

<p style="text-align: right;">172</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NUNAVUT WATER BOARD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR TYPE A WATER LICENCE NO: 2AM-MRY1325 BY BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">PUBLIC HEARING VOLUME 2 COMMUNITY SESSION</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Pond Inlet, Nunavut March 11, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">173</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TABLE OF CONTENTS</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Description Page</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 March 11, 2025 Community Session 178</p> <p>6 Opening Remarks by The Chair 183</p> <p>7 Presentation by Nunavut Water Board 189</p> <p>8 MEGAN LORD-HOYLE, PAUL QUASSA, JOE 201</p> <p>9 TIGULLARAQ, MORGAN SCHAUERTE, Previously</p> <p>10 Sworn</p> <p>11 LOU KAMERMANS, ELISABETH LUTHER, Previously 201</p> <p>12 Affirmed</p> <p>13 Presentation by Baffinland Iron Mines 201</p> <p>14 Corporation</p> <p>15 Questions for Baffinland Iron Mines 216</p> <p>16 Corporation by Community Representatives</p> <p>17 Presentation by Qikiqtani Inuit Association 246</p> <p>18 ASSOL KUBEISINOVA, JARED OTTENHOF, ALISTAIR 252</p> <p>19 MACDONALD, JOSEPH CAVALLO, RICHARD NESBITT,</p> <p>20 JAKE CARMAN, MITCHELL KAY, Previously</p> <p>21 Affirmed</p> <p>22 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by 252</p> <p>23 Community Representatives</p> <p>24 ANDREW KEIM, LAUREN PERRIN, Sworn 256</p> <p>25 Presentation by Crown-Indigenous Relations 258</p> <p>26 and Northern Affairs</p>
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<p style="text-align: right;">180</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 Nunaliirijikkut</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;">181</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. Kassar 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;">182</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. Kaernerik 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. Amakallak 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;">183</p> <p>1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 7:15 PM EDT)</p> <p>2 Opening Remarks by The Chair</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Good evening. Welcome</p> <p>4 everyone to the community session for the</p> <p>5 Nunavut Water Board's public hearing in</p> <p>6 relation to the renewal application submitted</p> <p>7 by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation, that I</p> <p>8 will refer to as "Baffinland" or "Applicant",</p> <p>9 with the Nunavut Water Board for Water Licence</p> <p>10 2AM-MRY1325. My name is Lootie Toomasie, and</p> <p>11 I'm the Chair of Nunavut Water Board.</p> <p>12 While I chaired this morning's session, I'm</p> <p>13 going to ask Stephanie Autut, the NWB Executive</p> <p>14 Director, to chair tonight's session.</p> <p>15 Stephanie.</p> <p>16 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>17 Tonight's session is part of the Nunavut</p> <p>18 Water Board's public hearing to consider the</p> <p>19 renewal of Baffinland's existing water licence</p> <p>20 for a term of 15 years. In the renewal</p> <p>21 application, Baffinland has requested the</p> <p>22 renewal of the existing licence to authorize</p> <p>23 the continued use of water and deposit of</p> <p>24 wastes associated with the Mary River Project</p> <p>25 located on Baffin Island in the Qikiqtani</p> <p>26 region.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">184</p> <p>1 This public hearing marks the final 2 opportunity for the Applicant, the Intervenor, 3 and members of the community to present their 4 comments, concerns, and questions about the 5 application to the Nunavut Water Board before 6 the Board makes its decision about the renewal 7 application. The Nunavut Water Board 8 appreciates you all for turning out to 9 participate in this important meeting.</p> <p>10 Before we proceed with tonight's session, I 11 would like to ask Sakiasie Qaunaq to open the 12 meeting with a prayer. 13 (OPENING PRAYER) 14 S. AUTUT: Qujannamiik, Sakiasie 15 Qaunaq.</p> <p>16 For those of you who were not here this 17 morning when we started the public hearing, I 18 have a few brief housekeeping and introductory 19 remarks, and then as outlined in the agenda, I 20 will turn the microphone over to the following 21 parties: Firstly, as outlined in Item 3 of 22 tonight's agenda, the staff of the Nunavut 23 Water Board will provide a summary of the Water 24 Board's process in general and in relation to 25 this renewal application specifically. After 26 the presentation by the Board staff, community</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">185</p> <p>1 members will have an opportunity to ask 2 questions from the Board staff about our 3 process.</p> <p>4 Then as set out under Item 5 of the agenda, 5 the Applicant, Baffinland, will provide a 6 presentation explaining their renewal 7 application, and you will have an opportunity 8 to ask them questions and provide your 9 comments.</p> <p>10 We will then move to Items 7 and 8 on the 11 agenda when the Intervenor for this 12 application, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association 13 ("QIA"), Crown-Indigenous Relations and 14 Northern Affairs ("CIRNA"), Environment and 15 Climate Change Canada ("ECCC"), and Fisheries 16 and Oceans Canada ("DFO"), will outline their 17 mandates and roles in respect of this water 18 licence and will present summaries about their 19 comment submissions provided to the Board to 20 date. Their presentations will be followed by 21 an opportunity for you to ask them questions 22 and provide the Board with your comments.</p> <p>23 Now onto a few housekeeping items. 24 Firstly, there will be interpretation available 25 throughout the hearing, and earpieces are 26 available from the table located at the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">186</p> <p>1 entrance. Channel 1 is Inuktitut. Channel 2 2 is English. I'm mistaken and corrected. 3 Channel 1 is English. Channel 2 is Inuktitut. 4 My apologies.</p> <p>5 Secondly, the Board asks everyone, 6 including the Applicant, Intervenor, and 7 members of the public to sign in on the sheets 8 provided at the table as you entered the 9 building. This is an important record of the 10 hearing, and we appreciate your help in making 11 sure it is complete.</p> <p>12 Washrooms are located out the back door. 13 There will be coffee, tea, and snacks located 14 at the tables along the back wall. During 15 breaks, please help yourself to the food and 16 refreshments provided.</p> <p>17 There are agendas for the community session 18 and the public hearing available at the table 19 as you came in. Please pick one up and follow 20 along.</p> <p>21 As the Chairman stated in his opening 22 remarks this morning, the Board directed that 23 this public hearing be held in person, but due 24 to limitations with the accommodations 25 available in Pond Inlet, the Board has provided 26 remote access for those who were unable to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">187</p> <p>1 travel to Pond Inlet today. While the Board 2 will do everything we can to maintain a stable 3 link to remote parties, as our priority is 4 ensuring that we complete our agenda during the 5 in-person proceedings, if the remote access 6 links fail, the Board may proceed with the 7 in-person proceedings while we troubleshoot to 8 restore access for remote participants.</p> <p>9 I would now like to introduce all of the 10 Board and staff before we proceed to the 11 presentations. The Board panel appointed by 12 the Board as the decision-makers for this file 13 are present at the public hearing with the 14 Board Chair, Lootie Toomasie, and Board 15 members, Uriash Pukignak and Earle Baddaloo.</p> <p>16 I would also like to introduce several 17 staff members and our legal counsel, who have 18 contributed to the NWB's administration and the 19 technical review of the application. When I 20 say your name, please wave so that everyone 21 knows who you are.</p> <p>22 Karén Kharatyan, Director of Technical 23 Services; Ben Kogvik, Director of Board 24 Administration and Communications; Abid Jan, 25 Technical Advisor; Robert Hunter, Licencing 26 Administrator; Teresa Meadows from Meadows Law,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">188</p> <p>1 the Board's legal counsel; and joining us 2 remotely as an observer is Teresa's associate 3 Zachary Bliss from Meadows Law; and myself, 4 Stephanie Autut, the Executive Director. 5 We have two interpreters helping us this 6 evening. In addition to Ben Kogvik, Director 7 of Board Administration and Communications, we 8 also have Rhoda Katsak and Titus Arnakallak. 9 For audio support, we have Chris Coomber 10 from PIDO with us. If you experience any 11 difficulties with your headsets, he will be 12 able to provide assistance. 13 And to ensure an accurate record of these 14 proceedings is kept, we have with us a court 15 reporter, Julie Deanne King, from Dicta Court 16 Reporting Inc., and to assist Julie, I ask that 17 all parties please state your name prior to 18 speaking. 19 As we said earlier, tonight's session will 20 involve a presentation by the Nunavut Water 21 Board's technical staff, a presentation by the 22 Applicant, Baffinland, and presentations by the 23 Intervenors. Following each presentation, I 24 will invite anyone who wishes to ask questions 25 or provide the panel with their comments to 26 step up to the microphone and speak on the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">189</p> <p>1 record. I encourage everyone with questions to 2 please step up and ask, but to make sure our 3 public hearing record is accurate and to assist 4 our court reporter and interpreters, before 5 speaking, please wait until you have a 6 microphone to speak, then state your name and 7 speak directly, clearly, and slowly into the 8 microphone. Please be mindful of the 9 interpreters as you go and avoid the use of 10 abbreviations if you can. Please don't speak 11 over any other participants and be respectful 12 of the Board, our processes, and other 13 participants. 14 We appreciate your participation and 15 assistance in making sure we are all heard and 16 understood in this hearing. 17 I will now turn the microphone the Board's 18 technical staff to walk you through how this 19 application has progressed to this point, Karén 20 and Abid. 21 Presentation by Nunavut Water Board 22 K. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Stephanie. 23 As Stephanie mentioned, the Board will 24 start tonight's session with a presentation by 25 the Nunavut Water Board, which will be followed 26 by a presentation by the Applicant, Baffinland</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">190</p> <p>1 Iron Mines Corporation or "Baffinland". 2 Following that, we will have a presentation by 3 the following Intervenors in the following 4 order: Qikiqtani Inuit Association or "QIA", 5 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 6 or "CIRNA", Environment -- Environment and 7 Climate Change Canada or "ECCC", and Fisheries 8 and Oceans Canada or "DFO". 9 Like Stephanie mentioned, after each 10 presentation, we invite anyone who wishes to 11 ask questions or provide the panel with their 12 comments or questions to step up to the 13 microphone and speak on the -- on the record. 14 If you are an Elder, you can speak at any 15 time throughout these proceeding. We just ask 16 that you raise your hand to be recognized by 17 the Chairperson and wait to speak until one of 18 our staff members can get the microphone for 19 you so that we can ensure your comments are 20 included on the record. 21 For everyone here tonight, I encourage you 22 all to ask questions or share your thoughts and 23 comments with the Board. You can direct your 24 questions to the staff of the Nunavut Water 25 Board, the Applicant, or the Intervenors. 26 So I will now turn the microphone over to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">191</p> <p>1 the Board's Technical Advisor in charge of the 2 file, Abid Jan, to walk you through the 3 application and to explain how this progressed 4 to this point. 5 Abid, please start with the presentation. 6 A. JAN: Thank you, Karén. 7 Good evening, everyone. My name is Abid 8 Jan. I'm one of the technical advisors with 9 the Nunavut Water Board. I'll be providing a 10 brief overview of our licencing process 11 particularly in the context of the application 12 that we are here for, the renewal application 13 for Type A Water Licence 2AM-MRY1325 by 14 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation. 15 K. KHARATYAN: Mr. Chair, we will take 16 maybe a couple minutes, yes, to -- to fix 17 the -- the right file with the crease because 18 it seem -- it seems he has an old version of 19 file with the Inuktitut translation a little 20 bit messed up. 21 (ADJOURNMENT) 22 A. JAN: Okay. Sorry for the 23 delay. So the version was correct, but when 24 we -- when we use it from the PowerPoint, 25 sometimes it doesn't support the Inuktitut 26 language, so it kind of messed it up. Now</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">192</p> <p>1 we're using the PDF, so it should be good.</p> <p>2 Okay. So the topics I'm going to cover: A</p> <p>3 little bit of background, then different types</p> <p>4 of authorizations, the NWB's licencing process,</p> <p>5 scope of the application, application</p> <p>6 procedural history, next steps in the</p> <p>7 application, and then we'll have questions --</p> <p>8 time for questions and comments.</p> <p>9 So a little bit of -- a little bit of</p> <p>10 background. The Nunavut Water Board is an</p> <p>11 institution of public government established</p> <p>12 under Article 13 of the Nunavut Agreement. The</p> <p>13 Nunavut Water Board has responsibilities and</p> <p>14 powers of regulation, use, and management of</p> <p>15 freshwater in the Nunavut Settlement Area.</p> <p>16 The objective of the Nunavut Water Board is</p> <p>17 to provide for the conservation and utilization</p> <p>18 of waters in Nunavut, except in national park,</p> <p>19 in a manner that will provide the optimum</p> <p>20 benefit for those waters for Nunavut's</p> <p>21 residents in particular and Canadians in</p> <p>22 general.</p> <p>23 So there are different types of</p> <p>24 authorizations that the Nunavut Water Board</p> <p>25 issued based on its mandate and the Nunavut</p> <p>26 Waters Regulations. The Nunavut Water Board or</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">193</p> <p>1 Nunavut Water Board or "NWB" may issue one of</p> <p>2 the following authorizations for the use of</p> <p>3 water and deposit of waste for undertakings in</p> <p>4 Nunavut.