

<p style="text-align: right;">278</p> <p>NUNAVUT WATER BOARD</p> <p>RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR TYPE A WATER LICENCE NO: 2AM-MRY1325 BY BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION</p> <hr/> <p>PUBLIC HEARING VOLUME 3</p> <hr/> <p>Pond Inlet, Nunavut March 12, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">279</p> <p>1 TABLE OF CONTENTS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Description Page</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 March 12, 2025 Morning Session 282</p> <p>6 Opening Remarks by The Chair 287</p> <p>7 ANDREW KEIM, LAUREN PERRIN, Previously Sworn 290</p> <p>8 Presentation by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 290</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 EVA WALKER, SARAH FORTE, Previously Affirmed 296</p> <p>11 Presentation by Environment and Climate Change Canada 296</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 PAUL HARPER, NICHOLAS WASILIK, Previously Affirmed 308</p> <p>14</p> <p>15 Presentation by Department of Fisheries and Oceans 308</p> <p>16</p> <p>17 Questions for Nunavut Water Board by Community Representatives 311</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 Questions for Environment and Climate Change Canada by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation 314</p> <p>20</p> <p>21 Discussion 321</p> <p>22 Questions for Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs by Nunavut Water Board Staff 323</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p>
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<p>1 INTERVENORS</p> <p>2 QUKIQTANI INUIT ASSOCIATION</p> <p>3 A. Kubeisinova Manager, Regulatory 4 Review</p> <p>5 J. Ottenhof Director, Qikiqtani 6 Nunaliirijikkut</p> <p>7 A. MacDonald The Firelight Group 8 R. Nesbitt Hutchinson Environmental 9 Sciences Ltd.</p> <p>10 J. Cavallo LGL Limited 11 C. Shefman Legal Counsel</p> <p>12 13 (Via Remote Video) 14 K. Scott The Firelight Group 15 J. Carman LGL Limited 16 M. Kay LGL Limited</p> <p>17 18 CROWN-INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS</p> <p>19 A. Keim Manager, Water Resources 20 L. Perrin Water Management 21 Specialist 22 J. McHattie Legal Counsel</p> <p>23 24 (Via Remote Video) 25 J. Croston Technical Expert, 26 AtkinsRéalis</p>	<p>1 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA</p> <p>2 E. Walker Manager, Environmental 3 Assessment Group</p> <p>4 S. Forte Water Quality Analyst</p> <p>5 6 (Via Remote Video) 7 R. Nissen Air Quality Analyst 8 R. Ejeckam Mining Expert 9 J. Kassir Environmental Assessment 10 Officer 11 J. Hollman Environmental Assessment 12 Officer</p> <p>13 14 FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA</p> <p>15 P. Harper Senior Biologist 16 N. Wasilik Regulatory Review 17 Biologist</p> <p>18 19 (Via Remote Video) 20 C. Kovachik Regulatory Review 21 Biologist</p> <p>22 23 HAMLET OF ARCTIC BAY</p> <p>24 S. Qaunaq Community Representative 25 O. Naqitarvik Community Representative 26 R. Taqtu Community Representative</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">286</p> <p>1 HAMLET OF HALL BEACH</p> <p>2 A. Qammaniq Community Representative</p> <p>3 J. Kaerner Community Representative</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 HAMLET OF IGLOOLIK</p> <p>6 A. Attagutalukutuk Community Representative</p> <p>7 L. Idlout Community Representative</p> <p>8 N. Piugattuk Community Representative</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 HAMLET OF POND INLET</p> <p>11 J. Katsak Community Representative</p> <p>12 B. Merkosak Community Representative</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 INTERPRETORS/TRANSLATORS</p> <p>15 R. Katsak Inuktitut Language</p> <p>16 Translator</p> <p>17 T. Arnakallak Inuktitut Language</p> <p>18 Translator</p> <p>19</p> <p>20 J. King, CSR(A) Official Court Reporter</p> <p>21 C. Coomber Sound Technician</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">287</p> <p>1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:11 AM EDT)</p> <p>2 Opening Remarks by The Chair</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: We'll start, reconvene</p> <p>4 from yesterday's sitting.</p> <p>5 Good morning. Before we start, I would</p> <p>6 like to have an opening prayer. Uriash will do</p> <p>7 opening prayer.</p> <p>8 (OPENING PRAYER)</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: Before we go on to our</p> <p>10 agenda, I'd like to have a housekeeping touched</p> <p>11 on. Teresa will do some -- a little bit of</p> <p>12 housekeeping.</p> <p>13 Thank you.</p> <p>14 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>15 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut</p> <p>16 Water Board.</p> <p>17 So welcome back, everyone. I know that it</p> <p>18 was a long night for some of you and a short</p> <p>19 morning. So today we will continue on with the</p> <p>20 technical meeting with the presentations by the</p> <p>21 Federal family. We recognize that their</p> <p>22 presentations yesterday were a short</p> <p>23 abbreviated form of what they -- what their</p> <p>24 comment submissions were, and all the parties</p> <p>25 here did not have an opportunity to ask them</p> <p>26 questions, so we will start with presentations</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">288</p> <p>1 by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>2 Affairs Canada followed by Environment and</p> <p>3 Climate Change Canada and Fisheries and Oceans</p> <p>4 Canada.</p> <p>5 After each presentation, there will be an</p> <p>6 opportunity for the parties here and the public</p> <p>7 to ask any additional questions that they may</p> <p>8 have, and then we will move on to -- as you</p> <p>9 heard yesterday, there are three additional</p> <p>10 documents that Baffinland is proposing to file</p> <p>11 that will include commitments, updates to the</p> <p>12 draft water licence framework that was provided</p> <p>13 earlier for parties to comment on, and</p> <p>14 additional updates with respect to resolution</p> <p>15 of matters. And so we will reconvene to have</p> <p>16 discussions of those documents and the</p> <p>17 commitments that have come out of this meeting,</p> <p>18 and then final closing statements from all the</p> <p>19 parties and a discussion of the close of the</p> <p>20 hearing and potentially close of the hearing</p> <p>21 public record.</p> <p>22 For those of you who were not here</p> <p>23 yesterday, there is interpretation equipment at</p> <p>24 the front table. I believe Channel 1 is</p> <p>25 English -- no, back to Channel 2. Channel 2 is</p> <p>26 English. I had a 50 percent chance of being</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">289</p> <p>1 correct. Oh, I had a less than 50 percent</p> <p>2 chance of being correct, then. Channel 3 is</p> <p>3 English. Channel 2 is --</p> <p>4 C. COOMBER: Sorry. I'll jump on here</p> <p>5 quickly.</p> <p>6 T. MEADOWS: Okay. Thank you, Chris.</p> <p>7 C. COOMBER: For the portable</p> <p>8 receivers that the audience have, Channel 1 is</p> <p>9 floor, no interpretation. Channel 2 is</p> <p>10 English. Channel 3 is Inuktitut.</p> <p>11 For everyone sitting at the hearing tables,</p> <p>12 the microphone bases, Channel 1 is English.</p> <p>13 Channel 2 is Inuktitut.</p> <p>14 T. MEADOWS: Okay. I had no chance of</p> <p>15 getting it right, just so you know. Thank you,</p> <p>16 Chris.</p> <p>17 If you are having any trouble with your</p> <p>18 headset, in all seriousness, please ask Chris.</p> <p>19 Do not ask me. Obviously I don't know.</p> <p>20 In addition, we have fresh coffee and tea</p> <p>21 and snacks -- thank you -- and please help</p> <p>22 yourself.</p> <p>23 And as yesterday, we do have a court</p> <p>24 reporter with us who is recording all of the</p> <p>25 submissions throughout the day, and to really</p> <p>26 help her out, please state your name before you</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">290</p> <p>1 speak and please, for the interpreters -- I 2 just realized as I was doing that, that I am 3 the worst offender, but please speak clearly 4 and slowly so that we can ensure we have an 5 accurate record of the public hearing and that 6 our fine interpreters are able to make sure we 7 are all heard and understood in the language of 8 our choice. 9 So without further ado, if I can recall 10 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 11 up to the front, please proceed with your 12 presentation. I remind them that we have sworn 13 them in already, so they do not need to be 14 sworn in again. 15 Thank you, Mr. Chair. 16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Teresa. So 17 we'll start with the Intervenor's presentation, 18 so CIRNA we'll start with this morning, and the 19 next one will be ECCC, and the last one, DFO. 20 Just we'll handle these Intervenor's 21 presentation just like the way we did last 22 night. 23 ANDREW KEIM, LAUREN PERRIN, Previously Sworn 24 THE CHAIR: Go ahead. Proceed. 25 Presentation by Crown-Indigenous Relations and 26 Northern Affairs</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">291</p> <p>1 L. PERRIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 2 Good morning. My name is Lauren Perrin. 3 I'm the water management specialist. With me 4 today, I have Andrew Keim, manager of the water 5 resources division, and Joseph McHattie, legal 6 counsel. As well online, we have Joseph -- 7 not -- Jonathan Croston, technical expert from 8 AtkinsRéalis. 9 This presentation will cover our roles and 10 responsibilities, technical review comments, 11 security management agreement, and our 12 conclusion. 13 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 14 Affairs Canada responsibilities, mandate, and 15 obligations are in align with the following: 16 Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 17 Act, Nunavut Agreement, Nunavut Land Claims 18 Agreement Act, Nunavut Waters and Nunavut 19 Surface Rights Tribunal Act and the associated 20 regulations, Nunavut Planning and Project 21 Assessment Act, Territorial Lands Act and 22 associated regulations, and finally, Arctic 23 Water Pollutions Prevention Act. 24 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 25 Affairs Canada and Baffinland have worked very 26 hard together over the last months meeting</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">292</p> <p>1 regularly in order to come to a mutual 2 agreement on our outstanding technical 3 comments. This presentation was provided to 4 the Board before we were able to get through 5 all of our technical comments; therefore, these 6 numbers are updated since. 7 Originally, there was 37 technical comments 8 submitted to the Board. 19 were considered 9 resolved, 18 were resolved with commitments, 10 and we had 4 outstanding concerns. These four 11 outstanding concerns have since been resolved 12 through commitments made by Baffinland. These 13 next couple slides will outline these four 14 outstanding concerns. 15 Technical Comment R-4 related to dustfall 16 monitoring. Dustfall, as a pathway of 17 potential effects, requires improved management 18 planning, monitoring, and reporting. 19 Baffinland has committed to conducting a 20 dustfall review of the following in the 2025 21 QIA NWB annual report for operations, which 22 would be submitted on March 31, 2026. 23 The outcomes of the dustfall data review 24 will be integrated into relevant management 25 plans, and any updates to the plan would be 26 completed within six months of publication of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">293</p> <p>1 the dustfall data review or an alternative date 2 mutually agreed upon between Baffinland and 3 CIRNAC. CIRNAC now considers this resolved 4 through commitment. 5 Technical Comment R-8 relates to mineral 6 waste. CIRNAC recommended the waste management 7 plan include how soils, sediments, or 8 construction materials would be collected, 9 contained, recorded during work, and disposed 10 of. Baffinland has committed to update the 11 ICRP to include soil or sediments containing 12 site-related contaminants that pose a risk to 13 human health and/or the environment. 14 A contaminant is defined as any substance 15 that when introduced into the air, water, soil, 16 or sediment exceeds an agreed-upon land-use or 17 other criteria developed as part of the closure 18 planning process and anything that has the 19 potential to cause adverse effects to human 20 health, the environment, or ecological systems. 21 CIRNAC considers this comment to be resolved 22 through commitment. 23 Technical Comment R-11 relates to climate 24 change predictions. Crown-Indigenous Relations 25 and Northern Affairs Canada recommends that 26 Baffinland investigate the more recent climate</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">294</p> <p>1 change predictions and evaluate the long-term 2 thermal stability of the permafrost in the 3 waste rock pile. This included investigating 4 the sources of the inconsistencies in the 5 thermal data and implementing the results in 6 the thermal model, as well, include 7 intermediate and worst-case scenario with 8 temperature projections for the thermal model 9 of the waste rock facility.</p> <p>10 Baffinland has committed to include 11 multiple climate change projections, including 12 SSP-1, SSP-2, and SSP-5 into their next update 13 of the thermal model planned for 2026. This is 14 also outlined in the interim closure and 15 reclamation plan, Revision 6. CIRNAC now 16 considers this comment to be resolved through 17 commitment.</p> <p>18 Technical Comment R-16 related to water 19 quality monitoring. CIRNAC recommended that 20 Baffinland provide a comparison between 21 predicted and measured water quality data and 22 evaluate if additional mitigation measures are 23 required. As well, provide an update on the 24 geochemical modelling and pit water quality 25 predictions.</p> <p>26 Baffinland has committed to undertaking a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">295</p> <p>1 pit water quality model in 2025. This model 2 will include the following: An operational pit 3 water quality prediction for the next five 4 years, a water quality prediction for early 5 closure scenario at the end of these five 6 years, which will consider three different 7 climate change scenarios for a hundred-year 8 period.</p> <p>9 Additionally, in this model exercise, water 10 quality predictions for early closure scenarios 11 will be compared against closure objectives and 12 criteria. This is outlined in Table 5.1 of 13 Baffinland's interim and closure and 14 reclamation plan, Revision 6. The five-year 15 operational water quality predictions will be 16 evaluated against the FEIS predictions and the 17 Type A water licence discharge criteria. 18 CIRNAC considers this comment to be resolved 19 through commitment.</p> <p>20 This table is a list of all of our comments 21 identifying the resolved, the resolved through 22 commitment, and the unresolved. Since this 23 presentation was submitted to the Board, the 24 unresolveds are now all under the resolved 25 through commitment.