, but they've been very  12 sporadic or -- or just occasional in nature,  13 and we don't see -- which you can typically get  14 in environmental sampling, and we're not seeing  15 a real trend of anything accumulating in the  16 environment.  17 So speaking kind of specifically to what  18 Lou was mentioning earlier, from our  19 perspective, the risks to water or country  20 foods in the area are no different than what  21 they were from before the mine was operating.  22 We haven't seen anything in the environment to  23 indicate that country foods, fish, vegetation  24 has been impacted by the dust that would change  25 the quality of that food as a result of -- of  26 mining activities to date.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">165</p> <p>1 So I think Morgan was going to add more 2 from a water perspective. Thank you. 3 M. SCHAUERTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 4 A few important points to note: That the 5 dust along the Tote Road, similar to the 6 gentleman's observation, is primarily road dust 7 exactly like it would be in Pond Inlet, and 8 that's being monitored through the air quality 9 management plan. This issue was assessed 10 through the FEIS process and is also assessed 11 in an ongoing manner with NIRB. 12 And it's important to note that the Mary 13 River Mine is special in the fact that the ore 14 doesn't require any processing or additives, 15 unlike a lot of other mines, and the areas on 16 site where ore dust is generated are located 17 within managed and monitored areas of the mine 18 site where water quality and other impacts to 19 the environment are monitored, as Megan has 20 pointed out. 21 Another method for assessing potential dust 22 impacts are the aquatic effects management 23 monitoring plan and the CREMP, and these plans 24 are specifically developed to tease out 25 potential impacts from mine effects such as 26 dust.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">166</p> <p>1 Thank you. 2 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. 3 Okay. Looking at the agenda, and we have a 4 night session tonight, and it's now quarter -- 5 20 to 5. 6 Teresa, you want to give us an update on 7 the agenda? 8 Oh, we have somebody. Oh, okay. 9 Okay. Go ahead. 10 LLOYD IDLOUT: Lloyd Idlout, Igloodik 11 HTA. 12 So people that are commenting here are the 13 people that have lived here for quite some 14 time, and the environment that they live in and 15 the lifestyle that they have will be impacted, 16 and it's the Indigenous community. We -- we 17 are the biologists. We're the ones who know. 18 As an Indigenous community, we live off the 19 land. We're the ones that should be clearly 20 listened to, and I'm thinking that people are 21 not listening, are not hearing what we are 22 saying, and I'm getting a very more 23 uncomfortable with the process. 24 So there was a question, and there must be 25 a very important question. What about the 26 birds, what the birds are eating?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">167</p> <p>1 So the Applicant has been asking. So my 2 question is would QIA -- maybe I could say it 3 in English instead? 4 Have QIA ever thought about having a third 5 party -- or while they have a third party 6 monitoring our environment collecting or 7 collect -- to collect baseline information near 8 where the Applicant is wanting to -- wanting to 9 do some work? I feel that we need -- we need a 10 third party other than the Applicant doing some 11 monitoring, collecting baseline information. 12 We're the ones, as Inuit, that are 13 affected, and the impact is on us, and it's not 14 working that -- you know, with the Baffinland 15 project. They -- they stated at the beginning 16 that they would have good jobs, and there would 17 be very little impact. It was their opening 18 statement, and as people -- Indigenous 19 community that live on this land first, we 20 would like to say that we would be engaged and 21 be part of this process and to be monitors to 22 the studies that are being done, any kind of 23 impact they might have, water, land, fish, 24 caribou. 25 Like, they said they do visit communities. 26 We do have engagement. I tried suggesting them</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">168</p> <p>1 as we -- if you already know -- don't know, we 2 have a quota system for caribou and other 3 animals. For the caribou, caribou is important 4 to all people of the north, and I tried 5 suggesting, which I guess it never had been 6 brought up, Can you guys at least wait to 7 construct your railroad until the quota -- 8 caribou quota system is not being used anymore 9 to try and reduce the impacts that they have 10 promised us. 11 The QIA (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), 12 Qujannamiik. 13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Qujannamiik. 14 QIA, do you have a response for that 15 question? 16 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 17 Jared Ottenhof for the Qikiqtani Inuit 18 Association, and thank you for that great 19 question. 20 So again referring back to the initiative 21 that QIA is starting, I think we're about a 22 year and a half, almost two years into the 23 program, the Inuit stewardship program, and 24 this is the QIA administered program. I'll say 25 it's arm's length because it is driven by a 26 community committee to be responsive to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">169</p> <p>1 requests like we just heard.</p> <p>2 Our idea is to be able to be more</p> <p>3 responsive to what we hear from communities and</p> <p>4 put these initiatives into actual action so</p> <p>5 that we have this body of information to bring</p> <p>6 to regulatory proceedings, to share with</p> <p>7 communities, or to share with the QWB or NWMB</p> <p>8 when dealing with quotas as well.</p> <p>9 So it's a program that's just starting out.</p> <p>10 It's not fully funded; however, this is the</p> <p>11 vision for the ISP that we've been trying to</p> <p>12 illustrate at these proceedings, in front of</p> <p>13 the Nunavut Impact Review Board as well, and at</p> <p>14 our board meetings. So we're trying to lay the</p> <p>15 foundation and create the structure now that is</p> <p>16 very responsive to community concerns and to</p> <p>17 make sure that there are monitoring programs,</p> <p>18 studies, research programs that are responding</p> <p>19 to the concerns and priorities of the</p> <p>20 communities.</p> <p>21 Thank you.</p> <p>22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>23 Is there any more questions? Comments?</p> <p>24 We'll have to come back here at 7:00</p> <p>25 tonight for a community session, so we should</p> <p>26 take a break for now. We have to come back</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">170</p> <p>1 here at 7:00.</p> <p>2 Thank you, QIA, for your presentation and</p> <p>3 question -- answering to questions.</p> <p>4 So we'll be back here at 7, so people try</p> <p>5 to be here before 7.</p> <hr/> <p>7 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 7:00 PM EDT</p> <hr/>
<p style="text-align: right;">171</p> <p>1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT:</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 I, J. King, certify that the foregoing</p> <p>4 pages are a complete and accurate transcript of</p> <p>5 the proceedings taken down by me in shorthand</p> <p>6 and transcribed from my shorthand notes to the</p> <p>7 best of my skill and ability.</p> <p>8 Dated at the City of Airdrie, Province of</p> <p>9 Alberta, this 22nd day of March 2025.</p> <p>10</p> <p>11 </p> <p>12 _____</p> <p>13 J. King, CSR(A)</p> <p>14 Official Court Reporter</p> <p>15 Commissioner for Oaths Appointee No. 0733800</p> <p>16 ASRA Membership No. 146</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p>	