</p> <p>5 So any project requiring water use less</p> <p>6 than 50 metre cube per day will be issued an</p> <p>7 authorization without a licence. And then</p> <p>8 there is a Type B water licence for</p> <p>9 undertakings that proposes a use of water</p> <p>10 between 50 metre cube and 299 metre cube per</p> <p>11 day. And then Type A water licence, this</p> <p>12 licence is issued for authorizations requiring</p> <p>13 water use of more than 300 metre cube per day.</p> <p>14 So here's a flow of different steps for the</p> <p>15 Type A licencing process and specifically for</p> <p>16 this application.</p> <p>17 So NWB receives application and confirms</p> <p>18 classification of undertaking and type of</p> <p>19 licence as Type A licence. NWB conducts</p> <p>20 concordance review. Applicant provides</p> <p>21 additional information, if required. NWB then</p> <p>22 issues notice of application and requests</p> <p>23 technical review and submission of comments for</p> <p>24 a minimum of 30 days.</p> <p>25 During that period, parties submit written</p> <p>26 representations. If required, Applicant</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">194</p> <p>1 provides additional information or</p> <p>2 clarification. The Nunavut Water Board holds</p> <p>3 technical meeting and pre-hearing conference</p> <p>4 and then issues the pre-hearing conference</p> <p>5 decision report. If directed in the</p> <p>6 pre-hearing conference decision, Applicant</p> <p>7 provides additional information.</p> <p>8 NWB issues notice of public hearing. A</p> <p>9 minimum of 60 days' notice is provided for</p> <p>10 that. During that time, parties can exchange</p> <p>11 written interventions and also parties prepare</p> <p>12 for the public hearing. And then the Nunavut</p> <p>13 Water Board holds the public hearing, and</p> <p>14 that's where we are at for this project.</p> <p>15 After the public hearing, there are two</p> <p>16 possible outcomes: The Nunavut Water Board</p> <p>17 issues decision to approve of application and</p> <p>18 provides a draft licence to the Minister of</p> <p>19 Northern Affairs. The Minister either approves</p> <p>20 the issuance of the licence, or the Minister</p> <p>21 does not approve the issuance of the licence.</p> <p>22 In the second case, the Nunavut Water Board</p> <p>23 issues decision to not approve the application</p> <p>24 with reasons to the Minister of Northern</p> <p>25 Affairs. The Minister either approves the NWB</p> <p>26 decision, or the Minister does not approve the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">195</p> <p>1 NWB decision.</p> <p>2 Here's a brief scope of the renewal</p> <p>3 application. The proposed term of licence for</p> <p>4 renewal application is 15 years. The scope of</p> <p>5 renewal application remains the same as that of</p> <p>6 the current water licence. No changes are</p> <p>7 being proposed in terms of scope, location,</p> <p>8 water-use volumes, or deposit of waste. The</p> <p>9 existing licence allows for the use of water</p> <p>10 for domestic and industrial purposes at the</p> <p>11 Milne Port site, mine site, Steensby Port site,</p> <p>12 and the railway camps.</p> <p>13 There are different phases to the project,</p> <p>14 and water use during construction phase is</p> <p>15 about 689,000 metre cube per year. Water use</p> <p>16 during operations phase, 353,000 metre cube per</p> <p>17 year. And water use authorized separately for</p> <p>18 dust suppression, up to 1,500 metre cube per</p> <p>19 day to a maximum of about 547,000 metre cube</p> <p>20 per year.</p> <p>21 The scope also includes Tote Road, which is</p> <p>22 an all-weather road, to connect mine site to</p> <p>23 the Milne Port site. Water management</p> <p>24 infrastructure, including watercourse</p> <p>25 crossings, flood-control infrastructure, and</p> <p>26 other measures, including diversions,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">196</p> <p>1 alteration of flow or storage of -- storage by 2 means of dikes or dams, and related maintenance 3 activities are also covered under the scope. 4 Treatment facilities for sewage, wastewater and 5 oily stormwater, contaminated soil -- snow and 6 soil. Waste sorting, management, and disposal 7 facilities, including landfills and incinerator 8 systems. Management of waste rock stockpile, 9 ore stockpile, and related runoff management. 10 Storage and management of fuel and other 11 hazardous material. Ongoing decommissioning of 12 existing and historic camp infrastructure. And 13 other activities in support of engineering and 14 scientific studies for the Project and ongoing 15 maintenance to existing project infrastructure. 16 Speaking to the application procedural 17 history, on June 26, 2024, the NWB received the 18 renewal application and supporting 19 documentation from Baffinland. 20 On June 27, 2024, after initial review, the 21 NWB commenced the completeness check where 22 parties were invited to review the application 23 for completeness and to provide information 24 requests. 25 On July 26, 2024, submissions and 26 information requests were received from QIA,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">197</p> <p>1 DFO, and ECCC. 2 August 15th, Baffinland responded to 3 Intervenor's information requests on 4 completeness check. 5 August 20, 2024, QIA requested for an 6 extension to respond to Baffinland's response, 7 and the deadline was extended to September 3, 8 and second round of submission from QIA was 9 received on September 3, 2024. 10 September 9, Baffinland provided response 11 to the second round of submissions from QIA. 12 September 23, 2024, NWB gave notice of 13 application and invited parties to conduct a 14 full technical review and provide their 15 comments and recommendations by October 23. 16 Submissions were received from QIA, CIRNAC, 17 ECCC, and DFO by October 23, 2024. 18 November 12, 2024, Baffinland responded to 19 Intervenor's comments. 20 November 22, 2024, the NWB received 21 confirmation of participation in the meetings 22 and presentation documents from QIA, CIRNAC, 23 ECCC, DFO, and Baffinland. 24 November 26, 2024, NWB provided the final 25 agenda for the technical meeting and 26 pre-hearing conference and the community</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">198</p> <p>1 session. 2 On December 3rd and 4th, 2024, the Nunavut 3 Water Board hosted the technical meeting and 4 pre-hearing conference in Pond Inlet. A 5 community session was also organized on the 6 evening of December 3rd, 2024. 7 December 19th, NWB issued the pre-hearing 8 conference decision for the file, and this 9 decision also included a list of commitments, 10 identifying different issues to be addressed at 11 the public hearing, and tentative time lines as 12 the application proceeded to the public 13 hearing. 14 On December 27, 2024, NWB published notice 15 of public hearing to be held in Pond Inlet in 16 the week of March 10, 2025. Intervenor's filed 17 their final written submissions on February 18 11th, 2025. 19 Baffinland provided their response to final 20 written submissions on February 21st, 2025. 21 On March 6th, NWB provided the final agenda 22 for the public hearing and community session. 23 And March 11 and 12, NWB conducts the 24 public hearing and community session. 25 Next steps in the application process: So 26 the public hearing is chaired by the Board</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">199</p> <p>1 panel and led by the Board's Chair. The NWB 2 panel is here to consider the evidence provided 3 during the hearing before issuing a decision in 4 about 30 to 45 days. The NWB will inform the 5 public of the Board's decision once rendered. 6 Intervenor's participate at different steps 7 of the entire process. Baffinland, QIA, 8 CIRNAC, ECCC and DFO have all contributed to 9 the review process for this application. The 10 parties just mentioned have -- have 11 participated in formal and informal discussions 12 aimed at resolving issues related to the 13 application. All documents received have been 14 posted on the NWB's Public Registry. 15 About public participation in the NWB 16 licencing process. Public can participate in 17 the licencing process for the application right 18 from the -- from the start. Public can provide 19 the Board and the Applicant with valuable 20 technical information in the form of questions 21 and raising their concerns on relevant issues. 22 They can also participate in formal and 23 informal discussions aimed at resolving 24 relevant issues. Everyone is encouraged to 25 participate in the public hearing and the 26 community session. Interested persons can also</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">200</p> <p>1 contact the NWB staff directly to provide 2 written comments or to review the documents 3 filed for the application. All documents 4 received so far have been posted on the NWB's 5 Public Registry. 6 Here's the contact information for the NWB 7 staff. 8 Thank you. We'll ... 9 S. AUTUT: You're done? 10 A. JAN: Yes. 11 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Abid. 12 So we now open it up to the public. Does 13 anyone have questions regarding the Board's 14 processing of the application that they would 15 like to direct to the technical staff before we 16 move on to the other presentations? 17 Okay. I'm not seeing hands, so we'll move 18 on. 19 We're now going to ask the Applicant to 20 make a brief presentation about the renewal 21 application that we're discussing at this 22 hearing. 23 So, Baffinland, please proceed with your 24 presentation. 25 T. MEADOWS: Mr. Chair -- thank you, 26 Mr. Chair and Ms. Chair. I just wanted to note</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">201</p> <p>1 that I will be marking this as the next exhibit 2 in the public hearing, being the community 3 presentation that Baffinland is about to give, 4 and the parties have already been sworn in and 5 affirmed, so those are my procedural matters, 6 Mr. Chair. 7 Thank you. 8 EXHIBIT 4 - Baffinland Iron Mines 9 Corporation, Hard Copy, PowerPoint 10 Presentation 2AM-MRY1325 Type A Water 11 Licence Renewal NWB Public Hearing - 12 Community Meeting, March 11, 2025 13 (English and Inuktitut) 14 MEGAN LORD-HOYLE, PAUL QUASSA, JOE TIGULLARAQ, 15 MORGAN SCHAUERTE, Previously Sworn 16 LOU KAMERMANS, ELISABETH LUTHER, Previously 17 Affirmed 18 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Teresa. 19 Baffinland. 20 Presentation by Baffinland Iron Mines 21 Corporation 22 P. QUASSA: Good evening. My name is 23 Paul Quassa. I will be doing the presentation 24 this evening, and thank you for the Nunavut 25 Water Board hearing. I'm presenting this 26 hearing to the community. And thank you for</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">202</p> <p>1 the Intervenor to be able to attend and also 2 the community of Pond Inlet being welcome. 3 Thank you for welcoming us into the community. 4 So this is our presentation, our vision. 5 From our vision, we understand that there's 6 good iron at Mary River, and we want to be 7 responsible to have responsible mining, and it 8 will be beneficial to Nunavut and also to 9 Canada and, of course, to Baffinland. And it 10 is important that things that are important to 11 us and our values and our mission and vision as 12 we believe in the Government of Nunavut, that 13 we need to be involved in being part of the 14 environment and to be in line with the 15 environment. 16 And with the continuing progress that 17 Baffinland is making, the -- the mining has to 18 get better, and we are working with people, 19 especially engaging with people and developing 20 our people, and for all of the things that we 21 are hearing, we try to make sure that we move 22 ahead with those things that -- and we've been 23 working here for a long time, so we have made 24 some changes and gone forward with our vision. 25 Continuing, we will be continuing to be 26 working with Inuit, and we want to hear what</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">203</p> <p>1 the Inuit have to say about what changes or 2 implementations they want to bring. 3 The main gist of our presentation is put in 4 here about the overview of the Mary River 5 Project and also the Mary River water licence 6 renewal overview. We will be presenting on 7 that, as well, and also the -- the technical 8 side of the work that is being applied for. 9 These are the things that I will be discussing 10 this evening. 11 If you will have seen this map quite a 12 number of times, and this is an agreed area 13 that have been approved. Perhaps it's 160 -- 14 160 kilometres from Pond Inlet. It's in three 15 parts. First it's at the Milne River Port -- 16 Milne River -- Milne Inlet Port -- sorry -- 17 also at the mine at Mary River and also an 18 approved area at Steensby -- the road and the 19 dock, that is, at Steensby. 20 We were at Mary River using trucks and also 21 taking ore from -- transporting it from Milne 22 Inlet, and we would collect it at the dockside, 23 and we would carry the ore by ships from July 24 every year. For the Steensby Inlet, we're just 25 starting the construction or planning the 26 construction for Steensby. In operating and</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">204</p> <p>1 carrying the ore through Steensby and the -- 2 the rail -- well, the train that we would be 3 using and the railroad that we would be using 4 to Steensby, and we believe that it will be 5 beneficial to us and to the Inuit and also to 6 Baffinland. 7 Since 2025, this year, we have had to make 8 some things to think about and to plan and 9 consider, considering the cost of ore, the 10 price of iron. 11 We -- we have agreed, and we have reduced 12 the -- the tonnage to 4.2 tonnes to a 13 reduced -- to that reduced level. Even so we 14 have that limit, we would still plan our 15 operations to commence at Steensby. 16 One of the things that we have gone forward 17 with, as we -- starting from -- maybe just to 18 make a little story here, looking at the 19 pictures here, this is the current state that 20 we are in now with the operations. We're using 21 the Tote Road with trucks, but now we are 22 planning to use a train system to go to 23 Steensby. We are still stockpiling iron ore 24 for shipping, and iron ore is shipped through a 25 ship from Milne Inlet. 26 When we're looking at this, how we have</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">205</p> <p>1 gone from here to there, starting from 1962 and 2 in the 1960s, there was a discovery at Mary 3 River as a pure iron ore, so if we look at it 4 every year, there's a period here. It was at 5 1993 -- not 1999. It was located under the 6 agreement that it would be part of the land 7 claims, and it was Inuit-owned land, that -- 8 that particular spot. 9 And after that, from 2013, the Impact 10 Benefits Agreement was signed with Qikiqtani 11 Inuit Association, and the first -- at that 12 time was the first water licence application 13 submitted and approved. 