</p> <p>26 In regards to the security management</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">296</p> <p>1 agreement, CIRNAC is committed to working with 2 Baffinland and the QIA towards a signed SMA 3 that would be completed in time for the 4 Minister to review with the licence. In 5 conclusion, Crown-Indigenous Relations and 6 Northern Affairs continues to work with all 7 parties throughout this application process 8 review with the aim of protecting Nunavut's 9 inland water resources while promoting 10 sustainable development.</p> <p>11 Thank you very much.</p> <p>12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, CIRNAC.</p> <p>13 We'll continue with our other departments 14 first and then question -- questioning will 15 take place to either one of the three 16 departments.</p> <p>17 So ECCC is next.</p> <p>18 EVA WALKER, SARAH FORTE, Previously Affirmed 19 Presentation by Environment and Climate Change 20 Canada</p> <p>21 THE CHAIR: You may proceed.</p> <p>22 E. WALKER: Good morning, Mr. Chair. 23 My name is Eva Walker, and I am the unit head 24 with Environment and Climate Change Canada, 25 environmental assessment group for the 26 Northwest Territories and Nunavut. With me, I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">297</p> <p>1 have Sarah Forte, water quality analyst. 2 Sorry. On the phone line supporting us, I have 3 Reg Ejeckam, our mining officer; Robert Nissen, 4 water quality -- or, sorry, air quality 5 analyst; Jordan Hollman and Jessica Kassar, 6 both environmental assessment officers with 7 Environment and Climate Change Canada.</p> <p>8 I will start the presentation by presenting 9 the department's mandate, briefly touch on Acts 10 and legislation relevant to Environment and 11 Climate Change Canada, and then I'll pass the 12 presentation to Sarah to outline the majority 13 of the comments and recommendations provided in 14 Environment and Climate Change Canada's final 15 intervention for Baffinland's application for 16 Type A water licence renewal.</p> <p>17 Environment and Climate Change Canada's 18 mandate includes the preservation and 19 enhancement of water quality in the natural 20 environment, including water, air, and soil 21 quality, and the coordination of the relevant 22 policies and programs of the Government of 23 Canada. It also includes renewable resources 24 such as migratory birds and other non-domestic 25 flora and fauna, meteorology, and the 26 enforcement of rules and regulations related to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">298</p> <p>1 our mandate.</p> <p>2 Environment and Climate Change Canada's</p> <p>3 mandate is governed by the Department of the</p> <p>4 Environment Act, the Canadian Environmental</p> <p>5 Protection Act, the Fisheries Act, pollution</p> <p>6 provision provision -- Pollution Prevention</p> <p>7 Provisions, Migratory Birds Convention Act, and</p> <p>8 the Species at Risk Act.</p> <p>9 I'll now pass the presentation on to Sarah</p> <p>10 for the discussion of our comments.</p> <p>11 S. FORTE: Thank you, Eva. Sarah</p> <p>12 Forte with Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>13 Canada.</p> <p>14 So surface runoff management at the mine</p> <p>15 site is difficult. Each year, spills of</p> <p>16 sediment-laden water are reported at spring</p> <p>17 melt. Baffinland has been working to improve</p> <p>18 the situation for several years.</p> <p>19 Environment and Climate Change Canada's</p> <p>20 original comment during the technical review</p> <p>21 requested updates on the 2021 mine site water</p> <p>22 management plan. Baffinland provided the</p> <p>23 information requested with the last piece being</p> <p>24 a report following up on Spill Number 2024-151.</p> <p>25 We met with them in January to discuss the</p> <p>26 report and their plans to improve quality of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">299</p> <p>1 managed surface runoff.</p> <p>2 Environment and Climate Change Canada's</p> <p>3 recommendation is for Baffinland to implement</p> <p>4 the measures proposed in their follow-up report</p> <p>5 on Spill Number 2024-151. Until it can be</p> <p>6 fully implemented, seepage from Kilometre 105</p> <p>7 Pond should be returned to the pond to be</p> <p>8 discharged through final discharge point MS-11.</p> <p>9 Baffinland have committed to comply with</p> <p>10 the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent</p> <p>11 Regulations in their response to final written</p> <p>12 submissions. Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>13 Canada considers this comment resolved because</p> <p>14 sediment in water is one of the contaminants</p> <p>15 captured by the regulations.</p> <p>16 Comment Number 2 is on incorporating plans</p> <p>17 and programs related to water management into a</p> <p>18 renewed water licence. It has two parts</p> <p>19 discussed on separate slides.</p> <p>20 The first part is the Tote Road monitoring</p> <p>21 program that describes water monitoring at</p> <p>22 20 streams that the road crosses. Eight of</p> <p>23 those streams are fish-bearing.</p> <p>24 The program also includes an action</p> <p>25 response framework describing what actions</p> <p>26 should be taken to reduce suspended sediment</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">300</p> <p>1 load if monitoring results are above a trigger</p> <p>2 value. Annual reporting requirements are also</p> <p>3 described in the plan.</p> <p>4 Since the elements of the -- of the program</p> <p>5 contributes to water management for the Mary</p> <p>6 River Project, the program should be integrated</p> <p>7 into a renewed water licence. During a meeting</p> <p>8 with Baffinland on January 24th, Environment</p> <p>9 and Climate Change Canada had understood that</p> <p>10 Baffinland would append the program to the</p> <p>11 surface water aquatic ecosystem management</p> <p>12 plan; however, in their final submission,</p> <p>13 Baffinland commits to incorporating details</p> <p>14 from the program, rather than the entire</p> <p>15 program.</p> <p>16 Through further discussions, Environment</p> <p>17 and Climate Change Canada has understood</p> <p>18 Baffinland does not want to incorporate the</p> <p>19 monitoring program into the plan -- into a plan</p> <p>20 under the water licence because of our</p> <p>21 disagreement on Comment Number 3.</p> <p>22 In their presentation yesterday, Baffinland</p> <p>23 included the Tote Road monitoring program in</p> <p>24 the list of freshwater monitoring programs, and</p> <p>25 Environment and Climate Change Canada agrees</p> <p>26 that it is an important component of freshwater</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">301</p> <p>1 monitoring. We will discuss Comment Number 3</p> <p>2 where there's not alignment in two -- two</p> <p>3 slides further, but for this part of Comment</p> <p>4 Number 2, Environment and Climate Change Canada</p> <p>5 recommends that the Tote Road monitoring</p> <p>6 program be added to the surface water aquatic</p> <p>7 ecosystem management plan.</p> <p>8 The second part of Comment Number 2 is</p> <p>9 similar to the first, only the plan in question</p> <p>10 is the snow management plan.</p> <p>11 The snow management plan also contains</p> <p>12 elements relevant to water management on site</p> <p>13 and should be incorporated in a plan covered by</p> <p>14 renewed water licence.</p> <p>15 Baffinland has provided the details from</p> <p>16 this plan that they will incorporate into the</p> <p>17 surface water ecosystem management plan within</p> <p>18 six months of licence issuance. This includes</p> <p>19 the snow stockpile monitoring station</p> <p>20 locations, frequency, and sampling parameters,</p> <p>21 as well as the snow stockpile inspection and</p> <p>22 snow management audit forms. Environment and</p> <p>23 Climate Change Canada considers this part of</p> <p>24 the comment resolved.</p> <p>25 This third comment is related to the Tote</p> <p>26 Road monitoring program, and as I mentioned</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">302</p> <p>1 earlier, it's connected with Comment Number 2.</p> <p>2 The program defines project-related changes</p> <p>3 to total suspended sediment in streams. It</p> <p>4 uses project-related change as a criterion to</p> <p>5 trigger management actions to reduce sediment</p> <p>6 entering the streams.</p> <p>7 Currently, project-related changes are</p> <p>8 defined as twice the Canadian Council of</p> <p>9 Ministers of the Environment Guideline. The</p> <p>10 guideline states that during periods of high</p> <p>11 flow, total suspended solids should not</p> <p>12 increase by more than 25 milligrams per litre</p> <p>13 above background levels when background</p> <p>14 concentrations are below 250 milligrams per</p> <p>15 litre. If background concentrations are above</p> <p>16 250 milligrams per litre, then the increase</p> <p>17 should not be greater than 10 percent of</p> <p>18 background.</p> <p>19 Baffinland is proposing cutoffs of</p> <p>20 50 milligrams per litre and 20 percent instead.</p> <p>21 Baffinland include some of the Tote Road</p> <p>22 monitoring data in their annual report. We</p> <p>23 looked at the data we were able to find, and</p> <p>24 this included the 2023 monitoring data for all</p> <p>25 20 crossings and data from 2015 to 2023 for the</p> <p>26 eight fish-bearing crossings. To date,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">303</p> <p>1 Baffinland have not been able to provide us</p> <p>2 with more data.</p> <p>3 The data available has been helpful in</p> <p>4 evaluating the arguments Baffinland made to</p> <p>5 support the elevated total suspended solids</p> <p>6 trigger level they propose. Environment and</p> <p>7 Climate Change Canada's three counterarguments</p> <p>8 are listed on this slide.</p> <p>9 So for the first, Baffinland states that</p> <p>10 the creek and river systems are naturally</p> <p>11 accustomed to high suspended sediment loads</p> <p>12 above 250 milligrams per litre, so they are</p> <p>13 unlikely to negatively affect aquatic biota.</p> <p>14 However, high concentrations of total suspended</p> <p>15 sediment may stress aquatic organisms even if</p> <p>16 they are naturally occurring. Increasing the</p> <p>17 frequency, duration, or concentration of high</p> <p>18 total suspended sediment events can cause</p> <p>19 negative effects to aquatic organisms.</p> <p>20 In the data available, there is one</p> <p>21 instance of a background sample over</p> <p>22 250 milligrams per litre in 261 sample pairs,</p> <p>23 and this includes 138 sample pairs that were</p> <p>24 taken during freshet, so the data available</p> <p>25 does not support Baffinland's argument.</p> <p>26 The second argument made was regarding the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">304</p> <p>1 operational burden of triggering management</p> <p>2 actions for a greater number of events. The</p> <p>3 data available indicate that when there are</p> <p>4 project-related increases in total suspended</p> <p>5 sediments, the values are often much higher</p> <p>6 than background. With the current</p> <p>7 50 milligrams-per-litre cutoff, management</p> <p>8 actions were triggered by 3 of the 261 sampling</p> <p>9 events I mentioned earlier. If the Canadian</p> <p>10 Council of Ministers of the Environment</p> <p>11 Guideline of 25 milligrams per litre was used</p> <p>12 as a trigger, there would have been five events</p> <p>13 triggering management actions, instead of</p> <p>14 three. This operational burden does not appear</p> <p>15 overly onerous.</p> <p>16 The final argument Baffinland presented was</p> <p>17 the Tote Road monitoring programs in water</p> <p>18 licences for other mines in Nunavut did not</p> <p>19 include numerical cutoffs for triggering</p> <p>20 management actions. As written on the slide,</p> <p>21 ongoing sedimentation issues on this project</p> <p>22 and the Tote Road make it relevant for the</p> <p>23 licence to include specific measures.</p> <p>24 The change in total suspended sediment</p> <p>25 concentrations we are discussing is a trigger</p> <p>26 to management actions. It is measured in the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">305</p> <p>1 receiving environment and takes into account</p> <p>2 any naturally occurring high-sediment loads</p> <p>3 because it is the difference between upstream</p> <p>4 and downstream concentrations.</p> <p>5 Environment and Climate Change Canada's</p> <p>6 recommendation for Number 2 was to add the Tote</p> <p>7 Road monitoring program to the surface water</p> <p>8 aquatic ecosystem management plan.</p> <p>9 For Comment Number 3, we recommend that</p> <p>10 when it is added, the definition of</p> <p>11 project-related change in total suspended solid</p> <p>12 concentrations follow the Canadian Council of</p> <p>13 Ministers of the Environment Guideline that is</p> <p>14 shown on this slide.</p> <p>15 The interim closure and reclamation</p> <p>16 program -- research program acknowledges the</p> <p>17 need for more detailed knowledge on permafrost</p> <p>18 conditions and how they will change with pit</p> <p>19 development. Tasks are proposed to reduce the</p> <p>20 uncertainty with regards to permafrost.</p> <p>21 Hydrogeology is not discussed, and even if it</p> <p>22 was not going to be an issue during operations,</p> <p>23 interactions with groundwater could become</p> <p>24 problematic long term post-closure.</p> <p>25 Environment and Climate Change Canada</p> <p>26 recommended that a hydrogeology component be</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">306</p> <p>1 added to the permafrost studies described in 2 the interim closure and reclamation plan. 3 Baffinland has provided a commitment to 4 update the interim closure and reclamation plan 5 that addresses our concerns. It was sent to 6 the Nunavut Water Board staff yesterday morning 7 via email, and so this comment we consider 8 resolved. 9 Environment and Climate Change Canada has 10 reviewed two draft water licence frameworks 11 that were provided by Baffinland. These are 12 the December 18th and February 27th versions. 13 The second version resolved Environment and 14 Climate Change Canada's concerns, which are 15 numbered -- and these numbers were given by 16 Baffinland -- 5-2, 5-5, and 5-10. 17 A further comment was resolved yesterday 18 morning with alternate wording provided by 19 Baffinland. The new proposed wording for 20 Comment Number 5-6 was sent to Board staff by 21 Baffinland via email yesterday morning. That 22 comment is about water use from containment 23 ponds for dust suppression, if water meets 24 discharge criteria for those ponds with the 25 exception of total suspended sediment. 26 Environment and Climate Change Canada</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">307</p> <p>1 commented that the use should be restricted to 2 areas where the water would not enter the 3 aquatic receiving environment. 4 Baffinland's response indicated that their 5 Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations 6 emergency response plan allowed them to use 7 recycled water, provided that the effluent 8 quality meets discharge criteria for 9 deleterious substances, with the exception of 10 total suspended sediment. 