14 And, for example, in 2015, there was a 4.2 15 metric tonnes was first shipped ore to -- 16 through Milne Inlet. Also in 2018, there was 17 an increase to 6 million tonnes. And also in 18 2020, there was a continue of production 19 increase proposal for 6 million tonnes. 20 So up to today, these are what we have gone 21 through to move forward. Now we're going to be 22 carrying 4.2 metric tonnes will be the amount 23 of ore that is being transported through Milne 24 Inlet in 2025. 25 So the discussion now here is about the 26 application for the water licence, and there</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">206</p> <p>1 has been good presentation by the Water Board. 2 It's a Type A water licence application, and 3 this is the application that we have submitted 4 when we -- I mentioned earlier that we had the 5 first approval for water licence in 2015. 6 There was a bit of change on that. While it 7 was put for ten years' use, so in June 2024, we 8 submitted renewal application to renew this 9 licence that we currently have. 10 I hope that I'm understandable when I 11 speak. 12 So in 2015, we re-renewed our licence, and 13 there was a small change to that licence. 14 It -- it was approved for ten years. So 15 there's a small change. 16 In the application now, we're applying for 17 15 years, and the reason for this change in the 18 application: So for the changes in the water 19 relations, it would go to February 27, 2025, 20 and so the -- that application was submitted -- 21 I mean was received then. 22 This presentation is about the -- how the 23 framework works and how the water licence will 24 be used. It would be for our trucks; however, 25 the trucks are managed or operated, and also 26 the water issues for staff, for the buildings,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">207</p> <p>1 for the cooks, any other uses water is used, 2 and also for dust and also to reduce dust and 3 also to reduce dust in the area for our roads. 4 Also with Steensby, renewing the licence 5 would also be made to apply for a Steensby. 6 For example, it is most utilized at Milne -- 7 Milne Inlet for the Tote Road, going from Mary 8 River to Milne Inlet, and also the proposed 9 railway. If we were to start using it, we 10 would be using water there as well. So the 11 application has not changed since 2015. 12 If you see this map, and it shows where we 13 obtain our water, if you can see the map here, 14 and you can see it on the wall here, as well, 15 in the maps behind the walls there, and it 16 shows before Steensby was started, that these 17 areas, we would need to utilize water from 18 these areas for -- for our operations. 19 If you see this map here as well -- can you 20 see it, the map? -- before starting 21 construction at Steensby, there are various 22 things that we need to look at before we even 23 make it a site. How would it look, all the 24 engineering and the blueprints and all that. 25 We would need to have a good look before we 26 start it and while we are doing it. And we</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">208</p> <p>1 know that some changes may have to be done, or 2 changes would have to be request, and I'm sure 3 that we will be -- you know, if there's 4 adaptive changes to be made, well, we'll hear 5 about them. 6 If you look at this picture, there's quite 7 a bit of people here. These are the monitoring 8 people, the environment team. They look at 9 water, and the water that they look at is quite 10 a large area. Some lakes have fish, especially 11 for that reason, and for those that are being 12 used by Inuit and those that have traditionally 13 Inuit use, and there's quite a bit of 14 monitoring staff there, environmental 15 technicians, and there's a lot of Inuit here 16 who are working in this site because we need 17 Inuit to be working here. 18 When we look at this, there are seven 19 staff -- seven Inuit that are employed by 20 Baffinland, and there's four more Inuit that 21 are hired by Qikiqtani Inuit Association to be 22 part of the -- the environmental staff, so 23 there's many monitoring groups and people 24 because it's a large endeavour and we need to 25 have good water and there's a river or a lake 26 or creek or a small creek, there's various</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">209</p> <p>1 types of water sources there that, you know, 2 fish might be using, and it needs to be clean. 3 So these are the types of considerations 4 that we all have to look at, and perhaps there 5 would be some people showing how things should 6 look or what concerns might come up on these 7 areas, or maybe Inuit could come up with their 8 concerns or if we go to community visits and, 9 you know, they make comments. 10 And for the aquatic effects monitoring 11 program, we will always be monitoring because 12 monitoring is important for any type of impact 13 to the water, and we need to be quite 14 understanding of -- of how it is; and if we're 15 going to be mining, there may be impacts, and 16 we need to find if there are impacts, and 17 people do talk about them, potential impacts 18 and possible impacts and how our operations 19 need to be well-planned and well-coordinated to 20 ensure that we have a good operating system. 21 For example, when you see this picture, 22 there's various technical stuff that is being 23 happening here sometimes where there is deep 24 water or shallow water in the lakes and creeks 25 and rivers, various types of water. 26 And this water, freshwater, is good, and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">210</p> <p>1 it's very important to the community, and it's 2 mentioned when we go to communities, and we all 3 have to understand all of these considerations 4 and concerns from the communities. That's why 5 we come here and speak Inuktitut, so we can 6 clearly understand each other, what we're 7 talking about. And sometimes when we go to 8 communities, and we -- we try to go and speak 9 Inuktitut all the time when we go to the 10 communities, even though the technical staff 11 may be speaking English, but they're technical 12 staff. 13 And for the communities to understand 14 well -- for us to understand them well, 15 sometimes -- there are seven communities, 16 especially the five that we are considering 17 now, and there are community staff that are 18 working on Inuit Knowledge, and they are 19 helping us, and we need to understand, as well, 20 what our traditional Inuit Knowledge. 21 And also for the traditional Inuit 22 language, there have been funding given to 23 sources like Inuit -- Qikiqtani Inuit 24 Association to obtain more information, and 25 it's called Inuit stewardship program, and it's 26 for Inuit, from 2020, through Qikiqtani Inuit</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">211</p> <p>1 Association. We help them to make sure that 2 particular part is operating well. 3 But up to today, we heard a little bit that 4 there are implementations being put in place 5 for the Inuit stewardship program and that 6 we're looking forward into the future. We call 7 it Inuit stewardship plan. 8 Sorry. I don't know how to say this in 9 Inuktitut. I'm going to be talking about it. 10 When I mention "Inuit stewardship", I speak 11 it in English because it's part of trying to 12 get people involved. 13 Continuing, for technical submissions, one 14 of the things are tough, I guess, they're 15 dealing with things, various things that we are 16 working together, that we are understanding 17 each other well, and we know that when we have 18 these working relationships with various 19 stakeholders and Intervenors, there are some 20 things that we really need to commit to, and we 21 hear from communities about these kind of 22 commitments and what's being done and carried 23 forward. 24 For -- since February 27, 2025, all the new 25 commitments that we have submitted, we gave 26 them to these final submissions. We did give</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">212</p> <p>1 them in December 2024, and we are working 2 together various -- with various Intervenor 3 and various people with Qikiqtani Inuit 4 Association, Hunters & Trappers Organizations, 5 and the communities and others. 6 So up to today, we have things that show us 7 that we have to be very well-managed on what 8 things we are dealing with. Every day, before 9 the six months is up, we have to always renew 10 what our planning is for the management plans, 11 and there are various things that we have to 12 change. If -- if you can understand me, all of 13 these management plans have to be agreed to, 14 and it's changing and updating. 15 And for the licence, for the water licence, 16 when we're looking at it, some regulations or 17 some things that -- conditions and other things 18 have -- sometimes have to be renewed or 19 changed. 20 For Steensby's component -- and we're 21 looking forward into the future. That's what 22 it seems to be like. I think we understand 23 when we go to the communities, up to today what 24 we're mining right now is Deposit 1, but 25 there's more deposits. Perhaps going through 26 Steensby would give us more of a future</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">213</p> <p>1 perspective and make us go further. 2 So when we're looking at how the management 3 and the operation goes, and there are various 4 things that we have to follow. When we were 5 approval -- various approvals were done, and 6 there were terms and conditions that were 7 placed on this project for Steensby when we had 8 the project certificate for that, so we're 9 thankful that we work with various 10 stakeholders, and we want to be ensure and 11 clear to them that we will follow the 12 conditions that will be given to us, and we 13 want to be transparent in making sure that they 14 see that we are following the conditions that 15 we -- that were given to us. So these are the 16 types of things that we would be doing. 17 In 2021, around Steensby, there was some 18 work done scientifically, and we also have 19 committed that all of these studies will be 20 completed. Once the Steensby project goes, 21 other monitoring items will be done that would 22 be important to the project. 23 Going back to Mary River, I wanted to 24 clarify what we are dealing with right now. In 25 the Mary River area, it's more sandy. It's 26 mostly sand in that area. From Milne Inlet to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">214</p> <p>1 Mary River, it's mostly sand. There's some 2 lakes, small lakes, and the sand is going into 3 the lakes, as well, because the -- the land is 4 changing, and once the land is changing, it -- 5 it's always been like that. Even when we were 6 not there, the land is always changing. 7 We're trying our best in our project not to 8 put or let things go into the lakes because as 9 I said, it's kind of sandy over there, so we 10 don't want any kind of contaminants or anything 11 to go into the lakes, so we're trying to 12 prevent our work be -- going into the lakes; 13 and we have various discussions and, you know, 14 questions and how to answer those questions, 15 how to do this and also when we get into the 16 construction of the Steensby railway [sic] and 17 railway. 18 So thinking of this and being mindful of 19 Inuit Knowledge about the land, the water, and 20 for this reason, we -- we don't want to damage 21 or to contaminate what is going to be used -- 22 continually used by Inuit, and -- and the 23 project certificate that we have received and 24 the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement and the 25 water licence and the water compensation 26 agreement. There's also an agreement within</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">215</p> <p>1 that pertaining to water talks about not -- not 2 contaminating the water or damaging the water. 3 I just want to state further that 4 Baffinland wants to work with Inuit and 5 communities and are committed to continuing to 6 work while we are going forward with these 7 things, and we're hearing from communities that 8 there are some changes that -- if there's some 9 changes we need to do because what we hear from 10 communities is very helpful to our operations. 11 And for the Nunavut Water Board, while they're 12 reviewing the application, what we hear during 13 this process will be helpful to us. 14 And, lastly, there's an agreement -- a 15 safety measures agreement so that we could work 16 closely together. When -- when I say when we 17 work together, I mean working together with 18 hunters and trappers, with communities, with 19 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and this is sort 20 of a security kind of thing between the parties 21 to make sure and has to be clarified properly 22 how the operations will be and what we hear and 23 what we hear from communities and people, so 24 these are the types of discussions we would 25 have, and if there's questions, we would be 26 happy to answer them, whoever's here in this --</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">216</p> <p>1 in this meeting.</p> <p>2 Thank you, Chairperson.</p> <p>3 S. AUTUT: So we now open it up to</p> <p>4 questions or comments from the public for</p> <p>5 Baffinland. If anybody has questions or</p> <p>6 comments, please come to the mic.</p> <p>7 Questions for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation</p> <p>8 by Community Representatives</p> <p>9 S. AUTUT: If I could ask you just</p> <p>10 to state your name, please.</p> <p>11 LLOYD IDLOUT: Qujannamiik. Lloyd</p> <p>12 Idlout. 15 years, I think 15 years is too long</p> <p>13 for the review process. Maybe we can shorten</p> <p>14 it from 15 years until the licence can be</p> <p>15 renewed again because of the fact that the five</p> <p>16 communities will be impacted. Maybe</p> <p>17 technically speaking, which, like -- like, we</p> <p>18 are -- some of us are representatives from</p> <p>19 HTOs. Maybe the fact that we didn't have all</p> <p>20 the facts exactly how to approach it, and so</p> <p>21 how can we define a technical? So I believe</p> <p>22 the five impacted communities, you'll get</p> <p>23 additional information, and I'm very glad that</p> <p>24 Baffinland and QIA are able to visit the</p> <p>25 communities, and also Environment Canada,</p> <p>26 Fisheries and Oceans Canada, but our voices</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">217</p> <p>1 seem to fall on deaf ears, even though we have</p> <p>2 been impacted the most and that which we will</p> <p>3 be impacted. Our concerns seem to fall on deaf</p> <p>4 ears.