11 Environment and Climate Change Canada would 12 like to highlight that in the reference plan, 13 the use of restricted -- of recycled water is 14 restricted to areas that ultimately report to a 15 Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations 16 facility. 17 The remaining seven comments on the 18 proposed changes to the water licence are still 19 there, and our final submission outlines them 20 for the Board's consideration. 21 E. WALKER: That concludes -- sorry, 22 Eva Walker, Environment and Climate Change 23 Canada. That concludes our presentation for 24 today. Thank you. 25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, ECCC, for your 26 presentation.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">308</p> <p>1 So next presenter is one of the Federal 2 departments, is it? DFO? 3 PAUL HARPER, NICHOLAS WASILIK, Previously 4 Affirmed 5 Presentation by Department of Fisheries and 6 Oceans 7 P. HARPER: Good morning. Thank you, 8 Mr. Chair. Paul Harper, Fisheries and Oceans. 9 So I'm a senior biologist with Fisheries 10 and Oceans, the fish and fish habitat 11 protection bio -- or program, and I'm with Nick 12 here, who is a biologist also in the same 13 program. We're both based out of Yellowknife. 14 I'll be presenting on the two comments that 15 Fisheries and Oceans had regarding the water 16 licence renewal. 17 So the Federal Fisheries Act provides a 18 legal basis for conserving and protecting fish 19 and fish habitat. The fish and fish habitat 20 provisions of the Fisheries Act include a 21 prohibition against causing the death of fish 22 by means other than fishing; a prohibition 23 against harmfully altering, disrupting, or 24 destroying fish habitat; and fish habitat 25 includes places where fish live, eat, and 26 reproduce. It includes a framework for the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">309</p> <p>1 Minister to make decisions around the Fisheries 2 Act, and it includes powers to ensure the free 3 passage of fish and the protection of fish and 4 fish habitat with the respect of existing 5 obstructions such as culverts. 6 So Fisheries and Oceans is in ongoing 7 regulatory processes with Baffinland, including 8 Fisheries Act authorization process for 9 Steensby and actions regarding the existing 10 crossings on the Tote Road. 11 So with those other actions that DFO is 12 involved in, we have considered all of our 13 comments resolved with the commitments that 14 were made during the technical meeting. 15 For Comment 1, Fisheries and Oceans had 16 requested a table of watercourse crossings, and 17 we had requested this table be added to the 18 surface water and aquatic ecosystem management 19 plan. 20 So Baffinland has proposed to update the 21 table, and DFO considers this resolved with the 22 commitment that the plan will be updated within 23 six months of the water licence issuance. 24 As we just heard from Environment Canada 25 and Climate Change, ECCC, sediment and erosion 26 concerns have been identified as a concern. As</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">310</p> <p>1 Fisheries and Oceans has ongoing actions 2 related to sediment and erosion concerns for 3 the process of the water licence renewal, we 4 are satisfied with the commitment to an erosion 5 and sediment control awareness training 6 program, and Baffinland has committed to 7 providing this training and having the program 8 in place for Q2 for the second quarter of 2025, 9 so DS -- DFO is satisfied with this commitment. 10 And with that, Fisheries and Oceans 11 considers all of the commitments resolved, and 12 we continue to work with Baffinland to ensure 13 that fish and fish habitat is protected on the 14 project. 15 Thank you. 16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, DFO, for your 17 presentation. 18 I think we should take a 15-minute break 19 before we go on to questioning. We'll start 20 with Applicant, start questioning with either 21 one of the three departments. 22 (ADJOURNMENT) 23 THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. I have to do 24 the gavel or nobody would hear me. Okay. 25 Thank you for getting back to your seat from 26 the break.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">311</p> <p>1 Now we are right to questioning the Federal 2 departments, three departments, that had 3 intervention this morning. So I want to start 4 with the Applicant. If you have any questions 5 to either three departments, you may do so. 6 Thank you. 7 Questions for Nunavut Water Board by Community 8 Representatives 9 THE CHAIR: Did you want to say 10 something, Caleb? 11 CALEB SANGOYA: Yes, for the Water Board. 12 There's some areas especially at Milne 13 Inlet that have not been studied. The water 14 that comes just before the Mary River site 15 around the building sites, there's a river from 16 a long time ago. The river has been there for 17 even before we were born. It's very horrible 18 water. It's good water, but it causes diarrhea 19 to the children, and the skin is affected to 20 the children, and we don't know if there have 21 been studies regarding that water. It would be 22 good to find out. 23 We know that people that have gone there -- 24 maybe people don't know that have gone by 25 there, and some of the -- part of the river 26 from the side, it's called Sanikisuaq</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">312</p> <p>1 [phonetic]. It's the river that goes -- comes 2 from the side to the river going down, so all 3 of the Traditional Knowledges and changes to 4 the environment and changes to rivers and 5 stuff, I'm wondering if the Water Board or 6 perhaps Baffinland or others would be able to 7 produce studies regarding that particular water 8 source. 9 In 1985, the water was tested in Auyuittuk 10 [phonetic], in that big lake, and there's 11 some -- there's some crystals there as well, 12 and it may be -- in 1935 there was crystals 13 that were stuck, so some Knowledges are never 14 written in reports. 15 Thank you. 16 THE CHAIR: Teresa, maybe, Karén, if 17 you could answer to Caleb, Teresa or Karén? 18 T. MEADOWS: Teresa Meadows, legal 19 counsel for the Nunavut Water Board. 20 So with respect to issues on watercourses 21 for drinking water, so establishing whether or 22 not a particular watercourse meets drinking 23 water standards, that is not the Nunavut Water 24 Board's jurisdiction. The Government of 25 Nunavut Department of Health deals with whether 26 or not a particular water source has good</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">313</p> <p>1 quality drinking water that is safe for people 2 to drink, and the Water Board doesn't do 3 independent studies of watercourses, but what 4 we can do is see whether or not the Government 5 of Nunavut -- if we can talk to you afterwards 6 about what water source it is, so if you can 7 give us the name, write it out for us, we can 8 follow up with the Government of Nunavut and 9 see whether or not there have been any studies 10 on that water body; and maybe if I can look to 11 any of the Inuit Qaujimanituqangit experts that 12 are in the room here, whether or not they have 13 any information about that watercourse or know 14 what the Inuit say about that watercourse and 15 what might be the source of the problems on 16 that watercourse or that sort of thing. I'll 17 stop there and leave it to the experts. 18 Thank you, Mr. Chair. 19 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 20 When you have time, we'll give you time. 21 We're going to let the Applicant respond to or 22 have questions to the presenters that just 23 came. The general public will have an 24 opportunity to speak once these -- have the 25 people -- everybody that is here will have that 26 opportunity, but first we'll get the Applicant,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">314</p> <p>1 that either three departments, Federal 2 departments from their intervention. Thank 3 you. 4 You may start. Thank you. 5 Questions for Environment and Climate Change 6 Canada by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation 7 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 8 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thanks 9 to all the Government of Canada departments 10 that just presented. 11 We just have one, you know, item we'd like 12 to explore with Environment and Climate Change 13 Canada in response to Technical Comment 3. 14 It's the one unresolved issue that remains 15 between our two groups. 16 Morgan here will provide a technical 17 background, but first I just wanted to address 18 the issue at a higher level and, you know, just 19 in terms of management and the use of our 20 resources at site. 21 What we're talking about is potentially 22 setting a threshold level in one of our 23 management plans, specifically the surface 24 water aquatic environment management plan, 25 looking at total suspended solids in waters 26 around the Tote Road. We typically look</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">315</p> <p>1 upstream and downstream to try to determine if 2 there's a potential project effect occurring by 3 seeing if there's a difference between those 4 two points. 5 What we've found in practice is it's a 6 highly variable environment. It's -- and 7 there's a high potential for natural 8 sedimentation even in that small area, and 9 Morgan will talk more on -- on some of the 10 issues with the criteria level; but from a 11 practical perspective, if we set ourselves up 12 where our approach to adaptive management and, 13 you know, the thresholds we set is too low, and 14 it's so low that it can't really distinguish 15 between a project effect and -- and just 16 background noise, then, you know, it has us 17 acting over and over and over again throughout 18 the year responding to exceedances that 19 there -- there's -- we have a pretty high 20 confidence are not project-related and -- and 21 would have us coming to that conclusion, and 22 that kind of -- that affects the integrity of 23 our approach to adaptive management. 24 It needs to be set at a point that -- that 25 is, you know, conscientious, we're aware of the 26 risk, but not so low that it's always being</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">316</p> <p>1 triggered that it doesn't really mean anything. 2 So I'll have Morgan speak more to this and 3 perhaps more plainly, but from a management 4 perspective, that's really what's driving our 5 concern, is that we would just be conducting 6 investigations over and over again of something 7 that we don't have the data or the 8 understanding that -- to say it is a project 9 effect. 10 M. SCHAUERTE: Morgan Schauerte, Stantec 11 on behalf of Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair. 12 To build off Lou's point, based on 13 operate -- observations at site within the 14 50-metre upstream and 100-metre downstream 15 measurement locations, rain events, especially 16 in the very unique environment along the Tote 17 Road, can result in channelized flow that is 18 highly variable between rain events and can 19 result in different pathways upstream and 20 downstream that can introduce natural erosional 21 effects into monitored parameters like TSS that 22 are not necessarily accounted for in the 23 proposed criteria by ECCC -- Environment and 24 Climate Change Canada. 25 To build off Lou's point, the proposed 26 limits could result in natural effects being</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">317</p> <p>1 repeatedly picked up in a manner that is not 2 protective of -- sorry, I'm trying to -- in a 3 manner that isn't representative of site 4 impacts. 5 The existing surface water aquatic 6 environmental program and adaptive management 7 plan do account for this variability and 8 provide pathways for investigations and studies 9 as required if project-based impacts are 10 observed along the Tote Road. 11 Thank you. 12 THE CHAIR: Applicant, do you still 13 have further comments or questions to one of 14 the three Federal departments? 15 T. MEADOWS: Mr. Chair? 16 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, Teresa. 17 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 18 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut 19 Water Board. So perhaps Environment and 20 Climate Change Canada may have a comment. 21 THE CHAIR: Yes. Yeah, I forgot 22 about that. Sorry. ECCC. 23 S. FORTE: Sarah Forte with 24 Environment and Climate Change Canada. 25 Thank you for your clarifications. I 26 didn't perceive a question in that. It was</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">318</p> <p>1 more of a comment. I think -- yeah, I'm still 2 not in agreement. I think I had the impression 3 you were trying to suggest in the -- the 4 150-metre stream spread upstream and downstream 5 of the culvert, there were likely other sources 6 so that the measurement downstream was 7 integrating a signal not only from the culvert 8 but from other things. 9 I haven't seen that in the data that I 10 analyzed, and so I think it's -- yeah, it's -- 11 it's not -- the data doesn't demonstrate that, 12 and there's, like I mentioned, 261 pairs of 13 data collected over eight years, and, yeah, so 14 I -- yes. I still disagree. Yeah. 15 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 16 Applicant? 17 M. SCHAUERTE: Morgan Schauerte, Stantec 18 on behalf of Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair. 19 Thank you, Sarah, for your response. 20 While we understand that there's a 21 disagreement on the criteria, we think given 22 this disagreement and the fact that the -- the 23 Tote Road management plan, as is currently 24 developed, is not part of the water licence 25 plans as listed but was developed as part of 26 the environmental management process with the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">319</p> <p>1 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, it is our opinion 2 that more data needs to be gathered and 3 agreement on criteria needs to be reached given 4 these complexities, if and when the Tote Road 5 plan is ever appended to the -- to the surface 6 water aquatic environment program. 7 Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm going to pass to 8 my colleague. 9 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 10 Baffinland. Thanks, Morgan, and thanks, Sarah. 11 Yeah, just to really simply build off of 12 what Morgan suggested, which is I think there 13 is an avenue for us to continue exploring this, 14 and that's through an update to the surface 15 water aquatic effects monitoring program. I 16 think what we're saying is we can't commit to 17 including specific criteria at this point, but 18 we will look at the data available to us, and 19 this is something we can consider in future 20 updates to the surface water aquatic effects 21 management plan. We just -- we don't want to 22 get ahead of ourselves. We want to make sure 23 that if we're going to insert a criteria into a 24 water licence regulated plan, it's the right 25 criteria, and it achieves both of our 26 intentions.