</p> <p>5 I mean, Baffinland visits their</p> <p>6 communities, and they either meet with the HTOs</p> <p>7 or the Hamlet councils, or also if they go to</p> <p>8 the communities to get feedback, and whenever</p> <p>9 we try to express our concerns for the fact</p> <p>10 that we are being impacted, even though we try</p> <p>11 to pass them on, we find some obstacles as a</p> <p>12 result.</p> <p>13 For example, they will usually say that it</p> <p>14 has already been approved, so that is how</p> <p>15 sometimes we find it very difficult, those of</p> <p>16 us who are impacted, the Indigenous people.</p> <p>17 Like I was mentioning previously, like,</p> <p>18 they will be careful in the conduct, monitoring</p> <p>19 properly, and yet that's the -- if that's the</p> <p>20 case, then maybe we can -- maybe the water</p> <p>21 licence can be reviewed even before 15 years</p> <p>22 are up, and that way whenever us -- we -- as</p> <p>23 Indigenous people, when we try to come up with</p> <p>24 solutions. So I believe that 15 years is too</p> <p>25 long for review, and I'm --</p> <p>26 Like, you will be making a decision, and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">218</p> <p>1 the request by Baffinland and those people who</p> <p>2 will be making decisions to either approve it</p> <p>3 or not, but we hope, like -- like, some of you</p> <p>4 will go and -- go on a site visit and inspect</p> <p>5 the lakes where there are fish habitat, and</p> <p>6 hopefully you, too, would also see it firsthand</p> <p>7 and go to Steensby Inlet. Maybe DFO,</p> <p>8 Environment Canada and Climate Change Canada,</p> <p>9 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, like, if you have</p> <p>10 not already seen Steensby Inlet, I sincerely</p> <p>11 hope that you go on a site visit because some</p> <p>12 of us have seen the area.</p> <p>13 Like, I used to see what Inuit have</p> <p>14 observed, and that way you will be able to make</p> <p>15 the right decision, like -- and that you will</p> <p>16 able to determine how, like, we, as Indigenous</p> <p>17 people, have stated how much we have been</p> <p>18 impacted, and I believe that 15 years is too</p> <p>19 long as requested by Baffinland for a review.</p> <p>20 So, like, whenever we try to make</p> <p>21 suggestions, Baffinland always say that the</p> <p>22 project has already been approved, so I believe</p> <p>23 that 15 years is too long for -- to conduct a</p> <p>24 review, additional review.</p> <p>25 I tried to explain very clearly, and I have</p> <p>26 additional comments, but it's not easy as</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">219</p> <p>1 Inuit. We try to defend the community issues,</p> <p>2 and when we're going to be impacted of such</p> <p>3 magnitude, that is not a rest all [phonetic],</p> <p>4 but here we are. We have to go through it.</p> <p>5 Sometimes we go through difficult periods in</p> <p>6 that regard, so I wish that they -- they can --</p> <p>7 little pauses can take a bit longer to ensure</p> <p>8 that all the mitigation issues and baseline</p> <p>9 studies have been conducted, and that way we</p> <p>10 can have adequate information.</p> <p>11 I can't describe or define baseline in</p> <p>12 Inuktitut. I apologize, so -- in the</p> <p>13 activities that will be going on at Steensby</p> <p>14 Inlet, right now, we're talking about water</p> <p>15 issues and which we will -- all the creeks and</p> <p>16 fish habitats would be impacted, and right now,</p> <p>17 we need to address or make what the scope will</p> <p>18 be.</p> <p>19 And also iron ore dust has been mentioned,</p> <p>20 and whenever there's a blizzard outside, the</p> <p>21 dust has been -- the dust from the mine has</p> <p>22 reached our area. And also especially during</p> <p>23 the springtime when the snow is thawing, it's</p> <p>24 very -- it's very noticeable.</p> <p>25 And also near the Igloodik area, the --</p> <p>26 like, when you spot a seal hole, you see some</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">220</p> <p>1 contaminated areas from iron ore dust.</p> <p>2 And also when there's foul weather, the</p> <p>3 dust tends to be spread out everywhere. It's</p> <p>4 not limited -- the dust is not limited to the</p> <p>5 project area only.</p> <p>6 Yes, also, if possible, if you go on site</p> <p>7 visit to Steensby -- Steensby Inlet, so those</p> <p>8 of you who will be making a decision, either</p> <p>9 QIA or agencies such as DFO, can go on site</p> <p>10 visit before the project commences or even</p> <p>11 before you start making decisions, so I prefer</p> <p>12 you that go on a site visit.</p> <p>13 And also, like, can I make a request? I --</p> <p>14 I want to be informed about what you heard, any</p> <p>15 comments you heard or any recommendations, and</p> <p>16 hopefully the public can also -- can make a</p> <p>17 request to access what you have heard. Do --</p> <p>18 am I making sense? So that's my request. I</p> <p>19 want -- is it possible for us to get a copy of</p> <p>20 the recommendations or comments you heard?</p> <p>21 S. AUTUT: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>22 So through the interpretation, the question</p> <p>23 is are you able to receive a copy of the</p> <p>24 Board's decision, the recommendations that come</p> <p>25 from the Board's decision or the</p> <p>26 recommendations that come from any site visits?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">221</p> <p>1 LLOYD IDLOUT: Qujannamiik. I'm</p> <p>2 requesting if you can -- if we cannot receive a</p> <p>3 letter from Nunavut Water Board from what you</p> <p>4 heard from the Elders, the community, from</p> <p>5 Baffinland, or from the other people who were</p> <p>6 here. I -- if I may, I'm requesting a letter</p> <p>7 of what you heard from this hearing.</p> <p>8 S. AUTUT: Okay. Thank you for that</p> <p>9 clarification.</p> <p>10 LLOYD IDLOUT: Before -- before -- at</p> <p>11 least maybe before any decisions or plan</p> <p>12 decisions are made.</p> <p>13 S. AUTUT: Thank you for that</p> <p>14 clarification.</p> <p>15 So Julie is taking notes word for word, so</p> <p>16 every comment, every word that has been said at</p> <p>17 this proceeding is being documented, and it'll</p> <p>18 come out in the form of a transcript to help</p> <p>19 the Board with its decision-making process, and</p> <p>20 that document is publicly available, once</p> <p>21 received by the Board. So we can ensure that</p> <p>22 you receive a copy of that before. It'll be</p> <p>23 used in the decision-making process but will be</p> <p>24 available for you to review, should you wish.</p> <p>25 LLOYD IDLOUT: Okay.</p> <p>26 S. AUTUT: The record will be closed</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">222</p> <p>1 hopefully tomorrow with the discussions that</p> <p>2 are happening here, so no additional comments</p> <p>3 can be used in the decision-making process, but</p> <p>4 you will have a copy of that transcript for</p> <p>5 your records.</p> <p>6 LLOYD IDLOUT: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>7 If it -- if it wasn't evident, the people</p> <p>8 impact -- that will be impacted or are already</p> <p>9 impacted are struggling to voice their</p> <p>10 concerns. Even with QIA, Baffinland doing</p> <p>11 community engagements, we -- we are struggling</p> <p>12 to voice our concerns/questions technically,</p> <p>13 if -- if that wasn't evident. If there could</p> <p>14 be more time for us to get help technically to</p> <p>15 voice our concerns and comments or suggestions.</p> <p>16 I strongly advise that maybe if any -- if any</p> <p>17 further decision's going to be made, I feel</p> <p>18 more -- I feel that maybe if we can have more</p> <p>19 engagement maybe with the Water Board.</p> <p>20 Even with QIA, Baffinland engagements,</p> <p>21 in -- we don't -- like, there are comments and</p> <p>22 concerns, or there was some resolved and not</p> <p>23 some resolved that were a part. There was a</p> <p>24 number of them, and I feel that we didn't -- we</p> <p>25 don't know. They were just numbers, and we</p> <p>26 didn't see or hear what those comments might</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">223</p> <p>1 have been. So if any -- everybody can be a</p> <p>2 little bit more patient with us, may -- us</p> <p>3 trying to comment technically or respond</p> <p>4 technically, that would be very nice or</p> <p>5 helpful, maybe to help voice our concerns and</p> <p>6 maybe to reduce the impacts that are to come.</p> <p>7 Qujannamik.</p> <p>8 S. AUTUT: Thank you. Thank you for</p> <p>9 your comments. I'm going to ask Baffinland if</p> <p>10 they wish to respond to what has been heard.</p> <p>11 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle.</p> <p>12 Qujannamik for the -- the comments and</p> <p>13 the -- the concerns that you've raised. We --</p> <p>14 we certainly -- we heard a number of comments</p> <p>15 or concerns that you just raised.</p> <p>16 (1) the length of the water licence renewal</p> <p>17 process. I think in this case, Baffinland</p> <p>18 feels strongly that this is an appropriate time</p> <p>19 frame for a technical licence to be issued.</p> <p>20 There has been an extensive process run by the</p> <p>21 Nunavut Water Board to date that included</p> <p>22 technical meetings with public components</p> <p>23 associated with it and opportunities to provide</p> <p>24 information to the Board.</p> <p>25 In terms of Baffinland's own engagement,</p> <p>26 I'll speak to that. I think what -- I think</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">224</p> <p>1 what I'd like to most say is the voices of 2 Inuit, when we come to the communities, do make 3 a difference in our project. We have multiple 4 examples of where the project has changed or 5 we've adapted the operation in direct response 6 from what we're hearing when we come to the 7 communities. 8 I used an example earlier today for those 9 who were in the room. For the Steensby 10 project, before we've gone into operation, the 11 original shipping route was changed as a direct 12 result of hearing from Inuit where we could 13 move the shipping route to that would minimize 14 impact on walrus and minimize the impact of 15 Inuit when they're hunting walrus. That change 16 has now been adopted as a term and condition in 17 our project certificate. 18 Other things that we've done in the 19 existing operations is we've changed our 20 shipping operations extensively in response to 21 Inuit concerns. We've adopted slower shipping 22 speeds. We've put in place convoys, which 23 means that multiple ships travel together to 24 reduce the sound field of those ships while 25 they're moving. We've put restrictions on the 26 total number of ships that come into the area</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">225</p> <p>1 at any one time. We've adopted an independent 2 dust audit committee that's made up of Inuit 3 who are providing us feedback and 4 recommendations on what we can do better to 5 minimize dust. We have broadened the inclusion 6 of Inuit in our environmental working groups to 7 include all communities. 8 So I understand that it is very difficult. 9 When we come to the communities, we're here on 10 certain days, on certain times, and not 11 everyone may feel that they've heard from us or 12 that they've been able to speak to us, but we 13 are here consistently and looking for the views 14 of the community that come and independent 15 conversations that come through motions from 16 your Hunters & Trappers Organizations or your 17 Hamlets through processes like this. We are 18 listening to those views and adapting our 19 operations. 20 We also work very closely with the 21 Qikiqtani Inuit Association who represents the 22 communities of the North Baffin region and is 23 another voice and view for your communities 24 when it comes to the operations of the Mary 25 River Project. 26 So I appreciate you sharing your concerns,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">226</p> <p>1 and we are working very hard to be able to be 2 in your communities more often. We have much 3 more staff now in each of your communities than 4 we did five years ago, even, and those are also 5 another avenue for you to be able to speak 6 directly to Baffinland, and those views come 7 back to a decision-making table. 8 So I don't know if I can fully or 9 adequately satisfy your concerns or comments, 10 but I want you to know that we are definitely 11 listening, and we do take the considerations 12 and views of Inuit very seriously. 13 Qujannamiik. 14 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Megan. I 15 would also ask the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, 16 when it's your opportunity to make 17 presentation, to give consideration to how you 18 may address some of the concerns, as well, if 19 at all, through the various programs and 20 monitoring that you're looking towards. 21 Do we have any other questions or comments 22 for Baffinland? Please. Reminder to state 23 your name, please, for the record. 24 NYSANA QILLAQ: My question is to 25 Baffinland. Like, when you start the mining 26 process, are you aware how many lakes had char</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">227</p> <p>1 and do they -- if you make comparison as to how 2 many lakes have char in comparison to the time 3 when you first started mining? Like, have 4 there been impact on fish? Have there been 5 less fish as a result since 2012? Based on 6 your observations have the lakes -- like, and 7 also if you start going through Steensby Inlet 8 using a train, and then there you are going to 9 be shipping 4.2 metric tonnes is now your 10 approved shipment of ore, so would that 11 increase once you start using the railway 12 station from -- through Steensby Inlet? 13 And also the fact that the train will be 14 traversing through areas where there are char 15 and caribou, so can you determine what kind of 16 impacts have there been to char which is 17 already in the lakes before the mining project 18 started and in comparison to today? 19 S. AUTUT: Thank you for those 20 questions. 21 Baffinland. 22 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 23 Baffinland. 24 Thank you for that question, and I have 25 responses to -- we recorded about three 26 questions there.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">228</p> <p>1 First, just monitoring for char in general</p> <p>2 around the project, we don't specifically</p> <p>3 monitor for char abundance, we don't track</p> <p>4 population levels, but we do sample char each</p> <p>5 year as part of our monitoring programs, and</p> <p>6 through that program, we have not identified</p> <p>7 any issues, you know, catching the char we need</p> <p>8 year-over-year, so in that sense, we find that</p> <p>9 the population of char in the areas we sample</p> <p>10 is stable.