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">320</p> <p>1 So that would be our suggested path 2 forward, and that means just not agreeing on a 3 criteria now but exploring this through that 4 process that's already set up under the water 5 licence, which is to continually review, update 6 plans, submit them to the Water Board for 7 public review, and -- and to have the Water 8 Board approve that plan. 9 Thank you. 10 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 11 Do you have a response for that? 12 S. FORTE: Yeah, like, 13 Environment -- oh, sorry, Sarah Forte with 14 Environment and Climate Change Canada. 15 Environment and Climate Change Canada will 16 be happy to, you know, if we have the capacity, 17 review those plans when you update them, but 18 for this water licence, we would recommend that 19 it -- it be appended with the CCM -- using the 20 CCME guideline as a trigger because though 21 if -- if in the future you present data that 22 suggests that that guideline is not appropriate 23 for site for various reasons, we can evaluate 24 that, but until such time, that's the -- the 25 guideline that is -- seems relevant to us at 26 this point.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">321</p> <p>1 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 2 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks, 3 Sarah. 4 We will provide some -- an update in our 5 disposition table when we submit that to the 6 Board but also for the record want to reiterate 7 we -- we do have concerns with integrating a 8 criteria at this point before it's been 9 verified and supported, and -- and we 10 specifically don't support the Canadian Council 11 Ministers of the Environment criteria that's 12 being suggested, but we'll provide more details 13 in -- in our submission. 14 Thanks. 15 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 16 Okay. Do you have any other questions to 17 one of -- either of the Federal departments? 18 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans, 19 Baffinland. 20 No further questions for any of the 21 Government of Canada presenters. 22 Thank you. 23 Discussion 24 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. 25 I want to ask the Inuit -- Qikiqtani Inuit 26 Association if you have questions to either</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">322</p> <p>1 three Federal departments interventions? 2 Please come forward. 3 J. OTTENHOF: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 4 Jared Ottenhof for the Qikiqtani Inuit 5 Association. 6 We have no questions at this time. Thank 7 you. 8 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 9 I want to ask the three -- either three 10 Federal departments if you have questions among 11 your departments, one of the departments? 12 Sorry. I did -- kind of mixed up this morning. 13 I tried the idea we were going through last 14 night, so I took the page out of my agenda. 15 That's my mistake. That's okay. Maybe Teresa 16 got me a bit here. 17 Thank you. 18 T. MEADOWS: Do any of the Federal 19 family have questions for any of their other 20 colleagues? 21 THE CHAIR: Just come forward to the 22 microphone for the record, please. 23 T. MEADOWS: Yeah, please state that 24 on the record. It's different than me seeing 25 you have no questions. 26 A. KEIM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">323</p> <p>1 Andrew Keim on behalf of the Federal family, 2 Nakuqmik. 3 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 4 So maybe over to the Board staff. 5 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 6 Stephanie Autut, Nunavut Water Board. 7 I am going to ask Teresa to take the mic. 8 She has questions for the Federal government. 9 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 10 Now (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Oh, you have 11 one. Okay. Sorry. Teresa. 12 Questions for Crown-Indigenous Relations and 13 Northern Affairs by Nunavut Water Board Staff 14 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 15 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut 16 Water Board. 17 So, Mr. Chair, I just have a question for 18 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 19 Canada with respect to the annual -- the 20 security management agreement and the annual 21 security review provisions that are under the 22 existing part of Part C and Schedule C of the 23 licence. I'm just trying to get clear sort of 24 the timing of events. 25 So it's my understanding that it's 26 contemplated that the Qikiqtani Inuit</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">324</p> <p>1 Association, the Applicant, and 2 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 3 Canada are contemplating entering into a 4 security management agreement after this 5 hearing closes but before the Minister's 6 decision is rendered, and the question that 7 raises for the Board is simply confirmation 8 that at this hearing and for this application, 9 no changes are contemplated or requested by the 10 parties to the existing security provisions 11 under Part C and Schedule C of the licence. So 12 that's my understanding, and I'm just seeking 13 confirmation from Crown-Indigenous Relations 14 and Northern Affairs Canada. 15 A. KEIM: Hi, there. Andrew Keim 16 on behalf of CIRNAC. 17 CIRNAC believes that all parties working 18 together in good faith to finish the SMA, we do 19 not expect any changes to Schedule C, and we 20 are dedicated to having this done in time for 21 the Minister's signature of the licence. We 22 will do our very, very best. 23 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 24 Teresa. 25 T. MEADOWS: Thank you for the answer, 26 Mr. Keim, and thank you, Mr. Chair. Those are</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">325</p> <p>1 my questions to the Federal family. 2 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 3 Now I'll open up for public. You can 4 approach the microphone. Someone from the 5 audience had a question. You can approach the 6 microphone. 7 Questions for Crown-Indigenous Relations and 8 Northern Affairs, Environment and Climate 9 Change Canada, and Department of Fisheries and 10 Oceans by Community Representatives 11 LLOYD IDLOUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 12 Thank you, Water Board. Thank you, 13 Chairperson. I have questions for the three 14 Federal departments. 15 I'm wondering if you -- if you had -- thank 16 you for your research and your presentation. 17 I'm wondering if you guys had -- when you, I 18 guess, envisioned the type that you were 19 looking at, I'm wondering if you had people 20 from Nunavut or Indigenous Traditional 21 Knowledge-Holders with you while you were at 22 the sites? That's my question. 23 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 24 Okay. Stephanie? 25 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 26 So I believe you may wish to ask the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">326</p> <p>1 Federal authorities to come to the table and 2 provide a response. 3 THE CHAIR: Yeah. 4 LLOYD IDLOUT: They don't have to, if 5 they nod or - it's up -- if you -- it's up to 6 you. 7 THE CHAIR: Go ahead. 8 S. AUTUT: Thank you. 9 Yeah, for the purposes of the accurate 10 record, we'll just get them to come to the mic. 11 Thank you. 12 THE CHAIR: Okay. Go ahead, DFO. 13 P. HARPER: So Paul Harper, Fisheries 14 and Oceans. 15 While the others are conferring, our fish 16 and fish habitat program visited Steensby 17 without a representative from Nunavut or 18 Indigenous communities, but our science team 19 has come up and does have community programs 20 where they go to sites, and they are working 21 with the Inuit, so we have a mixed. We do 22 attend sites with folks that are local from the 23 communities as well as visit without. 24 THE CHAIR: Go ahead. 25 LLOYD IDLOUT: Thank you, Iksivautaa. 26 So with their request, you didn't have</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">327</p> <p>1 people from Nunavut? Especially for this 2 hearing, you didn't have anyone? 3 THE CHAIR: Go ahead. 4 P. HARPER: Paul Harper. 5 Not specifically for this hearing, no. 6 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, ECCC. 7 S. FORTE: Sarah Forte with 8 Environment and Climate Change Canada. 9 Thank you for the question. Environment 10 and Climate Change Canada did not have any 11 people from Nunavut looking at this 12 application. Our -- the little box we fit in 13 is looking at it from a scientific perspective, 14 and we rely on the Qikiqtani Inuit Association 15 and people like you from the communities to 16 provide the Indigenous perspective because 17 that's not our specialty, but I would like to 18 say that they are both important and necessary, 19 both perspectives. 20 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 21 Do you have any more questions? 22 LLOYD IDLOUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 23 Like I said yesterday, we still have 24 issues. Like, well -- like Caleb said, the 25 HTOs are, I guess, Knowledge-Holders look after 26 the environment and animals or so on. In</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">328</p> <p>1 hearings like these, in the future, I guess, 2 I -- and especially for now, too, when, I 3 guess, there's going to be global development, 4 Inuit -- or, sorry, Indigenous Knowledge- 5 Holders should be present at any research to 6 have -- for the people of Nunavut to be, I 7 guess, properly heard. Their voice and 8 concerns and their -- their knowledge should be 9 used at hearings like this. 10 It just seems like our Inuit rights are 11 just being -- not -- not being used. It seems 12 like. I can't prove it. It sure seems like 13 it. We have -- I'm sure we have restrict -- 14 restrictions in lakes, rivers. I'm not -- like 15 I said, we have technical difficulties 16 addressing these or getting more information, 17 so I'm suggesting now somehow that Indigenous 18 Traditional Knowledge-Holders be used in the 19 future or if you have time. 20 Like, Baffinland mentioned David Ingaurt. 21 If people can be present like that, Elders. We 22 have local Elders that had comments, too, but 23 those Elders should have a technical advisor, 24 too. People of Nunavut, this -- this Nunavut 25 Water Board hearing, I think -- I feel that 26 people of Nunavut should be more technically --</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">329</p> <p>1 technically helped. 2 I thank you, QIA, for your -- for your 3 help, but I -- I feel that we need our voices 4 heard more from the impacts of global 5 development. It seems -- us -- the 6 Knowledge-Holders sees different views from 7 scientific findings. It's always hard to try 8 and mix the two together, Knowledge-Holders and 9 science -- scientific findings. It's always 10 hard and hard to voice our knowledge, our -- 11 how -- trying to protect our land and 12 environment from global development is new to 13 us, and we're find it -- we're finding it 14 difficult to protect our land, our animals. So 15 that being said, I wish for people, 16 Knowledge-Holders, Traditional Knowledge- 17 Holders, Indigenous Knowledge-Holders to be 18 part of the hearing. 19 Like -- like, we just had a few Elders 20 talk. Here we are -- here is Baffinland for -- 21 applying for Nunavut Water Board. Nunavut. 22 All -- all the communities of Nunavut will be 23 impacted -- may be impacted with Baffinland's 24 project. We have fish areas, river -- rivers 25 will -- may be. Like I said, they will be 26 impacted. To try and at least reduce the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">330</p> <p>1 impacts or eliminate the impacts, Traditional 2 Knowledge-Holders should be well-represented. 3 Like, others have technical advisors that we 4 don't have yet. We're trying to work on it, 5 but we're still learning how to use -- properly 6 use the people that have, I guess, more 7 resource than we do, and with that, thank you. 8 Thank you for your time. I may have more -- 9 well, we always have growing concerns, 10 questions, and that's all I have to say for 11 right now. 12 Thank you. 13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 14 CIRNA. 15 A. KEIM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On 16 behalf of CIRNAC, while I can't answer the full 17 scope of the question that was just asked, what 18 I can say on behalf of CIRNAC and on behalf of 19 the organization that we represent, we take 20 Inuit Qaujmanituqangit very seriously. We 21 follow the -- the principles. 22 Two of the three inspectors that go to 23 Baffinland every year are beneficiaries and did 24 all the training that was required for them to 25 go. They work closely with the environmental 26 staff on site with Baffinland who are mostly</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">331</p> <p>1 been -- not mostly, half beneficiaries, and I 2 know that we work very, very closely with QIA 3 who are there to ensure that Inuit rights and 4 Traditional Knowledge are the lens through 5 which we focus our science, as we say. 6 So while I can't say that we've -- we're 7 answering every concern that was brought 8 forward in that just now. We are, as a group, 9 doing our very, very best to make sure that the 10 public's concerns are being addressed every 11 time we go up and every -- every time we have 12 these public meetings. 13 Thank you. 14 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. 15 From the public, Caleb. 16 CALEB SANGOYA: Caleb. Thank you 17 Mr. Chairman. Caleb Sangoya. 18 Even though I work for Pond Inlet and the 19 fact that I'm a resident of Pond Inlet, I tend 20 to comment more about issues regarding 21 Baffinland, the government, and to everyone in 22 general, and I think most of these people know 23 who I am. I'm a traditional Inuk, and I live 24 here in this community. 25 As I mentioned earlier, like, I know, but 26 it's safe to be concerned about DFO staff</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">332</p> <p>1 member in 1935, like, you should have results 2 from sampling that was done in 1935, and when 3 you don't have all of the facts, you only 4 comment about the few things. What about where 5 are the Inuit? They -- these are not people 6 asking [phonetic], but I like the comments that 7 were made by some fellow Inuk, and whenever 8 people mention any Traditional Knowledge in the 9 agreements and when you make a request, so any 10 Traditional Knowledge will not even be 11 considered. It seems like we're just only 12 being rubber-stamped when we're discussing 13 about water issues. 14 The topic is water issues, and the Mary 15 River area, we want the waters to be pristine 16 and continue to be pristine. That's what we've 17 been working on, and the children of the 18 Federal government, like, so I want them to 19 respond. They forgot, like, the water from the 20 reservoir is drunk. The Inuit have to drink 21 the water from the reservoir, and sometimes you 22 have -- there's a boil-water advisory, and 23 that -- like, the government -- the 24 government's grandchildren who are in town 25 sometimes seem to forget. 26 Like, if you're going to approve water</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">333</p> <p>1 usage for Baffinland, then it -- requests of 2 the communities should be adhered to, like, the 3 Nunavut Water Board. Like, our water here is 4 worse than the water at the mine site, that 5 there's some lakes identified where people are 6 restricted from drinking the waters. Some 7 other communities have even more worse drinking 8 water, so please do not forget. 