</p> <p>11 When you asked about, you know, have char,</p> <p>12 you know, disappeared from any lakes where we</p> <p>13 had previously seen them or streams, that's not</p> <p>14 the case. We've actually only added to the</p> <p>15 number of fish-bearing streams that we were</p> <p>16 aware of in the project area.</p> <p>17 Something we do monitor for, and -- and we</p> <p>18 do it specifically to address Inuit concerns,</p> <p>19 is monitoring for health in river systems that</p> <p>20 are in the Milne Inlet area, but they're not</p> <p>21 within the boundary of where we expected to see</p> <p>22 project effects around Milne Port.</p> <p>23 So this monitoring happens in collaboration</p> <p>24 with the Mittimatalik Hunters & Trappers</p> <p>25 Organization, and we sample char in the</p> <p>26 Ikaluit, Qurluktuk, and Tugaat river systems,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">229</p> <p>1 and that monitoring has shown that there's been</p> <p>2 no change in -- in fish health and in the</p> <p>3 health of fish for consumption when we compared</p> <p>4 our samples with samples that the Department of</p> <p>5 Fisheries and Oceans had collected in the past.</p> <p>6 And on your last question about, you know,</p> <p>7 the difference between the use of trains and</p> <p>8 trucks for hauling ore, we see the switch to</p> <p>9 trains as -- as a -- you know, a big</p> <p>10 efficiency, and not just from an operations</p> <p>11 standpoint, but there's a lot of environmental</p> <p>12 benefits to it, as well, and one of those is</p> <p>13 when you look at the frequency that trucks run</p> <p>14 on the Tote Road today, and we're only hauling</p> <p>15 4.2 million tonnes of ore, there's a truck</p> <p>16 passing by any single point on that road every</p> <p>17 two to five minutes.</p> <p>18 With Steensby, we anticipate 13 one-way</p> <p>19 trips a day, and so that's roughly one -- you</p> <p>20 know, one time every two hours someone along</p> <p>21 that line may see the -- the trains pass. So</p> <p>22 the level of disturbance to wildlife, to -- to</p> <p>23 hunters in the area is greatly reduced when we</p> <p>24 switch to rail. I hope that helps.</p> <p>25 Oh, and just to clarify, we were asked</p> <p>26 about how much ore we would plan to transport</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">230</p> <p>1 under Steensby. We're looking at approximately</p> <p>2 22 million tonnes per year to transport along</p> <p>3 the railway and out of Steensby Port.</p> <p>4 Thank you.</p> <p>5 S. AUTUT: Thank you. Any other</p> <p>6 questions?</p> <p>7 NYSANA QILLAQ: Nysana Qillaq. Let me --</p> <p>8 let me clarify that. You ship 4.2 or 6 million</p> <p>9 tonnes on a ship. When you move to Steensby,</p> <p>10 how -- how big are you going to ship out in</p> <p>11 ore. How -- how big was my question?</p> <p>12 Thank you.</p> <p>13 S. AUTUT: Baffinland.</p> <p>14 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,</p> <p>15 Baffinland.</p> <p>16 Thanks for that follow-up. So on -- on the</p> <p>17 shipping end of it, we are still refining our</p> <p>18 plans there. When the project was initially</p> <p>19 approved, we were approved for year-round</p> <p>20 shipping and up to 242 transits to Steensby a</p> <p>21 year. We're still looking at what's the most</p> <p>22 feasible to start the operation, and so that</p> <p>23 could be -- that means looking at the length of</p> <p>24 the shipping season as well as the number of</p> <p>25 vessels that we'll need; but what I can say is</p> <p>26 the size of vessels is -- you know, at the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">231</p> <p>1 upper range, we're looking at having</p> <p>2 cape-sized, so around 200,000 deadweight</p> <p>3 tonnes, and that's the same size as the</p> <p>4 cape-sized vessels that have come to Milne Port</p> <p>5 in the last few years.</p> <p>6 And, obviously, the -- there's a -- there's</p> <p>7 a benefit to the use of larger vessels in the</p> <p>8 north. It allows you to -- to carry more ore,</p> <p>9 and we've studied their -- their effects in --</p> <p>10 in Milne Inlet, and we'll do the same for, you</p> <p>11 know, our entire shipping operation in the</p> <p>12 south as well.</p> <p>13 Thank you.</p> <p>14 S. AUTUT: Thank you.</p> <p>15 Sir, yeah, thank you.</p> <p>16 ABRAHAM QAMMANIQ: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>17 Abraham Qammaniq, Sanirajak HTA.</p> <p>18 Yeah, I just want to comment, like,</p> <p>19 building the railway, completing the railway</p> <p>20 will be a long time coming, and even though the</p> <p>21 wheels of the train will produce dust, but,</p> <p>22 like -- like, I know for a fact that no matter</p> <p>23 how big or large the dust will be, it will</p> <p>24 continue to be dispersed everywhere. I want</p> <p>25 the trollies of the train to have a covering to</p> <p>26 reduce dust emissions.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">232</p> <p>1 And also in the north, the Arctic Ocean, 2 like, nobody has ever monitored the bottom of 3 the ocean floor. I want to ask Baffinland have 4 you done any monitoring on the shipping 5 corridor to Steensby Inlet? Because it's very 6 close to the walrus hunting area for the people 7 of Igloodik and Sanirajak. 8 And also I have heard from a number of 9 hunters that there are some very shallow areas 10 in that area, and also, like, narwhal, they 11 used to travel -- migrate from near the 12 Kimmirut area to the Foxe Basin area, and some 13 of them got stranded because -- some of you, 14 have you measured how deep the waters are in 15 the Steensby Inlet area? 16 And also, like, initially, you got approved 17 to have a year-round shipping. When you first 18 started out, you mentioned that you want to 19 conduct an early revenue phase, and that is how 20 you ship ore through Milne Inlet, and we have 21 heard -- we understand there are a lot of 22 impacts we have heard of many impacts done to 23 the people of Pond Inlet, and there are a lot 24 of problems with which arose, even though you 25 have been approved to conduct the 26 Certificate 005 was approved. Like, you know,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">233</p> <p>1 it is -- like, the -- the area near Steensby 2 Inlet, they have seals and also marine mammals, 3 and if you're going to be travelling -- 4 shipping ore year-round, then you have to use 5 icebreakers. 6 And also the walrus hunting season is 7 usually around July, so there's some of these 8 issues. And also it will be my understanding, 9 like -- like, if you travel past Sallit or 10 Coral Harbour, like, there are some -- probably 11 some shallow areas. And also after we have 12 been using that, we will probably be informed 13 that because we are spending so much money, and 14 some of us don't want people from Igloodik and 15 Sanirajak, like, they -- we visit each other's 16 communities. And also we went to Naujaat last 17 fall. There are many concerns about that. 18 And, like, if there are some mitigation issues, 19 like, if it can have a negative impact, then 20 they can listen to our concerns and stop 21 operation, and it is repeated that the project 22 with Steensby Inlet will cost in excess of 23 \$13 billion. Maybe after we express our 24 concern, then we will be able to not pay. It 25 will be too expensive to ship out of Steensby 26 Inlet. Thank you for hearing my comments.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">234</p> <p>1 S. AUTUT: Megan, would you like the 2 time during the break to respond? 3 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 4 Baffinland. 5 So I captured your questions and comments 6 related to trucks or the train cars and 7 coverings, monitoring over the shipping lane, 8 the depth of waters, and listening to and 9 responding to the community, so I'll run 10 through those and then get us into a break. 11 So Megan spoke about this earlier, but the 12 dust that we've seen created along the Tote 13 Road has been monitored by us for, you know, 14 ten years now, and we've also brought in 15 third-party auditors, and we've created this 16 dust committee. And what we -- we understand 17 is that the -- the dust that comes from the 18 trucks along the Tote Road is because the 19 rubber on these huge tires is hitting the road, 20 and that -- that road material becomes dust as 21 it's kicked up, and it's not coming from -- 22 from the trucks themselves. 23 And we know that because we sample the dust 24 that we find along the Tote Road, and it 25 matches the composition of the Tote Road. It 26 doesn't match what's in the iron ore in the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">235</p> <p>1 trucks, and we -- we know the difference. 2 So with the railway, the benefit there for 3 dust is it's steel-on-steel. The steel wheels 4 on the locomotives and -- and the cars is going 5 to be on steel rails, so there's no opportunity 6 for that to kick up dust or create dust. 7 And we're really confident, because of the 8 monitoring -- the testing we've done along the 9 Tote Road, that we won't see dust come out of 10 those -- those train cars, either, but 11 that's -- that's our prediction. 12 We will monitor for that, and we will have 13 it in our plans that if we do find that dust is 14 coming off of those ore cars along the railway, 15 one of the options will be to -- to cover those 16 cars or to cover the ore so there's no dust 17 created. 18 In terms of monitoring over the shipping 19 route, so we did -- ran aerial surveys in 2006, 20 2007, and 2008 that covered the entire shipping 21 lane in Nunavut waters, so - so over a thousand 22 nautical miles. More recently in 2021 and in 23 2023 -- or 2024 -- apologies -- we also ran 24 additional aerial surveys specifically to look 25 for ringed seal birth lairs in the Steensby 26 Port area and in a bay further west, in Foxe</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">236</p> <p>1 Basin, and so we'll use that as a reference 2 site; and in the future when we start shipping 3 and building Steensby Port, we can compare the 4 two areas, and that will tell us if we're 5 having a potential effect on -- on the 6 distribution of seal around the port area and 7 in Steensby Inlet. 8 We have more studies planned like that, and 9 we'll be engaging with the communities prior to 10 each field season, and we'll continue involving 11 Inuit from the local communities in those 12 programs. 13 We're also very concerned about the depth 14 of waters, especially our shipping department, 15 so we've been working with private contractors 16 to develop new bathymetry surveys, and we've 17 done work for all the approaches to Steensby 18 Port to find the best way for our vessels to 19 get there, the safest way. And we're also 20 working with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and 21 the Canadian Hydrographic Service to look at 22 the entire shipping route in Nunavut waters and 23 fill any gaps where we don't have that detailed 24 bathymetry. And this will be good for us, but 25 that data will all be publicly available, and 26 the hydrographic society will actually publish</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">237</p> <p>1 maps that anybody who -- who uses boats in the 2 area can access and use and will generally make 3 shipping and -- and, you know, use for -- for 4 public recreation vehicles for hunters safer. 5 The last thing is whether we're looking for 6 an approval, we are always going to be 7 monitoring and reporting on our project, and 8 the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut 9 Water Board, they have very public processes to 10 facilitate reviews of our reports, and that, 11 you know, is just one way that we get 12 information. 13 We also have our -- our direct in-community 14 engagements where community members can tell us 15 directly what their concerns are, and we can 16 respond in realtime, or we can take those 17 concerns, you know, back to the office and -- 18 and think about how to address them, and -- and 19 then go back to the community. 20 Either way, we have a strict adaptive 21 management plan and framework that sets out 22 specific criteria and levels that if our 23 monitoring programs show we're crossing or if 24 community members are -- are telling us they 25 have concerns, and, you know, they have -- you 26 know, we -- we come into Pond sometimes, and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">238</p> <p>1 people provide us pictures of something, and we 2 can respond and tell them what we think this 3 is, or we go back to the office and talk to a 4 department and respond to it; but we treat that 5 community information as -- as strongly, if not 6 stronger, than we treat our monitoring programs 7 and -- and when they show us something is 8 becoming a concern. 9 But in either case, we're committed to 10 acknowledging that, responding to it, and 11 reporting back to you in the communities, and 12 that will always exist whether we're in a 13 permitting process or not. It's -- it's just 14 our everyday job. 15 So I hope that helps, and I hope everyone 16 enjoys the break. 17 S. AUTUT: Thanks, Lou. 18 Okay. So we'll take a -- let's take ten 19 minutes, and we'll come back to any additional 20 questions that the community reps might have. 21 (ADJOURNMENT) 22 S. AUTUT: Thank you for coming back 23 in a timely manner. 24 So in the interest of time, I'd like to 25 remind everyone that the Water Board is here 26 under its mandate to discuss freshwater and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">239</p> <p>1 waste matters, so if we could focus our 2 questions on the Board's mandate and the topics 3 of this licence, we can help move the 4 presentations along. So I open the floor again 5 to the public, if there are any additional 6 questions of Baffinland. 7 So I'm not seeing any hands at this point, 8 so I'd like to ask the Qikiqtani Inuit 9 Association to come forward, please, and give 10 your presentation. 11 Oh, hang on, Jared. Just one moment. 12 Did I see a hand? If you'd like to come up 13 to the mic, please. 14 BILLY MERKOSAK: Billy Merkosak from Pond 15 Inlet. I'm a hunter, and I used to be a member 16 of the hunters organization. 17 For dust, I have been a member of the dust 18 committee, and with an organization in 19 Pond Inlet, I was a committee member as well. 20 In regards to the water, about freshwater, 21 and lakes and stuff, I want to understand the 22 lakes with fish on them. My question's around 23 Pond Inlet area, the lakes that are on -- close 24 to these Ikaluit, Qurluktuk and Tugaat. Those 25 lakes are the main lakes that have fish -- 26 char -- and whether there have been good</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">240</p> <p>1 studies on those three lakes was my question. 2 Recently, I -- we know that there are 3 issues that are coming up about water, 4 freshwater, especially the freshwater lakes 5 that have fish, because of the amount of dust, 6 the iron ore dust, because we know today, even 7 in parts of the lake where we used to go 8 fishing for netting the fish, the name of the 9 lake, Kuluktoo, we did the study there the year 10 -- the year before last. It had very big 11 reduction of fish. 12 In one week of netting -- we had three nets 13 in one week, and there were two separate lakes 14 in that area, the -- the one closer to the 15 ocean and the one further. We only caught 16 eight fish in all that week, and these fish, 17 from what we understand from them, they had 18 liver issues. They had too many bugs in their 19 stomach, and there was too much iron or 20 minerals in their system, and they are affected 21 that way. This is what we understood when we 22 were on the dust committee. 23 We know that when we go hunting around 24 here, we avoid getting water from the snow that 25 is around the mine area because it's not clean. 26 They had a test while we're having the dust</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">241</p> <p>1 committee. They took the samples. We get 2 1 litre water from the stores. If our body has 3 minerals, it would be good enough. If we're 4 going to have too much minerals, if we do it 5 for ten times, it would be too much; but if you 6 test it on the waters around the creeks and the 7 rivers, it's ten times that much. So we're 8 asking for cleaning around this area. 9 But people moved away. Now they're all 10 concentrating on transporting ore on the other 11 side. There should be monitoring done in this 12 area, as well, for these lakes that are in this 13 area and how they are changing. 14 For the Inuit stewardship program, I am 15 encouraging them that they should do more 16 research that with the mineral, the iron, where 17 it's going, how it's affecting our environment 18 and our wildlife. I'm pushing them to do more 19 study in this area. I wish this would happen 20 before we get too much damage to our 21 environment. 22 Thank you. 23 S. AUTUT: Thanks, Billy. 24 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 25 Baffinland. 26 Thank you for those questions, and I talked</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">242</p> <p>1 about it a little bit earlier, but we are 2 continuing with that monitoring program in 3 collaboration with the Mittimatalik Hunters & 4 Trappers Organization, and that's looking at 5 the Tugaat, Qurluktuk, and Ikaluit river 6 systems and lakes from a fish-health 7 perspective, and what we've found is that the 8 health of the fish that we've caught, the 9 quality of the fish and through tissue 10 sampling, is the same as it was when Fisheries 11 and Oceans had done similar studies in the 12 past. So we're not seeing any change in that 13 since the project started. 14 We're committed to that program, and that 15 program will continue to run, and, you know, 16 how it's run, we'll -- we'll be open to 17 discussion year-over-year with the Mittimatalik 18 Hunters & Trappers Organization. 19 We actually funded the Mittimatalik 20 Hunters & Trappers Organization in 2019 to run 21 their own community-based study of char in -- 22 in those areas, and, you know, we -- we 23 continue to think it's a perfect program 24 that -- that could really be community-led. 25 So we agree monitoring should happen in 26 that area, it does, and we're committed to it</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">243</p> <p>1 continuing in the future. 2 The other thing is we work with a company 3 called Intrinsic, and they've presented to the 4 dust audit committee before. They specialize, 5 and -- and the work they do for us specifically 6 is looking at the -- the quality of country 7 foods. They do, you know, what -- what they've 8 done for us is country food risk assessments, 9 and it looks at how, you know, the dust that 10 comes from the project could be collected on 11 the land, could fall on the soil, could fall on 12 vegetation, be consumed by wildlife, and -- and 13 then how that could interact with hunters and 14 land-users that eventually harvest those 15 animals or pick those berries. This includes 16 looking at ptarmigan and -- and caribou and 17 also Arctic char. 18 So what they've come up with every time 19 we've had them conduct one of these studies is 20 that the project is not changing the risk of 21 consuming country foods or -- or consuming 22 specific organs, that essentially the project 23 is not adding any additional risk to that 24 activity. 25 So we have a report that was developed, you 26 know, as recent as last year, and that's what</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">244</p> <p>1 was presented to the dust audit committee, and 2 that's very typical of the studies we carry out 3 on a regular basis to -- to ensure the safety 4 of country food for -- for land-users in the 5 area. So, again, that will continue on for the 6 life of the project. 7 Just one last item. You know, you 8 mentioned when you're in the project area, you 9 know, you avoid consuming the snow, but what 10 our studies have found and what Intrinsic has 11 found is that the snow water is safe to use 12 for -- for tea and for drinking-water purposes, 13 again, with the caveat or, you know, the -- the 14 caution that it's -- the project hasn't changed 15 the risks of consuming untreated water. 16 It's -- it's the same as it was before the 17 project as it was after the project was 18 constructed. 19 Thank you. 20 S. AUTUT: Thank you. 21 Any further comments or questions for 22 Baffinland? 23 Please. 24 CALEB SANGOYA: I don't have a question, 25 but I want to remind the Chairperson and the 26 Water Board and also, like, the -- right now,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">245</p> <p>1 they're more concerned about the lakes and the 2 rivers and so the -- so in the reports that we 3 have heard from Baffinland, the lakes and river 4 systems is basically what we came to discuss, 5 but if we were to talk about ocean water, then 6 we would be discussing indefinitely up to the 7 year 2026. 8 You, Chairperson, I want you to be aware, 9 like, we're not here to discuss marine water. 10 And also, like, right now, we're sidetracking, 11 and the fact that a man would have to traverse 12 through the approved routes, either be it on 13 terrestrial or on the marine environment, then 14 we can talk about marine waters, and we can 15 discuss it until the year 2026, and if the 16 certificate -- the renewal certificate were to 17 be approved, only QIA can also send some 18 regulation to be followed. I just want to 19 clarify that. 20 Thank you. 21 S. AUTUT: Thank you. 22 Any further questions or comments? If not, 23 I invite the Qikiqtani Inuit Association to 24 come up and present. 25 Teresa, do we have any procedural matters? 26 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">246</p> <p>1 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the 2 Nunavut Water Board. So I have the 3 presentation material for the community session 4 provided by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, 5 and I will mark that as the next exhibit in the 6 public hearing, and those are my procedural 7 matters. 8 Thank you. 9 EXHIBIT 5 - Qikiqtani Inuit 10 Association, Hard Copy, PowerPoint 11 Presentation, Nunavut Water Board 12 Public Hearing, Baffinland Iron Mines 13 Corporation Application for Renewal 14 Water Licence No: 2AM-MRY1325, March 15 11, 2025 (English and Inuktitut) 16 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Teresa. 17 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, please, go 18 ahead with your presentation. 19 Presentation by Qikiqtani Inuit Association 20 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Madam Chair. 21 My name is Assol Kubeisinova, and I'm the 22 manager of regulatory review for the department 23 of lands and resource management at the 24 Qikiqtani Inuit Association for QIA. To my 25 right is Jared Ottenhof, Director, Qikiqtani 26 Nunaliirijikkut. We have a team of subject</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">247</p> <p>1 matter experts today who have been assisting 2 and supporting QIA with the technical review of 3 this application. 4 QIA's mandate is to safeguard, administer, 5 and advance the rights and benefits of Inuit, 6 to promote the Inuit language and traditions, 7 Inuit environmental values, Inuit 8 self-sufficiency, as well as economic, social, 9 and cultural well-being through succeeding 10 generations. 11 As a designated Inuit organization under 12 the Nunavut Agreement, QIA manages Inuit-owned 13 lands in the Qikiqtani region, including the 14 project area. 15 QIA represents the rights and interests of 16 over 14,000 Inuit in the Qikiqtani region. 17 QIA conducted a technical review of 18 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporations application 19 for renewal of the water licence, and as a 20 result, QIA presented to the Nunavut Water 21 Board 38 technical comments. At this time, 22 there are 16 resolved and 22 unresolved 23 comments and some involving recommendations to 24 the Nunavut Water Board. This presentation 25 focuses on unresolved concerns and includes 26 references to specific comments, where</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">248</p> <p>1 possible, so not all comments will be 2 referenced in this presentation. 3 So QIA's comments focus on a number of 4 areas, with some areas overlapping. 5 Excuse me, Madam Chair. I believe this is 6 a presentation that was used this afternoon in 7 the public hearing. 8 S. AUTUT: We'll get that corrected. 9 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you. 10 (ADJOURNMENT) 11 S. AUTUT: Apologies. I believe the 12 correct presentation is now on the screen. 13 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Madam Chair. 14 So QIA's comments focus on a number of 15 areas, with some areas overlapping. 16 Compliance with environmental assessment 17 predictions. QIA recommended that Baffinland 18 compare monitoring results with what was 19 predicted before the start of the project, and 20 that comparison will tell what needs to be 21 changed. The main concern on adaptive 22 management is the influence of repeated 23 periodic pulses of total suspended solids, 24 which increases stress on aquatic organisms. 25 QIA's concern on monitoring, including 26 monitoring for baseline conditions, resulted in</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">249</p> <p>1 the recommendation to revise lake sediment 2 sampling to better see how natural and project 3 activities change metal concentrations in lake 4 sediment. 5 Another recommendation that came out of 6 that concern is to collect freshwater hydrology 7 information at Steensby that would be 8 sufficient. 9 Another concern that QIA had was impacts on 10 water quality, and that included the concern 11 about elevated concentrations of arsenic, 12 copper, iron, manganese, and phosphorus in Camp 13 Lake. 14 A concern about the poor performance about 15 the Kilometre 105 pond and the concern that 16 there may be impacts from the project on CLT1 17 tributary. 18 They were also -- there were also concerns 19 about Inuit engagement and incorporation of 20 Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit 21 Qaujimaningit. 22 Now I would like to speak about the Inuit 23 stewardship program, and the Inuit stewardship 24 program has a direct relation to the 25 opportunities to incorporate Inuit 26 Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Qaujimaningit in</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">250</p> <p>1 the project. 2 The Inuit stewardship program is an 3 arm's-length Inuit-led and community-based 4 monitoring program. The program enables Inuit 5 to evaluate how the project interacts with the 6 surrounding environment. The program includes 7 a feedback loop to enable Baffinland to review 8 findings and implement project improvements to 9 address concerns. 10 The program was envisioned to be funded by 11 Baffinland, administered by QIA, and overseen 12 by an arm's-length Inuit oversight committee or 13 Inuit Avatimut Kamattiarnimut Katimajajit. 14 The oversight committee consists of members 15 from the seven impacted communities of Pond 16 Inlet, Arctic Bay, Sanirajak, Igloolik, Clyde 17 River, Kimmirut, and Kinngait. 18 QIA's Inuit stewardship program 19 administration team successfully completed five 20 programs in 2024, 2025, and is preparing to 21 release respective reports on March 31st. 22 The Inuit stewardship program has multiple 23 programs relating to freshwater. For example, 24 one of the programs completed in 2024, 2025, 25 such as the dust and wildlife monitoring 26 program that is aimed on understanding the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">251</p> <p>1 interaction between mine dust and water, 2 including lakes, rivers, snow, and ice. It 3 included IQ consultations with 4 Knowledge-Holders and the Inuit-led field 5 sampling program. The team assessed water 6 parameters including those associated with 7 mine-related dust. 8 The Pond Inlet freshwater IQ study directed 9 on understanding Inuit Qaujimanituqangit as it 10 relates to freshwater values and impacts from 11 the perspective of Mittimatalingmiut. 12 Tusaqtavut studies are proposed for 2025, 13 2026 to take place in Kimmirut and Kinngait. 14 The objective -- objective of these studies is 15 to develop a fulsome understanding of Inuit 16 culture, resource, and land use surrounding the 17 project. 18 We continue working with the Applicant on 19 finding solutions to satisfy our technical 20 comments. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association will 21 be keeping the Board apprised of any 22 developments. 23 Thank you, Madam Chair. 24 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Assol. 25 Are there any questions or comments for the 26 Qikiqtani Inuit Association from the public?</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">252</p> <p>1 I'm not seeing any hands, so thank you for 2 your presentation -- oh, come on up. 3 ASSOL KUBEISINOVA, JARED OTTENHOF, ALISTAIR 4 MACDONALD, JOSEPH CAVALLO, RICHARD NESBITT, 5 JAKE CARMAN, MITCHELL KAY, Previously Affirmed 6 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by 7 Community Representatives 8 LLOYD IDLOUT: Qujannamik, QIA. We 9 Inuit is being represented as we are 10 represented by QIA. I don't know. Maybe you 11 can encourage Baffinland -- can you encourage 12 Baffinland to get some more baseline 13 information maybe in order for the process to 14 move ahead? Like, it seems apparent, from the 15 Pond Inlet hunters and the Elders, like, even 16 though they observe the impacts done to them, 17 but maybe due to lack of baseline information, 18 perhaps. 19 And, also, can you look for additional 20 content to speed up the process? Like, once we 21 have baseline information, in order to achieve 22 baseline information. So that's my request. 