9 Like, when the election time comes, the 10 Federal election comes, please remember. Like, 11 you voters please remember that we're not 12 rubber-stamped, but please ... 13 THE CHAIR: Okay. Qujannamiik. I 14 think we -- all of us got the message, but 15 we're referring to the water at Mary River. 16 We're not dealing with the water in Pond Inlet. 17 We're talking about Mary River, even though 18 we're in Pond Inlet. We're referring to the 19 waters at the mine site, not Pond Inlet. 20 Are there any more comments from the Inuit? 21 Joshua. 22 JOSHUA KATSAK: My name is Joshua Katsak 23 from Pond Inlet. I'm a hunter and also I 24 represent -- the community represented with 25 QIA. 26 My question is I wonder if there's been</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">334</p> <p>1 actual monitoring taken in the terrestrial?</p> <p>2 Not because we want -- we have been -- we're</p> <p>3 native to that area because while we were out</p> <p>4 caribou hunting, that has -- we have seen</p> <p>5 things that we -- which we are not searching</p> <p>6 for.</p> <p>7 For example, during summertime, like,</p> <p>8 there's some slump on -- on the ground like</p> <p>9 about a foot. It's -- it's apparently</p> <p>10 slumping. Anyone can find out that permafrost</p> <p>11 is melting.</p> <p>12 And also during the winter, we have seen,</p> <p>13 like Caleb -- Caleb was relating to a story</p> <p>14 where (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN) there was lots of</p> <p>15 grasses in that area, and there's a thermal</p> <p>16 water underneath the ground. It's very</p> <p>17 shallow, but it will not freeze even during the</p> <p>18 winter, and also just before Qanniqtalik area,</p> <p>19 there's another hot spring. There are two</p> <p>20 rivers at site, and they seem to be flowing</p> <p>21 from the Arctic Bay area. They're flowing,</p> <p>22 both of them, even in winter, and one can</p> <p>23 speculate maybe if -- if -- and the fact that</p> <p>24 some of the water is -- cannot freeze, so it</p> <p>25 makes you wonder if there are any safety</p> <p>26 issues, and beyond Mary River, Aksayuuk Pass</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">335</p> <p>1 [phonetic] in juupa [phonetic] across the lake,</p> <p>2 like, sometimes when you're out caribou hunting</p> <p>3 in that area, you see some smoke arising from</p> <p>4 the hot springs, and when you drop by the area,</p> <p>5 you can see the ground. Even in during --</p> <p>6 during the winter, the ground is all melting,</p> <p>7 and sometimes it periodically freezes over.</p> <p>8 Sometimes it doesn't. And there is some areas</p> <p>9 of hot springs in the -- in that area. And in</p> <p>10 -- during sometimes the river is actually</p> <p>11 flowing from those hot springs, and if there is</p> <p>12 -- or other areas such as though where the</p> <p>13 permafrost's melting, it might affect the</p> <p>14 railway crossing.</p> <p>15 Has monitoring ever been taken in regards</p> <p>16 to those hot springs? Like, we have not been</p> <p>17 searching for these hot springs, but we see</p> <p>18 them when we're out on the land.</p> <p>19 I'm not really sure. Like, I have tried to</p> <p>20 sample them to see if they're actually warm or</p> <p>21 they remain unthawed during the winter, even</p> <p>22 though they're cold to touch, when you touch</p> <p>23 it, but they don't freeze. Maybe the</p> <p>24 department of environment are aware of the</p> <p>25 situation and during the winter when the river</p> <p>26 is flowing from underground.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">336</p> <p>1 Like, I have observed them even though I</p> <p>2 was trying to make some tea, and I -- the --</p> <p>3 like, once the water has settled inside the</p> <p>4 teapot, the -- part of the sediment sinks to</p> <p>5 the bottom of the kettle, and it became white</p> <p>6 in colour, like gray and white. That's</p> <p>7 something that I found out.</p> <p>8 And also during the summertime, when I was</p> <p>9 caribou hunting, I went for a rest in that hot</p> <p>10 springs area, like, sometimes the water is</p> <p>11 always freezing as it flows downstream. Like,</p> <p>12 even though there's a glacier underneath the</p> <p>13 ground, and there's a hump. It's kind of</p> <p>14 yellowish in colour, and I thought that was</p> <p>15 kind of strange when I passed by. I stopped my</p> <p>16 Ski-Doo. Like, it was a white sand. Maybe a</p> <p>17 sulphur. It was quite large. It could be</p> <p>18 sulphur. Maybe it was over a metre long, like,</p> <p>19 a lump of sand turned out, like, apparently was</p> <p>20 generated from the hot springs from</p> <p>21 underground.</p> <p>22 I was wondering if it was sulphur, and</p> <p>23 perhaps Environment Canada, Department of the</p> <p>24 Environment has conduct monitoring on that, or</p> <p>25 can they conduct monitoring in that area?</p> <p>26 Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">337</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: If CIRNAC can respond or</p> <p>2 Climate Change Canada can respond to that</p> <p>3 question?</p> <p>4 S. FORTE: Sarah Forte with</p> <p>5 Environment and Climate Change Canada.</p> <p>6 Thank you very much for this question.</p> <p>7 It's interesting to hear. I was not aware of</p> <p>8 those hot springs, and I -- I don't know that</p> <p>9 they are studied by the -- in our department or</p> <p>10 they have been identified, so because I don't</p> <p>11 know them, I don't know if the white/yellow</p> <p>12 sand you saw was sulphur, but I agree with your</p> <p>13 assessment. It most likely was because that's</p> <p>14 a common mineral that gets deposited in hot</p> <p>15 springs.</p> <p>16 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Teresa --</p> <p>17 Stephanie.</p> <p>18 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>19 Stephanie Autut, Nunavut Water Board.</p> <p>20 Mr. Chair, we may want to ask the Applicant</p> <p>21 if they have any observations related to the</p> <p>22 question and the comments just posed that they</p> <p>23 would like to address at this time?</p> <p>24 THE CHAIR: Okay. Applicant, go</p> <p>25 ahead.</p> <p>26 L. KAMERMANS: Lou Kamermans,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">338</p> <p>1 Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thanks, 2 Joshua, for the question and for sharing the 3 knowledge as well. 4 I'd have to do a deep dive into our studies 5 from our original impact statement, but I've 6 never been made aware of any hot springs in 7 the -- the Mary River Project area, although 8 I'd like to visit them. 9 I believe you also asked a question about 10 permafrost and the railway and safety. 11 So high -- or railways in Canada are very 12 highly regulated, and Transport Canada has -- 13 has set very high standards for the safety of 14 railways, and our engineers, SYSTRA, has helped 15 us engineer the railway that we're proposing to 16 build between the mine site and Steensby Port, 17 and we've completed several geotechnical 18 drilling programs over the years to investigate 19 mostly where the bridges will be located so 20 that we can ensure the pilings will either go 21 into bedrock or that they won't be located in 22 very ice-rich areas of the permafrost along the 23 alignment. 24 Protecting the permafrost and avoiding 25 settlement is -- is a big priority for the 26 construction of the railway. Settlement can --</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">339</p> <p>1 can cause real safety issues, so we've taken a 2 lot of care to design the railway so that it 3 won't impact the permafrost underneath it. 4 It'll maintain the integrity of -- of the 5 permafrost, and part of that, like I said, is 6 avoiding areas that are -- we know are ice-rich 7 by sampling them beforehand and just also in 8 how we build the railway itself and where we 9 place the ballast and -- and how much ballast 10 and crushed rock is placed underneath the rail 11 bed. 12 And we'll monitor this throughout the life 13 of the project. We'll have what's called 14 thermistors embedded at key points along the 15 railway that will monitor the -- the level of 16 permafrost, and then there will also be 17 specialized equipment we use on the railway 18 that can -- it can -- it can read whether the 19 railway has settled even a millimetre over, you 20 know, very long distances. So, again, this is 21 something we take very seriously, and -- and we 22 will be monitoring and -- and ensuring that 23 we're operating a safe railway. 24 Thank you. 25 THE CHAIR: Stephanie. 26 S. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">340</p> <p>1 Stephanie Autut, Nunavut Water Board. 2 We can also confirm that Natural Resources 3 Canada, who has a mandate to assess and monitor 4 permafrost, did participate in the original 5 NIRB environmental assessment hearings and the 6 original Water Board licences process and did 7 do the assessments on permafrost and indicated 8 no concerns at that time; and as monitoring is 9 part of their mandate, we're confident that 10 that process is still underway within their 11 organization, but we can confirm that they did 12 participate in the assessment and identified no 13 long-term impacts. 14 Thank you, Mr. Chair. 15 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 16 Are there any more questions? 17 I don't see any hands raised, and now we're 18 end with the questions, and the Federal 19 government department already made their 20 presentation. 21 And, Caleb, you want to say supplementary 22 comments. 23 CALEB SANGOYA: Thank you for conducting 24 the hearing here in Pond Inlet, 25 Mr. Chairperson. 26 You mentioned we were talking about Mary</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">341</p> <p>1 River. We're not dealing with the Pond Inlet 2 issues, like -- but we should also be aware 3 that the people of Pond Inlet can comment about 4 them always about Mary River. Like, we have a 5 chance to speak, and yet our concerns are being 6 ignored. That is not how Traditional Knowledge 7 works. 8 THE CHAIR: If there are no more 9 questions, we're going to go for lunch and come 10 back here at 1:30. Like, we will give the 11 staff members here the time to prepare, and if 12 you want to converse with each other, by all 13 means. We're conducting a public hearing. 14 Like, we will be adjourning the session later 15 today. We will return at 1:30. 16 17 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 1:30 PM EDT 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p>

<p>342</p> <p>1 Proceedings taken at Pond Inlet Community Hall, 2 Pond Inlet, Nunavut</p> <hr/> <p>3</p> <p>4 March 12, 2025 Afternoon Session</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD</p> <p>7 L. Toomasie Chair of Hearing 8 U. Pukignak Panel Member 9 E. Baddaloo Panel Member</p> <p>10</p> <p>11 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD STAFF</p> <p>12 S. Autut Executive Director 13 K. Kharatyan Director of Technical 14 Services 15 B. Kogvik Director of Board 16 Administration and 17 Communications 18 A. Jan Technical Advisor 19 R. Hunter Licencing Administrator 20 T. Meadows Legal Counsel</p> <p>21</p> <p>22 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>23 Z. Bliss Meadows Law, Observer</p> <p>24 25 26</p>	<p>343</p> <p>1 PROPONENT</p> <p>2 BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION</p> <p>3 M. Lord-Hoyle Vice President, 4 Sustainable Development 5 and Health, Safety, 6 Environment</p> <p>7 L. Kamermans Senior Director, 8 Sustainable Development</p> <p>9 P. Quassa Special Advisor 10 J. Tigullaraq Head of Northern Affairs 11 E. Luther Senior Manager, 12 Regulatory Affairs</p> <p>13 M. Schauerte Stantec, Technical 14 Advisor</p> <p>15 C. Sangoya Pond Inlet, Inuit 16 Knowledge-Holder 17 P. Enooagok Pond Inlet, Inuit 18 Knowledge-Holder 19 C. Kowbell Legal Counsel</p> <p>20</p> <p>21 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>22 W. Bowden Environment Manager 23 S. Borcsok Approvals Manager 24 T. Swenson Environment 25 Superintendent 26 K. Kuchapski Minnow Technical Advisor</p>
<p>344</p> <p>1 INTERVENORS</p> <p>2 QUKIQTANI INUIT ASSOCIATION</p> <p>3 A. Kubeisinova Manager, Regulatory 4 Review</p> <p>5 J. Ottenhof Director, Qikiqtani 6 Nunaliirijikkut</p> <p>7 A. MacDonald The Firelight Group 8 R. Nesbitt Hutchinson Environmental 9 Sciences Ltd.</p> <p>10 J. Cavallo LGL Limited 11 C. Shefman Legal Counsel</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>14 K. Scott The Firelight Group 15 J. Carman LGL Limited 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 20 L. Perrin Water Management 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, 26 AtkinsRéalis</p>	<p>345</p> <p>1 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA</p> <p>2 E. Walker Manager, Environmental 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 8 R. Ejeckam Mining Expert</p> <p>9 J. Kassir Environmental Assessment 10 Officer</p> <p>11 J. Hollman Environmental Assessment 12 Officer</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA</p> <p>15 P. Harper Senior Biologist 16 N. Wasilik Regulatory Review 17 Biologist</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 (Via Remote Video)</p> <p>20 C. Kovachik Regulatory Review 21 Biologist</p> <p>22</p> <p>23 HAMLET OF HALL BEACH</p> <p>24 A. Qammaniq Community Representative 25 J. Kaerner Community Representative 26</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">346</p> <p>1 HAMLET OF IGLOOLIK</p> <p>2 A. Attagutlukutuk Community Representative</p> <p>3 L. Idlout Community Representative</p> <p>4 N. Piugattuk Community Representative</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 HAMLET OF POND INLET</p> <p>7 J. Katsak Community Representative</p> <p>8 B. Merkosak Community Representative</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 INTERPRETORS/TRANSLATORS</p> <p>11 R. Katsak Inuktitut Language</p> <p>12 Translator</p> <p>13 T. Arnakallak Inuktitut Language</p> <p>14 Translator</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 J. King, CSR(A) Official Court Reporter</p> <p>17 C. Coomber Sound Technician</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 (PROCEEDINGS RECOMMENCED AT 3:45 PM EDT)</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: Good day. We can start</p> <p>21 again for the things that need to be done. I</p> <p>22 think we're all ready to go. We can reconvene</p> <p>23 now from all this extra work being resolved.</p> <p>24 So I'll have Teresa go through -- go</p> <p>25 through the procedure at the moment.</p> <p>26 Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">347</p> <p>1 Discussion</p> <p>2 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>3 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut</p> <p>4 Water Board.</p> <p>5 So, Mr. Chair, it's my understanding that</p> <p>6 all -- with all the hard work of the parties</p> <p>7 who are here, that there are three updated</p> <p>8 documents that are proposed to be filed, and</p> <p>9 those updated documents really summarize the</p> <p>10 commitments and resolution of issues that has</p> <p>11 been put forward and agreed to by various</p> <p>12 intervenors.