23 The impact the Elders and the hunters at 24 Pond Inlet has been impacted, but due to lack 25 of baseline -- baseline information most likely 26 Baffinland has been saying, like, everything</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">253</p> <p>1 is -- is still the same as before. Too much 2 concentration is basically the same as before 3 the mine was in operation, and maybe a 4 third-party people organize it. Maybe we can 5 look for additional funding or does QIA have 6 additional funding available to conduct a 7 baseline study so we can get adequate baseline 8 information before the projects go ahead? Do 9 I -- am I making sense? 10 S. AUTUT: QIA. 11 J. OTTENHOF: Jared Ottenhof for the 12 Qikiqtani Inuit Association. 13 Yeah, thank you for the question. Baseline 14 data is very important, especially when we're 15 talking about an expanding project. Baffinland 16 has spoken earlier today on some of the work 17 that they're doing to bring some of their work 18 forward on baseline data that they collected in 19 the past, then also to work with communities on 20 evaluating what's -- what's coming up, I guess, 21 for any more studies. 22 We mentioned before, as well, that we've 23 heard this from communities as a priority for 24 the Inuit stewardship program, so I think 25 there's a bit of a dual role that we can play 26 as well.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">254</p> <p>1 And I also just wanted to respond to your 2 earlier question when it wasn't our time at the 3 table. 4 So overall, we're working to do better with 5 the communities. In the past, we've sent out 6 newsletters through our CLOs and HTOs. 7 I'll hold. Thank you. 8 We've sent out newsletters through our CLOs 9 and to the HTOs in the impacted communities to 10 let them know of our activities as a lands 11 department for a regional Inuit association. 12 We're also looking to, as an organization, 13 expand our Nautiqsuqtiit program. While it's 14 not specific to the Mary River Project, it's a 15 very strong presence in our communities, and 16 we're also looking to find partnerships between 17 the departments that manage this project and 18 the Nautiqsuqtiit. 19 For the Mary River Project specifically, 20 one of the key ways that QIA is working with 21 impacted communities is through the Inuit 22 stewardship program. QIA has plans for further 23 development of the program. 24 We've already conducted past studies with 25 Pond Inlet on Inuit Knowledge of freshwater and 26 how dust affects freshwater. As my colleague</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">255</p> <p>1 mentioned earlier, we're planning to share 2 these studies by March 31st. 3 The Inuit stewardship program is led by a 4 dedicated committee at arm's length from QIA. 5 The committee is composed from only community 6 representatives from each of the seven impacted 7 communities. This committee will play an 8 important role in QIA's efforts to establish 9 and maintain Inuit-led monitoring and research, 10 reviewing results, and providing some 11 recommendations to Baffinland on project 12 mitigation and monitoring -- monitoring and 13 mitigation measures and management plans. 14 In our submissions to the Nunavut Water 15 Board for this process, we are recommending a 16 number of measures for the licence to include 17 requirements for the Applicant to include 18 feedback from Inuit of the impacted 19 communities, for example, freshwater IQ and 20 water quality, in a way that is not just by 21 scientific standards but also how it is 22 culturally valued by Inuit. 23 Thank you very much. 24 S. AUTUT: Thank you. 25 Any other questions or comments for the 26 Qikiqtani Inuit Association?</p>

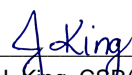
<p style="text-align: right;">256</p> <p>1 If not, thank you for your presentation. 2 I'll now call upon Crown-Indigenous 3 Relations and Northern Affairs, and we'll ask 4 Teresa to accept into evidence the presentation 5 and swear and/or affirm the presenters. 6 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair. 7 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut 8 Water Board. 9 If I can have the witnesses state and spell 10 their names for the record, please. 11 L. PERRIN: Lauren Perrin, 12 L-A-U-R-E-N P-E-R-R-I-N. 13 A. KEIM: Thank you. It's Andrew, 14 A-N-D-R-E-W, last name Keim, K-E-I-M. 15 T. MEADOWS: Thank you. Teresa 16 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water 17 Board. Do you wish to be sworn or affirmed? 18 A. KEIM: I'll swear. 19 T. MEADOWS: Lauren, how do you wish 20 to proceed? 21 L. PERRIN: It doesn't matter. 22 A. KEIM: We'll do it together. 23 ANDREW KEIM, LAUREN PERRIN, Sworn 24 T. MEADOWS: Thank you. Teresa 25 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water 26 Board.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">257</p> <p>1 So, Mr. Chair and Madam Chair, I have the 2 presentation materials that Crown-Indigenous 3 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada has 4 prepared, and I will be filing those as the 5 next exhibits in the public hearing, and that 6 concludes my procedural matters. 7 EXHIBIT 6 - Crown-Indigenous 8 Relations and Northern Affairs 9 Canada, Hard Copy, PowerPoint 10 Presentation, Final Public Hearing of 11 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation 12 Water Licence Renewal 2AM-MRY1325, 13 March 11-12, 2025 (English) 14 EXHIBIT 7 - Crown-Indigenous 15 Relations and Northern Affairs 16 Canada, Hard Copy, PowerPoint 17 Presentation, Final Public Hearing of 18 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation 19 Water Licence Renewal 2AM-MRY1325, 20 March 11-12, 2025 (Inuktitut) 21 EXHIBIT 8 - Crown-Indigenous 22 Relations and Northern Affairs 23 Canada, Hard Copy, PowerPoint 24 Presentation, Final Public Hearing of 25 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation 26 Water Licence Renewal 2AM-MRY1325,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">258</p> <p>1 March 11-12, 2025 (French) 2 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Teresa. 3 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 4 Affairs, please proceed. 5 Presentation by Crown-Indigenous Relations and 6 Northern Affairs 7 L. PERRIN: Thank you, Madam Chair. 8 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 9 Affairs Canada would like to thank the Nunavut 10 Water Board for organizing this public hearing 11 and giving us the opportunity to present on the 12 application to renew Type A Water Licence 13 2AM-MRY1325 submitted by Baffinland. 14 This presentation will cover our roles and 15 responsibilities, technical review comments, 16 the security management agreement, and our 17 conclusion. 18 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 19 Affairs Canada's responsibilities, mandate, and 20 obligations are in alignment with the 21 following: Crown-Indigenous Relations and 22 Northern Affairs Act, the Nunavut Agreement, 23 Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act, Nunavut 24 Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act 25 and the associated regulations, Nunavut 26 Planning and Project Assessment Act,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">259</p> <p>1 Territorial Lands Act and the associated 2 regulations, Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention 3 Act. 4 CIRNAC and Baffinland have worked together 5 since the beginning of this process meeting 6 many times and coming to some mutual agreements 7 on our comments. Since we submitted this 8 presentation, we have updated numbers. 9 So we originally submitted 37 technical 10 comments with a review. At the time, 19 11 concerns were resolved, 18 were resolved with 12 commitments, and we had 4 outstanding concerns. 13 These four outstanding concerns have since been 14 resolved through commitment from Baffinland. I 15 will discuss these four commitments over the 16 next couple slides. 17 Technical Comment R-4 related to dustfall 18 monitoring. Dustfall, as a pathway of 19 potential effects, requires improved management 20 planning, monitoring, and reporting. 21 Baffinland has committed to conducting the 22 dustfall review as part of the 2025 QIA NWB 23 annual report for operations, which is to be 24 submitted by March 31, 2026. 25 As required, the outcomes of the dustfall 26 data review will be integrated into relevant</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">260</p> <p>1 management plans. Any plans updated would be 2 completed within six months of publication of 3 the dustfall water review -- data review -- 4 sorry -- or an alternative date as agreed to 5 by -- between Baffinland and CIRNAC. With 6 this, CIRNAC now considers this resolved. 7 Technical Comment R-8 relates to mineral 8 waste. CIRNAC recommended that the waste 9 management plan include how soils, sediment, or 10 construction materials would be collected, 11 contained, recorded during work and disposed 12 of. 13 Baffinland has committed to update their 14 interim closure reclamation plan to include 15 soil or sediments containing site-related 16 contaminants that pose a risk to human health 17 and/or the environment. A contaminant -- yeah, 18 we're still working on that definition of what 19 a contaminant is; however, CIRNAC considers 20 this technical comment resolved through 21 commitment. 22 Technical Comment R-11 relates to climate 23 change predictions. CIRNAC recommended that 24 Baffinland investigate more recent climate 25 change predictions to evaluate the long-term 26 thermal stability of permafrost in the waste</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">261</p> <p>1 rock pile, including investigating the source 2 of inconsistencies in the thermal -- sorry -- 3 data and implementing the result in the thermal 4 model and include intermediate and worst-case 5 scenarios and temperature predictions -- 6 projections -- sorry -- for the thermal model 7 of the waste rock facility. 8 Baffinland committed to include multiple 9 climate change predictions, including SSP-1, 10 SSP-2, and SSP-5 in the next update of the 11 thermal model planned for 2026 as outlined in 12 the interim closure and reclamation plan, 13 Revision 6. CIRNAC now considers this comment 14 to be resolved through commitment. 15 Technical Comment R-16 relates to water 16 quality monitoring. CIRNAC recommended that 17 Baffinland provide a comparison between 18 predicted and measured water quality data and 19 evaluate the additional mitigation measures as 20 required, as well, provide an update on 21 geochemical modelling and pit water 22 predictions. 23 Baffinland has committed to undertaking a 24 pit water quality model update in 2025. This 25 model will include operational pit water 26 quality predictions for the next five years and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">262</p> <p>1 water quality predictions for an early closure 2 scenario at the end of the five years 3 considering the three different climate change 4 scenarios for a 100-year period. As part of 5 this modelling, water quality predictions for 6 early closure will be compared against the 7 closure objectives and criteria as outlined in 8 Baffinland's interim closure and reclamation 9 plan, Revision 6. 10 The five-year operational water quality 11 predictions will then be evaluated against the 12 FEIS predictions and the Type A water licence 13 discharge criteria. CIRNAC now considers this 14 comment to be resolved through commitment. 15 As previously mentioned, this presentation 16 was submitted prior to us working out all our 17 unresolved issues, so the unresolveds are now 18 under the resolved through commitments. 19 We are committed to working to get towards 20 a signed SMA completed in time for the Minister 21 review of a licence between Baffinland and QIA. 22 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 23 Affairs Canada continues to work with all 24 parties through this water licence application 25 process and aiming to protect Nunavut's inland 26 water resources while promoting sustainable</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">263</p> <p>1 development. 2 Thank you. 3 S. AUTUT: Thank you, 4 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 5 Affairs. 6 Before we take questions, we're going to 7 ask both Environment and Climate Change Canada 8 and Department of Fisheries and Oceans to 9 present, and you may be called back up to 10 answer questions. 11 So I now call on Environment and Climate 12 Change Canada, and again we'll accept your 13 presentation into the exhibits and swear or 14 affirm. 15 T. MEADOWS: If I can have the 16 witnesses state and spell their name for the 17 record, please. 18 E. WALKER: Eva Walker, E-V-A 19 W-A-L-K-E-R. 20 S. FORTE: Sarah Forte, S-A-R-A-H 21 F-O-R-T-E. 22 T. MEADOWS: Thank you. Do the 23 witnesses wish to be sworn or affirmed? 24 E. WALKER: Affirmed. 25 EVA WALKER, SARAH FORTE, Affirmed 26 T. MEADOWS: Teresa Meadows, legal</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">264</p> <p>1 counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.</p> <p>2 So I have the presentation materials in</p> <p>3 English and Inuktitut that are about to be</p> <p>4 presented by Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>5 Canada, and I also have a summary in Inuktitut</p> <p>6 of the submissions of Environment and Climate</p> <p>7 Change Canada, and I propose to mark those as</p> <p>8 the next two exhibits in this public hearing,</p> <p>9 and that concludes my procedural matters.</p> <p>10 EXHIBIT 9 - Electronic Copy,</p> <p>11 PowerPoint Presentation, Baffinland</p> <p>12 Type A Water Licence Renewal, Public</p> <p>13 Hearing Presentation by Environment</p> <p>14 and Climate Change Canada, March 11,</p> <p>15 2025 (English and Inuktitut)</p> <p>16 EXHIBIT 10 - Hard Copy, Summary of</p> <p>17 Environment and Climate Change Canada</p> <p>18 Comment Submission, March 11, 2025</p> <p>19 (Inuktitut)</p> <p>20 S. AUTUT: Thanks, Teresa.</p> <p>21 Environment and Climate Change Canada,</p> <p>22 please proceed.</p> <p>23 E. WALKER: Thank you.</p> <p>24 Presentation by Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>25 Canada</p> <p>26 E. WALKER: Mr. Chair, we had a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">265</p> <p>1 question earlier about avian flu, bird flu. I</p> <p>2 have some answers. Would you like me to read</p> <p>3 that now or after our presentation or ...</p> <p>4 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Eva.</p> <p>5 Yeah, I believe that that was a question</p> <p>6 posed by Caleb, so you can provide a response</p> <p>7 now.</p> <p>8 E. WALKER: Okay. Thanks.</p> <p>9 So, sorry, it's -- it's awkward to figure</p> <p>10 out how to speak to people, so ...</p> <p>11 There have been a small number of cases of</p> <p>12 avian flu in migratory birds in Nunavut.