</p> <p>13 So the first document is an updated water</p> <p>14 licence -- draft water licence framework, an</p> <p>15 updated commitments list, and updated response</p> <p>16 to comments. Those documents are being</p> <p>17 circulated electronically as we speak.</p> <p>18 So for this part of the unscheduled part of</p> <p>19 the agenda, what we propose to do is have</p> <p>20 Baffinland present a quick summary of the</p> <p>21 differences between the documents that were</p> <p>22 previously filed and the updates, so high-level</p> <p>23 focus on the updates; then we will move to the</p> <p>24 parties to inquire as to whether or not they</p> <p>25 have accepted the agreements that are recorded</p> <p>26 within those documents in terms of the updates;</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">348</p> <p>1 and then we will move to closing statements of</p> <p>2 the parties. And, Mr. Chair, I also invite</p> <p>3 parties, if there are objections to any of the</p> <p>4 updates or if there's disagreement still or</p> <p>5 unresolved issues, I encourage those parties to</p> <p>6 either raise them when we go to them after the</p> <p>7 updated documents have been presented for</p> <p>8 filing and described by Baffinland, or if they</p> <p>9 would rather table those discussions for their</p> <p>10 closing statements, that's also fine. They can</p> <p>11 also reference the resolutions that they have</p> <p>12 come to and any unresolved issues in their</p> <p>13 closing statements as well.</p> <p>14 I would also like to remind parties that at</p> <p>15 the end of the closing statements, I will be</p> <p>16 inquiring as to whether or not the parties are</p> <p>17 prepared to close the record, and what that</p> <p>18 means is from this time forward, if the record</p> <p>19 is closed, no further evidence or documentation</p> <p>20 will be provided to the Board for</p> <p>21 consideration, and the application will be</p> <p>22 remitted to the panel for a decision.</p> <p>23 So, Mr. Chair, with that, I would suggest</p> <p>24 that we turn to Baffinland to walk us through</p> <p>25 the three documents that are currently being</p> <p>26 circulated, which are updates to previously</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">349</p> <p>1 filed documentation with the Board.</p> <p>2 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Those are my</p> <p>3 procedural matters.</p> <p>4 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you,</p> <p>5 Teresa.</p> <p>6 Applicant, go ahead.</p> <p>7 Submissions by Baffinland Iron Mines</p> <p>8 Corporation</p> <p>9 E. LUTHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>10 Elisabeth Luther, Baffinland.</p> <p>11 The first document that we submitted is the</p> <p>12 disposition table, which includes a final round</p> <p>13 of technical comments from reviewers and</p> <p>14 Baffinland's responses, which were submitted on</p> <p>15 February 21st. In that document, we have</p> <p>16 updated the resolution status as well as added</p> <p>17 new commitments to reflect the discussions that</p> <p>18 have happened this week. The details that have</p> <p>19 been added in this document, I'll provide a</p> <p>20 summary as I go through the other two</p> <p>21 documents.</p> <p>22 So the next document is the commitment</p> <p>23 register, and thanks to all parties for the</p> <p>24 very productive discussions that happened in</p> <p>25 the past few weeks and past two days. We have</p> <p>26 been able to add new commitments numbered</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">350</p> <p>1 Commitment 26 to 38.</p> <p>2 So if we start with Environment and Climate</p> <p>3 Change Canada, we added Commitment Number 26 in</p> <p>4 response to their Comment Number 4 where</p> <p>5 Baffinland proposes to assess the potential</p> <p>6 impacts of pit development on local permafrost</p> <p>7 in hydrogeological regimes before developing</p> <p>8 the pit to help define final closure</p> <p>9 requirements.</p> <p>10 We also added Commitment 27 in response to</p> <p>11 Environment and Climate Change Canada Comment</p> <p>12 Number 3 where Baffinland plans to conduct a</p> <p>13 review of the Tote Road monitoring program data</p> <p>14 to confirm the natural variability. We will</p> <p>15 share this data with Environment Canada, which</p> <p>16 we'll use to build a trend of the total</p> <p>17 suspended solid criteria to be implemented.</p> <p>18 Baffinland acknowledges that Environment</p> <p>19 Canada has not accepted this commitment as</p> <p>20 fully resolving their comment; however, we</p> <p>21 believe this is an adequate path forward that</p> <p>22 balances our desire to find consensus with</p> <p>23 Environment Canada while having consideration</p> <p>24 of the unique -- unique sandy site-specific</p> <p>25 conditions in the Tote Road.</p> <p>26 Next, for Crown-Indigenous Relations and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">351</p> <p>1 Northern Affairs, we added three new</p> <p>2 commitments and updated an existing commitment.</p> <p>3 In response to Crown-Indigenous Relations</p> <p>4 and Northern Affairs Comment Number 4, we added</p> <p>5 the Commitment Number 28 where Baffinland</p> <p>6 proposes to conduct a review of dustfall data</p> <p>7 and update associated management plans as</p> <p>8 required.</p> <p>9 We added Commitment 29 in response to</p> <p>10 Comment Number 8 where Baffinland will update</p> <p>11 the interim closure and reclamation plan to</p> <p>12 include soil-oil sediments containing</p> <p>13 site-related contaminants that pose a risk to</p> <p>14 human health.</p> <p>15 Baffinland and Crown-Indigenous Relations</p> <p>16 and Northern Affairs will work together on the</p> <p>17 definition and criteria of "contaminants" to be</p> <p>18 integrated in the plan.</p> <p>19 In -- in response To Comment 11 from</p> <p>20 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>21 Affairs, Baffinland updated the Commitment</p> <p>22 Number 4 where we included the proposed climate</p> <p>23 change projections to be considered in our next</p> <p>24 thermal model, which is SSP-1, 2, and 5.</p> <p>25 And, finally, in response to Comment 16, we</p> <p>26 added Commitment Number 30 where we propose to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">352</p> <p>1 undertake pit water quality model in 2025.</p> <p>2 In response to comments from the Qikiqtani</p> <p>3 Inuit Association, we have added eight</p> <p>4 commitments.</p> <p>5 Commitment 31 was added in response to the</p> <p>6 first comment from Qikiqtani Inuit Association</p> <p>7 in which Baffinland will develop a one-time</p> <p>8 memorandum that includes aquatic monitoring</p> <p>9 information.</p> <p>10 Commitment 32, also in response to Comment</p> <p>11 Number 2, Baffinland will include a rationale</p> <p>12 when professional judgment is used.</p> <p>13 Commitment 33 in response to Comment Number</p> <p>14 2, Baffinland will update the aquatic effects</p> <p>15 monitoring plan to include event-based water</p> <p>16 quality monitoring.</p> <p>17 Commitment 34 was made in response to the</p> <p>18 Qikiqtani Inuit Association Comment Number 6</p> <p>19 where Baffinland will collect supplemental</p> <p>20 aquatic monitoring data along the Steensby</p> <p>21 component.</p> <p>22 Commitment 35 was done in response to</p> <p>23 Comment Number 7 where Baffinland commits to</p> <p>24 collecting supplemental baseline at four</p> <p>25 hydrometric monitoring stations along the</p> <p>26 Steensby railway.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">353</p> <p>1 Commitment 36 was made in response to</p> <p>2 Comments 11 and 17 where Baffinland will update</p> <p>3 the aquatic effects monitoring program to</p> <p>4 provide quantifiable triggers leading to man --</p> <p>5 adaptive management action.</p> <p>6 Commitment 37 was made in response to</p> <p>7 Comments 14 and 15 where Baffinland will</p> <p>8 provide a one-time submission of raw data on</p> <p>9 sediment and water quality in Sheardown and</p> <p>10 Camp catchment areas.</p> <p>11 And, finally, Commitment 38 was added in</p> <p>12 response to Comment 16, and Baffinland will</p> <p>13 provide engineering designs related to the</p> <p>14 Kilometre 105 dam 60 days before the start of</p> <p>15 construction.</p> <p>16 So these are all the new commitments that</p> <p>17 have been added in the register.</p> <p>18 And now for the third and final exhibit, we</p> <p>19 submitted an updated water licence framework.</p> <p>20 We've only made three updates since the last</p> <p>21 submission. The first one is located in</p> <p>22 Part E, Item 5. As agreed with Environment and</p> <p>23 Climate Change Canada in response to their</p> <p>24 Comments 5-6, we clarified the areas on the</p> <p>25 project site where water use for dust</p> <p>26 suppression does not have to meet total</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">354</p> <p>1 suspended solid discharge criteria. 2 And the last two updates were made in 3 Part B, Item 17, and Schedule B, Item 1(g)-14 4 which were to correct some errors to align with 5 recommendations from the Qikiqtani Inuit 6 Associations, and that concludes the 7 description of our three exhibits. 8 Thank you, Mr. Chair. 9 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 10 Teresa. 11 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 12 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut 13 Water Board. 14 So it's my understanding that there were 15 some outstanding questions to the Qikiqtani 16 Inuit Association in terms of confirming and 17 reporting back to the Board in terms of the 18 resolution of some of the issues, so if 19 Baffinland has any outstanding questions 20 remaining on that front, please pose those now, 21 and then I will poll the parties. 22 Thank you, Madam Chair -- or Mr. Chair. 23 Sorry. 24 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 25 Okay. 26 M. LORD-HOYLE: Qujannamik. Megan</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">355</p> <p>1 Lord-Hoyle with Baffinland. 2 Baffinland and QIA have had ongoing 3 discussions regarding their technical comments, 4 and we're pleased to report we have found 5 consensus on the items that QIA identified as 6 outstanding yesterday. We're asking QIA to 7 confirm that their comments are now resolved in 8 relation to the water licence. 9 As Baffinland provided in our presentation, 10 Baffinland supports the Inuit stewardship 11 program and understands it is a valuable 12 initiative to add to the existing multifaceted 13 programs to incorporate Inuit feedback and 14 Inuit Qaujimanituqangit into our project. 15 Those include engagement with the Qikiqtani 16 Inuit Association and other Inuit organizations 17 through the Nunavut Impact Review Board and 18 Nunavut Water Board regulatory processes, 19 Baffinland community engagement programs, the 20 Inuit Qaujimanituqangit framework, our adaptive 21 management plan, and full-time Inuit staff 22 positions in each community dedicated to 23 incorporation of Inuit Qaujimanituqangit and 24 the project. 25 Baffinland and QIA have now agreed to 26 develop a memorandum of understanding for the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">356</p> <p>1 Inuit stewardship program that would come into 2 effect upon the financial close of the Steensby 3 expansion. 4 We have also agreed on wording for Part B, 5 Item 17, and Schedule B, along with 6 Commitment 27 that will require Baffinland to 7 consider outcomes for the Inuit stewardship 8 plan and assessments. 9 Baffinland understands that QIA technical 10 comments relating to Inuit Qaujimanituqangit, 11 Inuit water rights, Inuit engagement, and 12 cumulative effects. Specifically, the QIA 13 comment -- or, sorry, the Qikiqtani Inuit 14 Association Comments numbered 24 and 27 through 15 to Comment 37 are now considered resolved. 16 These are the technical comments with reverted 17 resolution status provided by QIA in their 18 February 28th, 2025, letter to the Nunavut 19 Water Board. 20 Can QIA please confirm that is also their 21 understanding, and then I will have two other 22 questions. Qujannamiik. 23 THE CHAIR: Thank you. QIA, go 24 ahead. 25 Questions for Qikiqtani Inuit Association by 26 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">357</p> <p>1 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 2 Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. 3 Yes, we confirm. Thank you, Mr. Chair. 4 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 5 Applicant. 6 M. LORD-HOYLE: Can QIA also please 7 confirm the following: That all 8 recommendations offered by the Qikiqtani Inuit 9 Association in relation to Technical Comment 24 10 and 27 to 37 during the presentation made by 11 the Qikiqtani Inuit Association yesterday are 12 now resolved by Commitment 27, the revised 13 wording for Part B, Item 17, and Schedule B of 14 the water licence, as well as Baffinland's 15 agreement related to the Inuit stewardship 16 program? 17 Further to this, the QIA is no longer 18 recommending any other changes to the licence 19 relating to Inuit Qaujimanituqangit and the 20 cumulative effects framework? Qujannamiik. 21 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 22 QIA, go ahead. 23 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 24 Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. 25 Yes, we confirm. 26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">358</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>2 Applicant, go ahead.</p> <p>3 M. LORD-HOYLE: Thank you. Megan</p> <p>4 Lord-Hoyle, Baffinland.</p> <p>5 I don't think I did that last time. Sorry.</p> <p>6 With respect to Qikiqtani Inuit Association</p> <p>7 Technical Comments 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 15,</p> <p>8 16, and 17, Baffinland has provided additional</p> <p>9 information or commitments as described in the</p> <p>10 updated disposition table.</p> <p>11 Based on this agreement, can QIA please</p> <p>12 confirm that each of those technical review</p> <p>13 comments are now considered fully resolved?</p> <p>14 In summary, this brings the total to 36 of</p> <p>15 37 comments received resolved. Qujannamiik.</p> <p>16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>17 QIA, do you have a response?</p> <p>18 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair,</p> <p>19 Assol Kubeisinoва Qikiqtani Inuit Association.</p> <p>20 Yes, we confirm that as well.</p> <p>21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>23 Teresa.</p> <p>24 Polling of Intervenors</p> <p>25 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>26 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">359</p> <p>1 Water Board.</p> <p>2 So I would now like to turn to polling the</p> <p>3 parties with respect to any objections that</p> <p>4 they might have in relation to entering those</p> <p>5 three exhibits that are being proposed. The</p> <p>6 Board's normal practice is we mark those</p> <p>7 exhibits to discuss them, and then we poll the</p> <p>8 parties to determine if there are any</p> <p>9 objections to entering the documents on the</p> <p>10 record. So if I can have the Qikiqtani Inuit</p> <p>11 Association confirm whether or not they have</p> <p>12 any objections to filing these three exhibits?</p> <p>13 C. SHEFMAN: Thank you very much,</p> <p>14 panel members. Corey Shefman, legal counsel</p> <p>15 for the Qikiqtani Inuit Association.</p> <p>16 The Qikiqtani Inuit Association has no</p> <p>17 objection to the three documents being entered</p> <p>18 as exhibits. Thank you.</p> <p>19 T. MEADOWS: Thank you. Teresa</p> <p>20 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water</p> <p>21 Board. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>22 And if I can have the legal counsel for DOJ</p> <p>23 to come forward. I also would -- because the</p> <p>24 Qikiqtani Inuit Association has already been</p> <p>25 through whether or not they agree that the</p> <p>26 disposition table is accurate, I will not ask</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">360</p> <p>1 them for that again, but if I can have your</p> <p>2 clients, as well, come up to the table and</p> <p>3 confirm -- or up to the microphone and confirm</p> <p>4 whether or not they (a) agree that the</p> <p>5 disposition table accurately reflects the</p> <p>6 agreement on the outstanding issues and the</p> <p>7 resolved issue, recognizing that Environment</p> <p>8 and Climate Change Canada has indicated,</p> <p>9 according to the disposition table, that not</p> <p>10 all their issues are completely resolved by the</p> <p>11 commitments, so whether or not you agree the</p> <p>12 disposition table accurately reflects the</p> <p>13 agreement of -- and outstanding issues and,</p> <p>14 secondly, whether or not there are any</p> <p>15 objections to the exhibits being entered into</p> <p>16 the public hearing record.</p> <p>17 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>18 J. MCHATTIE: Okay. Thank you. Joseph</p> <p>19 McHattie, counsel for Canada.</p> <p>20 I would just like to ask for five minutes</p> <p>21 to confer and discuss these changes, and then</p> <p>22 we'll come back to you. Acceptable?</p> <p>23 Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>24 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>25 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut</p> <p>26 Water Board.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">361</p> <p>1 I'm getting the sense that there's</p> <p>2 something that Baffinland wishes to share at</p> <p>3 this point? Ah, there's a clarification, so</p> <p>4 before we grant the adjournment, perhaps we can</p> <p>5 get the clarification on the record.</p> <p>6 M. LORD-HOYLE: Megan Lord-Hoyle,</p> <p>7 Baffinland.</p> <p>8 My apologies. Elisabeth had been doing a</p> <p>9 lot of hard work on the disposition table, and</p> <p>10 when I referenced Commitment 27 to QIA, that</p> <p>11 was not listed in the disposition table that</p> <p>12 was circulated as Commitment 27, so it is now</p> <p>13 being added in as Commitment 39. It is the</p> <p>14 same wording. We will circulate it to the</p> <p>15 Qikiqtani Inuit Association, but there was a</p> <p>16 mistake in numbering.</p> <p>17 Thank you.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, Teresa.</p> <p>19 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>20 So a procedural point, I have not yet</p> <p>21 entered into evidence the disposition table, so</p> <p>22 I'm assuming that this means I'm going to get</p> <p>23 an updated disposition table that will be the</p> <p>24 accurate one to replace the one that was</p> <p>25 circulated previously.</p> <p>26 Okay. So we'll take a five-minute break,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">362</p> <p>1 and then --</p> <p>2 A. KEIM: Before we go to that --</p> <p>3 T. MEADOWS: Okay.</p> <p>4 Mr. Chair, it appears that there is also a</p> <p>5 clarification coming from Crown-Indigenous</p> <p>6 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.</p> <p>7 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>8 Go ahead, CIRNA.</p> <p>9 A. KEIM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>10 CIRNAC would like, for clarity sake, a</p> <p>11 read-back of the commitment on TDS. I believe</p> <p>12 it was the second-last one that you read back</p> <p>13 for your commitments with QIA, please and thank</p> <p>14 you. Sorry. It was to do with TDS and an</p> <p>15 allowable exceedance, please.</p> <p>16 Thank you.</p> <p>17 E. LUTHER: Elisabeth Luther,</p> <p>18 Baffinland.</p> <p>19 Were you referring to the comment for</p> <p>20 Environment Canada and Climate Change on total</p> <p>21 suspended solids? No?</p> <p>22 A. KEIM: Andrew Keim for CIRNAC.</p> <p>23 No. I believe you were still referring to</p> <p>24 the commitments with QIA. It would have been</p> <p>25 the second-last one or the third-last one about</p> <p>26 an allowable exceedance at some -- for TDS.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">363</p> <p>1 Maybe we -- maybe we just misheard you. Okay.</p> <p>2 C. KOWBELL: Madam Chair -- or</p> <p>3 Mr. Chair -- sorry -- might I suggest that</p> <p>4 maybe this is something we could clarify on the</p> <p>5 break, and then we can come back if there's</p> <p>6 additional hearing time that needs to be spent</p> <p>7 on this?</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: Okay. Yeah, a</p> <p>9 five-minute break.</p> <p>10 (ADJOURNMENT)</p> <p>11 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>12 Teresa.</p> <p>13 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>14 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut</p> <p>15 Water Board.</p> <p>16 So if I can have Department of Justice</p> <p>17 and -- come forward and answer the two</p> <p>18 questions that we posed.</p> <p>19 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>21 J. MCHATTIE: Joe --</p> <p>22 THE CHAIR: Go ahead.</p> <p>23 J. MCHATTIE: Joseph McHattie, counsel</p> <p>24 for Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>25 We -- so we have an answer to the two</p> <p>26 questions that were posed to us, which was the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">364</p> <p>1 position on the dispositions. So I will have</p> <p>2 my -- my clients speak to those. They'll have</p> <p>3 a few comments to make.</p> <p>4 And the second question was whether we had</p> <p>5 objections to filing the documents, and we do</p> <p>6 not.</p> <p>7 And we also wanted to -- just to emphasize</p> <p>8 in the -- with this quick change, I just wanted</p> <p>9 to make sure that our comments here today will</p> <p>10 not relieve Baffinland of having to comply with</p> <p>11 all the applicable Federal laws and</p> <p>12 regulations.</p> <p>13 So with that, I'll leave that to my clients</p> <p>14 to explain their -- their particularities.</p> <p>15 Thank you very much.</p> <p>16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>17 Teresa.</p> <p>18 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>19 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut</p> <p>20 Water Board.</p> <p>21 So Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>22 Affairs Canada is giving me an indicator that</p> <p>23 they want Environment and Climate Change Canada</p> <p>24 to speak. Am I to assume that Crown-Indigenous</p> <p>25 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada is not</p> <p>26 going to speak, or you just want Environment</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">365</p> <p>1 and Climate Change Canada first?</p> <p>2 A. KEIM: We will add an</p> <p>3 affirmation at the end.</p> <p>4 T. MEADOWS: Okay. You will be</p> <p>5 affirming at the end, and so ECCC first and</p> <p>6 then Fisheries and Oceans Canada second and</p> <p>7 then Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>8 Affairs will bring up the rear.</p> <p>9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>11 Environment and Climate Change Canada, go</p> <p>12 ahead.</p> <p>13 Submissions by Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>14 Canada</p> <p>15 S. FORTE: Thank you. Sarah Forte</p> <p>16 with Environment and Climate Change Canada.</p> <p>17 So to go over the two new commitments in</p> <p>18 the table, Commitment Number 26 reflects our</p> <p>19 discussions with Baffinland. As presented this</p> <p>20 morning, it does address our final Technical</p> <p>21 Comment Number 4.</p> <p>22 As acknowledged by Baffinland, their</p> <p>23 Commitment Number 27 does not address our</p> <p>24 concerns regarding our final Technical Comment</p> <p>25 Number 3. They propose to analyze their data</p> <p>26 on total suspended sediment in streams along</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">366</p> <p>1 the Tote Road and confirm a cutoff criterion 2 for triggering management actions at a later 3 date. 4 This is not protective of the aquatic 5 environment. Until Baffinland can demonstrate 6 that a criterion, other than that of the 'C' -- 7 Canadian Council of Ministers of the 8 Environment Guideline is better adapted to 9 site, that guideline should be used as a 10 trigger criterion. 11 Environment and Climate Change Canada's 12 recommendations made this morning remain 13 unchanged. 14 Thank you. 15 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Anything 16 further? Thank you. Yeah, you're done. 17 DFO. 18 Submissions by Department of Fisheries and 19 Oceans 20 P. HARPER: Paul Harper, Fisheries 21 and Oceans. 22 Fisheries and Oceans has reviewed 23 Commitments 22 and 23, and we are satisfied 24 with the commitments as proposed by Baffinland. 25 Thank you. 26 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">367</p> <p>1 CIRNA. 2 Submissions by Crown-Indigenous Relations and 3 Northern Affairs 4 A. KEIM: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. 5 Sir, I would like to recognize all of the 6 hard work of the Board, our partners at 7 Baffinland, and sitting here at the table with 8 our partners QIA. All the hard work that has 9 gone into the resolutions that we have over 10 the -- even up to the last few minutes, so 11 while not -- while -- with any negotiation, 12 things can get a little rough, but we are 13 satisfied with the commitments as they are 14 today, and understanding that we have more 15 further processes in the future, we look 16 forward to meeting our partners across the 17 table and -- and resolving them at that time. 18 Thank you very much. 19 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 20 Teresa. 21 T. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 22 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut 23 Water Board. 24 So subject to receiving the final live 25 versions of the commitments list and the 26 disposition table, it's my understanding that</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">368</p> <p>1 those exhibits -- the final revisions will be 2 provided to us before we close today, and when 3 we receive those, the Board will -- 4 S. AUTUT: We have them now. 5 T. MEADOWS: We have them now. All 6 right. Thank you. I was just going to say, 7 literally, as we speak, so literally as we 8 speak. So, Mr. Chair, those are my procedural 9 matters for now, and I would recommend that it 10 is now time to move on to the agenda item of 11 closing statements. 12 Thank you, Mr. Chair. 13 EXHIBIT 12 - Baffinland Iron Mines 14 Corporation, Electronic Copy, 15 Disposition Table for the Water 16 Licence Renewal for Type A Water 17 Licence 2AM-MRY1325, Mary River 18 Project, February 27, 2025 (Updated 19 March 12, 2025) (English) 20 EXHIBIT 13 - Baffinland Iron Mines 21 Corporation, Electronic Copy, 22 Commitments List from the Public 23 Hearing (Updated March 12, 2025) 24 (English) 25 EXHIBIT 14 - Baffinland Iron Mines 26 Corporation, Electronic Copy, Water</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">369</p> <p>1 Licence Renewal Framework Draft for 2 Discussion (Updated March 12, 2025) 3 (English) 4 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. 5 Now we are to an opportunity for each of 6 the parties to provide us with brief closing 7 remarks. Starting with Intervenors and ending 8 with Applicant. 9 So Qikiqtani Inuit Association, you can -- 10 you may start your brief closing remarks. 11 Thank you. 12 Closing by Qikiqtani Inuit Association 13 A. KUBEISINOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chair, 14 Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. 15 The Qikiqtani Inuit Association would like 16 to say thank you so much to the Board members, 17 staff, and the participants for your patience 18 as we worked to resolve the remaining issues. 19 QIA would like to first thank the Nunavut 20 Water Board members and staff for their hard 21 work throughout this process. These hearings 22 are always a valuable opportunity to hear about 23 the continued development of the project and 24 ensure that the project is operating in the way 25 that is more protective of the environment and 26 Inuit rights.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">370</p> <p>1 As you know, QIA is a designated Inuit 2 organization under the Nunavut Agreement and 3 represents the rights and interests of over 4 14,000 Qikiqtani Inuit. 5 QIA manages Inuit-owned land in the 6 Qikiqtani region, including the project area. 7 QIA advances the rights and benefits of 8 Qikiqtani Inuit through protecting and 9 promoting our social, political, economic, and 10 cultural interests while safeguarding the land, 11 waters, and resources that sustain our 12 communities. 13 All of QIA's submissions in this hearing 14 and the lead-up to this hearing are in line 15 with QIA's mission as a designated Inuit 16 organization. 17 QIA is pleased to confirm that through the 18 hard work of our technical team and 19 Baffinland's technical team this week and in 20 the weeks leading up to the hearing, many of 21 our technical comments have now been resolved. 22 Specifically, we can confirm that nearly all of 23 QIA's technical comments are now resolved 24 through the following updated Baffinland 25 commitments. 26 QIA Technical Comment Number 1 is resolved</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">371</p> <p>1 by Baffinland Commitment Number 31. Technical 2 Comment Number 2 is resolved by Baffinland 3 Commitments 32 and 33. Technical Comment 6 is 4 resolved by Baffinland Commitment Number 34. 5 Technical Comment 7 is resolved by Baffinland 6 Commitment Number 35. Technical Comment 9 is 7 resolved as Baffinland has provided us with the 8 requested information. Technical Comment 11 is 9 resolved by Baffinland Commitment 36. 10 Technical Comment 14 is resolved by Baffinland 11 Commitment 37. The same commitment resolves 12 Technical Comment 15. Technical Comment 16 is 13 resolved by Baffinland Commitment 38. And 14 Technical Comment 17 is resolved by Baffinland 15 Commitment 36. 16 In addition to these, QIA is now satisfied 17 that Technical Comments 24 and 27 through 37 18 will be resolved if certain licence amendments 19 and commitments are included in the licence and 20 properly implemented by Baffinland. 