</p> <p>13 There's a low risk to humans currently. Known</p> <p>14 cases were contracted by long-term sustained</p> <p>15 contact with infected poultry. That's chickens</p> <p>16 and turkeys typically in the south on farms.</p> <p>17 It's possible that people can get up</p> <p>18 infected with avian flu or bird flu by exposure</p> <p>19 to contaminated water; however, the evidence to</p> <p>20 support this is limited, and the risk to people</p> <p>21 from drinking or swimming in water with the</p> <p>22 virus is low. The best practice is to treat</p> <p>23 water before drinking it if there was a</p> <p>24 presence of waterfowl or birds.</p> <p>25 Birds catch avian flu primarily from their</p> <p>26 saliva or nasal secretions or feces. So in</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">266</p> <p>1 this case, do not handle or eat birds that</p> <p>2 appear to be sick or have died from unknown</p> <p>3 causes, and fully cook birds that have been</p> <p>4 hunted and eggs to a high temperature and</p> <p>5 follow safe food-handling practices such as</p> <p>6 handwashing.</p> <p>7 Nunavut Department of Health, the</p> <p>8 Department of Environment, Environment and</p> <p>9 Climate Change Canada, Health Canada, the</p> <p>10 Canadian Food Inspection Agency are working</p> <p>11 together and continue to monitor and manage the</p> <p>12 situation. Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>13 Canada has been actively collecting samples</p> <p>14 from both live and wild birds and those</p> <p>15 harvested by hunters to assess the spread of</p> <p>16 the virus, and the public will be informed if</p> <p>17 increases to health risks arise.</p> <p>18 If you see dead birds or sick birds in your</p> <p>19 community, please report them to the Government</p> <p>20 of Nunavut's conservation officers.</p> <p>21 Okay. And now we'll proceed with our</p> <p>22 presentation.</p> <p>23 So good evening, Mr. Chair, Board members,</p> <p>24 community members, Board staff, Baffinland,</p> <p>25 fellow Intervenors. As stated my name is Eva</p> <p>26 Walker, and I'm the manager with Environment</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">267</p> <p>1 and Climate Change Canada's environmental</p> <p>2 assessment group. With me, I have Sarah Forte.</p> <p>3 Yeah. Sorry. Okay. So Slide 2.</p> <p>4 I'll present our department's mandate,</p> <p>5 briefly touch on the Acts and legislations that</p> <p>6 are relevant to Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>7 Canada, and then I'll pass it over to Sarah to</p> <p>8 outline our comments and recommendations for</p> <p>9 the final intervention.</p> <p>10 Next slide. Great.</p> <p>11 Environment and Climate Change Canada's</p> <p>12 mandate includes the preservation and</p> <p>13 enhancement of -- of the quality of the natural</p> <p>14 environment, including water, air, and soil</p> <p>15 quality through coordination of relevant</p> <p>16 policies and programs of the Government of</p> <p>17 Canada. It also includes renewable resources,</p> <p>18 such as migratory birds and other non-domestic</p> <p>19 flora and fauna, meteorology, and the</p> <p>20 enforcement of rules and regulations</p> <p>21 associated.</p> <p>22 Next slide.</p> <p>23 The Acts under our mandate are the</p> <p>24 Department of Environment Act, the Canadian</p> <p>25 Environmental Protection Act, the Pollution</p> <p>26 Prevention Provision of the Fisheries Act, the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">268</p> <p>1 Migratory Birds Conservation Act, and the 2 Species at Risk Act. 3 Okay. Good. I'll now pass this on to 4 Sarah for a discussion of our technical 5 comments. 6 S. FORTE: Sarah Forte with 7 Environment and Climate Change Canada. I'm 8 sorry I have my back to the people I'd like to 9 address. 10 So Environment and Climate Change Canada 11 has been participating throughout the water 12 licence renewal process. In our final 13 submission, we had four outstanding technical 14 comments. The comment titles are on this 15 slide, and I will describe them briefly. 16 Comment Number 5 was not really technical 17 but rather about changes Baffinland proposed to 18 the wording for a renewed licence. Environment 19 and Climate Change Canada's biggest concern is 20 the management of water running along 21 disturbances and along ditches. This water can 22 pick up a lot of dust and soil, which ends up 23 as suspended sediment in the water. It makes 24 the water cloudy, and it can harm fish and 25 other aquatic life. 26 Comment Number 1 is about runoff water</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">269</p> <p>1 around the mine site that eventually makes its 2 way to Sheardown Lake. Baffinland have 3 presented us with a plan of the changes they 4 will make on site to do a better job of 5 settling out suspended sediment in water before 6 it is released. This comment is considered 7 resolved. 8 Comment Number 3 is about the water in 9 streams that the Tote Road crosses. 10 Environment and Climate Change Canada and 11 Baffinland do not agree on what value to use as 12 a cutoff for a project-related change in 13 suspended sediment. The value is the 14 difference in sediment amounts in the water 15 between upstream before the culvert and 16 downstream after the culvert. The cutoff is 17 used to trigger actions to reduce the sediment 18 load in water. 19 Baffinland's presentation has pictures on 20 Slide 41 of the types of actions they can take, 21 and Paul explained what they do to keep sand 22 from entering lakes. At this public hearing, 23 Environment and Climate Change Canada will 24 explain why we recommend a lower cutoff than 25 what Baffinland is proposing. 26 Comment Number 2 is about making sure that</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">270</p> <p>1 the plans and programs related to water 2 management are part of the water licence. The 3 water licence has not changed since 2015, but 4 there have been several project reviews by the 5 Nunavut Impact Review Board and continuous 6 discussions with the Qikiqtani Inuit 7 Association. 8 The ongoing discussions have generated 9 plans and programs that would normally be part 10 of a water licence. Environment and Climate 11 Change Canada is recommending that the existing 12 snow management plan and Tote Road monitoring 13 program be included in the plans that are 14 already part of the water licence. 15 Baffinland has agreed for the snow 16 management plan but not for the Tote Road 17 monitoring program because of the disagreement 18 I spoke of earlier on what should be used as a 19 cutoff concentration of suspended sediment in 20 water for starting work to reduce the sediment 21 load. 22 The last comment I'll talk about, Number 4, 23 is about permafrost and groundwater. 24 Baffinland's mine plan includes the 25 development of a pit approximately 200-metres 26 deep. They have plans to make more</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">271</p> <p>1 measurements and a model to better understand 2 how the pit lake will affect permafrost, and I 3 realize I should explain there will be a lake 4 in the pit after operations, not during 5 operations. 6 Environment and Climate Change Canada 7 recommended that the study also include 8 groundwater to check if there are potential 9 interactions between the pit and groundwater, 10 including what will happen after the mine is 11 closed. Baffinland have committed to doing 12 this, so Environment and Climate Change Canada 13 considers this comment resolved. 14 E. WALKER: That concludes 15 Environment and Climate Change Canada's 16 presentation. I'd like to thank the community 17 members for attending and listening to our 18 presentation. Thank you, Board Chair, Board 19 staff, and Baffinland for allowing us to 20 present. 21 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Environment 22 and Climate Change Canada. 23 Again, we will defer questions until the 24 end of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans 25 presentation, so I call upon Department of 26 Fisheries and Oceans. Again, we will note the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">272</p> <p>1 exhibit and do the affirmation or swearing in. 2 T. MEADOWS: Thank you. Teresa 3 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water 4 Board. 5 And I just want to mention to everyone 6 thank you for hanging in there. We have a 7 couple of communities that have to leave early 8 tomorrow morning, which is why we're pushing 9 through tonight, so that all the presentations 10 can be in front of those community members so 11 that they can ask questions while they're still 12 here. So my apologies to everybody for the 13 very long day. 14 So if I can have the witnesses state and 15 spell their name for the record, please. 16 P. HARPER: Paul Harper, P-A-U-L 17 H-A-R-P-E-R. 18 N. WASILIK: Nicholas Wasilik, 19 N-I-C-H-O-L-A-S W-A-S-I-L-I-K. 20 T. MEADOWS: Thank you. Do the 21 witnesses wish to be sworn or affirmed? 22 P. HARPER: We'll affirm. 23 PAUL HARPER, NICHOLAS WASILIK, Affirmed 24 T. MEADOWS: Thank you. Teresa 25 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water 26 Board.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">273</p> <p>1 So I have a copy of your presentation in 2 English and Inuktitut, and I will mark that as 3 the next exhibit in the public hearing. 4 And those are my procedural matters, 5 Mr. Chair. 6 EXHIBIT 11 - Fisheries and Oceans 7 Canada, Hard Copy, PowerPoint 8 Presentation, Mary River Project, 9 Water Licence Renewal for 10 2AM-MRY1325, March 11, 2025 (English 11 and Inuktitut) 12 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Teresa. 13 Please proceed, Fisheries and Oceans 14 Canada. 15 Presentation by Fisheries and Oceans Canada 16 P. HARPER: Okay. So Paul Harper, 17 Fisheries and Oceans Canada. It's been a long 18 day, so I'll keep this quick. 19 I'm here with Nick, and we're members of 20 the fish and fish habitat protection program. 21 We're part of the Federal institution that's 22 responsible for safeguarding our waters, so we 23 manage fisheries and oceans, and we ensure 24 healthy and sustainable ecosystems through 25 habitat protection using sound science. We 26 support economic growth in the marine and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">274</p> <p>1 fisheries sectors as well. 2 In addition to this process, we also have a 3 concurrent regulatory process, so we are 4 working with Baffinland for Fisheries Act 5 authorizations for Steensby. 6 So comments in this process from Fisheries 7 and Oceans related to fish and fish habitat 8 protection. We only had two comments. 9 Our first comment was related to the Tote 10 Road and ensuring that infrastructure along the 11 Tote Road was captured in the management plans, 12 and Baffinland had committed to providing this 13 information to us. I believe our commitment 14 now is for six months after the water licence 15 has been signed. 16 Our second concern was related to sediment 17 and erosion control, and we've heard a lot 18 about sediment today. Fisheries and Oceans 19 Canada is satisfied that an erosion and 20 sediment control program that is being 21 developed by Baffinland will help improve 22 knowledge of sediment and erosion on the site, 23 and we're looking forward to reviewing that 24 program hopefully in the next month or so. 25 And so with that, Fisheries and Oceans 26 considers all of our comments related to the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">275</p> <p>1 water licence satisfied, and that was it. 2 Thank you. 3 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Fisheries and 4 Oceans Canada. 5 So that concludes the presentations from 6 the Federal organizations, and we now open the 7 floor to questions from the public. If you 8 have any questions or comments, please make 9 your way to the microphone. 10 Okay. So I'm not seeing any questions. So 11 that brings us to the end of our agenda for 12 tonight's session. On behalf of the Nunavut 13 Water Board, I would like to thank everyone for 14 participating tonight and thank you to the 15 community of Pond Inlet for hosting these 16 important meetings. Special thanks to all of 17 the presenters tonight and all the people who 18 joined us this evening online and in the 19 community to share their views, comments, and 20 questions with the Board. 21 In terms of what is next in this public 22 hearing, the technical review component of the 23 Board's public hearing will continue tomorrow 24 right here starting at 9:00, and we expect to 25 wrap up that aspect of the public hearing by 26 5:00 tomorrow afternoon. Everyone is welcome</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">276</p> <p>1 to attend tomorrow's session.</p> <p>2 Once we have concluded the public hearing</p> <p>3 and closed the public hearing record for the</p> <p>4 renewal application, this panel will meet to</p> <p>5 make a decision regarding the application.</p> <p>6 Within 30 to 45 days, the panel will issue the</p> <p>7 Board's record of this hearing and decision</p> <p>8 about the application to the Minister of</p> <p>9 Northern Affairs and the public.</p> <p>10 If the Board decides to approve the renewal</p> <p>11 of the licence, the Board will also attach a</p> <p>12 copy of the licence terms and conditions to the</p> <p>13 decision. The Board's written decision will be</p> <p>14 available on the Nunavut Water Board's Public</p> <p>15 Registry website.</p> <p>16 On behalf of the Board, I would like to</p> <p>17 extend safe travels to our delegates from Clyde</p> <p>18 River and Arctic Bay. We thank you for your</p> <p>19 questions and your feedback in this process,</p> <p>20 and if Ben has any updates on your travel, he</p> <p>21 will advise before you leave the venue tonight.</p> <p>22 Mr. Chair, that concludes our agenda for</p> <p>23 tonight. We wish everyone a good night and</p> <p>24 hope to see them tomorrow.</p> <p>25 THE CHAIR: Okay. We start at 9 in</p> <p>26 the morning. We reconvene tomorrow morning.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">277</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 9:00 AM EDT,</p> <p>3 MARCH 12, 2025</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT:</p> <p>6</p> <p>7 I, J. King, certify that the foregoing</p> <p>8 pages are a complete and accurate transcript of</p> <p>9 the proceedings taken down by me in shorthand</p> <p>10 and transcribed from my shorthand notes to the</p> <p>11 best of my skill and ability.</p> <p>12 Dated at the City of Airdrie, Province of</p> <p>13 Alberta, this 22nd day of March 2025.</p> <p>14</p> <p>15 </p> <p>16 J. King, CSR(A)</p> <p>17 Official Court Reporter</p> <p>18 Commissioner for Oaths Appointee No. 0733800</p> <p>19 ASRA Membership No. 146</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p>