21 As a result of these resolutions, the only 22 QIA concern which remains unresolved is 23 QIA-TR-5. On QIA-TR-5, QIA remains concerned 24 that Baffinland has a history of exceeding 25 daily water withdrawal limits from small 26 watercourses with more limited withdrawal</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">372</p> <p>1 limits -- for example, CV-099, CV-087, 2 CV-078 -- posing a potential risk to aquatic 3 life and aquatic habitat for short-term 4 water-level drawdown. 5 Acknowledging Baffinland's desire to 6 maintain flexibility to support optimal 7 environmental management, specifically as it 8 relates -- as it relates to dust management and 9 control, QIA recommends that the Board remove 10 water withdrawal locations with seasonal 11 restrictions from Table 2-3 of the water 12 licence. 13 To support ongoing dust suppression 14 activities, Baffinland may shift the requisite 15 water volumes to the remaining water withdrawal 16 locations currently within Table 2-3 of the 17 licence. 18 On the issue of security, QIA confirms that 19 we are committed to negotiating a security 20 management agreement with the Government of 21 Canada and Baffinland. We share Baffinland and 22 Canada's desire for that work to be completed 23 in time for the Minister's decision on the 24 licence. 25 During this hearing and the steps leading 26 up to this hearing, one of the issues that QIA</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">373</p> <p>1 has been most focused on is making sure that 2 the licence provides a mechanism for the 3 incorporation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and 4 Inuit Qaujimaningit into the Mary River 5 Project. Incorporating pathways for Inuit 6 Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Qaujimaningit to 7 inform the licence and the project's management 8 plans and operations will help to improve the 9 project, make it safer for the environment, 10 safer for Inuit, and will help to protect Inuit 11 rights. 12 In our submissions this week, we have 13 provided examples to the Board of how 14 Indigenous Knowledge has been incorporated into 15 other water licences in other jurisdictions. 16 These examples have been intended to 17 demonstrate how important these issues are and 18 that regulators continue to expand and improve 19 the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge, 20 including IQ, into projects. 21 To be clear, QIA is not suggesting at this 22 hearing that the Board should adopt the 23 conditions that were used in the Ekati project. 24 Those were presented for informational purposes 25 only. 26 Baffinland and QIA have put forward</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">374</p> <p>1 recommended wording to the Board in Part B and 2 Schedule B that addresses QIA's concerns as set 3 out in our technical comments and presentation 4 relating to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit 5 Qaujimaningit and the cumulative effects 6 assessment, and QIA is not recommending any 7 further changes to address those topics in this 8 renewal water licence. 9 QIA believes that the Nunavut Water Board 10 should ensure that the water licence provides 11 effective mechanisms for the incorporation of 12 Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit 13 Qaujimaningit, Inuit monitoring and research, 14 and Inuit observational monitoring parameters 15 into the project. 16 It is part of the mandate of the Nunavut 17 Water Board to act on all these issues. In the 18 past, NWB water licences have not incorporated 19 specific references to any of these themes. 20 Even this morning, we heard from Mr. Idlout and 21 Mr. Sangoya about the importance of including 22 IQ in these processes, and we heard in 23 responses to their questions that more work is 24 still needed on this front. This is exactly 25 why the Inuit stewardship program is so 26 important.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">375</p> <p>1 Through the Inuit stewardship program, we 2 will be able to incorporate additional Inuit 3 Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Qaujimaningit and 4 Inuit observational parameters into the project 5 in order to ensure that changes can be 6 predicted, monitored, and managed from an Inuit 7 perspective. This work will feed directly into 8 both QIA's role as a designated Inuit 9 organization for the project and into 10 Baffinland's technical work and management 11 plans. 12 QIA recognizes that the Board's hold -- 13 that the Board holds IQ, listens to IQ from 14 Inuit, and integrates IQ into its decisions. 15 That said, it is also important that the legal 16 instruments that the Board issues, which govern 17 the monitoring and management of projects like 18 the Mary River Project, also integrate specific 19 requirements that, on an ongoing basis, Inuit 20 Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Qaujimaningit, 21 Inuit engagement, and the way Inuit observe the 22 environment be integrated into those 23 operations. 24 We appreciate that Baffinland has also 25 agreed that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit 26 Qaujimaningit are important to their operations</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">376</p> <p>1 and to their monitoring and management plans. 2 We see many opportunities in the future to 3 collaborate with Baffinland to ensure that 4 Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Qaujimaningit 5 is properly integrated into the project. 6 There has been a lot of discussion over the 7 last few weeks and even right up to the last 8 few days between QIA and Baffinland to make 9 sure that Baffinland's commitment to integrate 10 IQ into their operations was meaningful in 11 general and to ensure that the Inuit 12 stewardship program is sustainable in the long 13 term. As a result of Baffinland's new 14 commitment to negotiate a memorandum of 15 understanding for the continued long-term 16 operation of the Inuit stewardship program, 17 QIA's now comfortable that our concerns related 18 to IQ will be addressed if certain steps are 19 taken. 20 Aside from the new commitment, all of those 21 steps are described in QIA's February 7th 22 submission. They are, first, the commitment 23 from Baffinland to negotiate a memorandum of 24 understanding on the Inuit stewardship program 25 is honoured by Baffinland; second, 26 Commitment 39 is included in the licence and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">377</p> <p>1 implemented by Baffinland; third, the requested 2 amendment to Part B, Item 17 of the water 3 licence is approved by the Board and 4 incorporated into the licence; and fourth, the 5 requested amendments to Schedule B, Items 1(e) 6 and 1(g) are approved by the Board and 7 incorporated into the licence. 8 Specifically with respect to the three 9 requested licence amendments, Part B, Item 17 10 and Schedule B, Items 1(e) and 1(g), please 11 make sure to reference today's updated version 12 of Baffinland's licence framework which was 13 just filed as an exhibit. This updated exhibit 14 contains updated language from the previous 15 version filed on February 27th. The language 16 in the exhibit reflects QIA and Baffinland's 17 shared understanding of the proposed 18 amendments. If the Board accepts these four 19 recommendations and changes and if they are 20 properly and fully implemented by Baffinland, 21 then QIA will be able to confirm that QIA 22 Comments 24 and 27 through 37 should be 23 considered resolved, and we will be able to 24 have confidence that appropriate mechanisms 25 will be in place to incorporate Inuit 26 Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Qaujimaningit into</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">378</p> <p>1 the project and the licence.</p> <p>2 The current Mary River Project water</p> <p>3 licence does not make any specific reference to</p> <p>4 Inuit Qaujimanituqangit, Inuit monitor or</p> <p>5 research, or Inuit monitoring parameters. We</p> <p>6 will start to close that gap with these</p> <p>7 proposed new changes that QIA and Baffinland</p> <p>8 have agreed on.</p> <p>9 Inuit monitoring and research is not</p> <p>10 intended to replace the monitoring and the</p> <p>11 research done using western science by</p> <p>12 Baffinland or by the Government of Canada.</p> <p>13 Inuit-led monitoring and research and the</p> <p>14 collection of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit</p> <p>15 Qaujimaningit will add value to the project.</p> <p>16 The information which results from the</p> <p>17 Inuit stewardship program is not punitive to</p> <p>18 Baffinland. It is intended to be shared with</p> <p>19 Baffinland so that it can feed into their</p> <p>20 monitoring and management plans, improve them,</p> <p>21 and ensure that Inuit perspectives are</p> <p>22 represented in those processes.</p> <p>23 QIA's recommendations have focused on</p> <p>24 integrating forthcoming results from</p> <p>25 Inuit-driven research and monitoring results</p> <p>26 into Baffinland's annual review regarding the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">379</p> <p>1 water licence implementation and, where</p> <p>2 appropriate, updating management and monitoring</p> <p>3 plans based on what is learned from Inuit.</p> <p>4 This is not intended to be a burden to any</p> <p>5 party and should improve an area that has been</p> <p>6 challenging in the past, the gap between</p> <p>7 Baffinland's monitoring results and the</p> <p>8 observed experience of effects from the project</p> <p>9 by Inuit.</p> <p>10 The benefits of Inuit-led monitoring will</p> <p>11 be large by bringing the way Inuit measure</p> <p>12 change into the project monitoring and</p> <p>13 management system in a more systematic and</p> <p>14 long-term way. This will help bridge the gap</p> <p>15 between impacts Inuit are experiencing on the</p> <p>16 land, which have been notable, and the level of</p> <p>17 impact predicted by and measurable by</p> <p>18 Baffinland's western scientific monitoring</p> <p>19 system.</p> <p>20 In addition to the comments that we have</p> <p>21 made today on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit</p> <p>22 Qaujimaningit, we also point the Board to</p> <p>23 Section 2 and -- and Appendix B of QIA's</p> <p>24 submission filed with the Board on</p> <p>25 February 7th, 2025. We rely on the points made</p> <p>26 in that submission and hope the discussion</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">380</p> <p>1 there will give the Nunavut Water Board further</p> <p>2 confidence that what we are asking you to do on</p> <p>3 this point is comfortably within your</p> <p>4 jurisdiction and that by taking these steps,</p> <p>5 you will be ensuring that the spirit and intent</p> <p>6 of the Nunavut Agreement is implemented.</p> <p>7 In closing, QIA does not object to the</p> <p>8 approval of the water licence renewal for the</p> <p>9 Mary River Project.</p> <p>10 Board members, QIA again wants to thank you</p> <p>11 for your hard work. We also want to thank</p> <p>12 Baffinland for working with our team to address</p> <p>13 many of our concerns. We want to recognize and</p> <p>14 thank all community members as well as Hamlet</p> <p>15 and Hunters & Trappers Organizations'</p> <p>16 representatives who attended to share their</p> <p>17 views. Thank you so much to the Board staff</p> <p>18 and immense thanks to the interpreters. Unless</p> <p>19 the Board has any questions for us, this</p> <p>20 concludes QIA's submissions.</p> <p>21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>23 Okay. Next Intervenor closing remarks,</p> <p>24 Crown-Indigenous and Northern Relations. Go</p> <p>25 ahead.</p> <p>26 Closing by Crown-Indigenous Relations and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">381</p> <p>1 Northern Affairs, Department of Fisheries and</p> <p>2 Oceans, and Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>3 Canada</p> <p>4 A. KEIM: Qujannamiik, Iksivautaa.</p> <p>5 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN). I represent today</p> <p>6 both CIRNAC, DFO, and Environment Canada in a</p> <p>7 final representation to the Board and -- and a</p> <p>8 word of thanks on behalf of the Federal family.</p> <p>9 First and foremost, I'd like to turn -- I'd</p> <p>10 like to thank so much the translator</p> <p>11 interpreters that have helped us so much today</p> <p>12 to understand each other and to work closely</p> <p>13 together in a -- in a firm understanding of</p> <p>14 what each other's messages and we are trying to</p> <p>15 convey. Thank you all very much.</p> <p>16 A huge shout-out goes out to PIDO</p> <p>17 Productions for putting up with us and for</p> <p>18 playing some nice country music there a few</p> <p>19 minutes ago.</p> <p>20 Secondly, the entire Federal family</p> <p>21 recognizes that we are here in Pond Inlet, in</p> <p>22 Mittimatalik, and none of these consultations</p> <p>23 can be done without community members,</p> <p>24 community representation. I understand we had</p> <p>25 representatives from Igloolik, Hall Beach,</p> <p>26 Clyde River, and Pond Inlet here. I believe we</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">382</p> <p>1 didn't get somebody from Cape Dorset, 2 unfortunately, but -- and Arctic Bay (OTHER 3 LANGUAGE SPOKEN), so a huge shout-out again 4 goes out to all of the people that came to 5 provide us guidance. We couldn't do this job 6 without you. Thank you so much. 7 Finally, to talk about IQ, Joe, Paul, thank 8 you very much for being here to provide us your 9 insights and Toomasie for leading us. Thank 10 you. 11 The Government of Canada works to 12 involve -- works to incorporate IQ in all the 13 things that we do, and it works to ensure that 14 the -- the wishes and the hopes, the prayers, 15 the ideas that come from the beneficiaries and 16 come from the Nunavut land claim are actually 17 applied in our everyday lives, and we try our 18 very best to be respectful of that. 19 CIRNAC's role is to be both a comanagement 20 partner with the Nunavut Water Board as is the 21 rest of the Federal family, but we are also 22 those -- we are also the ones that it tasked 23 with being the regulator, and sometimes being a 24 regulator is difficult at -- in -- in different 25 situations. 26 While working with Baffinland, we can say</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">383</p> <p>1 that we have worked together through all of our 2 problems and resolved everything -- maybe not 3 to everybody's 100 percent satisfaction, but we 4 ended up coming to a resolution that was 5 agreeable to everybody and a path forward, 6 which is probably more important than anything 7 else. 8 Yeah, so the Federal family contributes to 9 the -- to the contributions that developed the 10 water licence as Baffinland is responsible for 11 adhering to, and we recognize the -- the 12 efforts that they are making to -- to stay in 13 compliance and to promote their project and to 14 see it through to fruition. 15 We've come a long way since 1993. We've 16 come a long way since bladders and tents. 17 We've come a long way to seeing this project 18 move towards that next step, which is -- makes 19 it generational. 20 CIRNAC is also here to support resource 21 development in the -- as part of our mandate. 22 Part of our mandate is to ensure that you do it 23 the right way, and we thank you for working 24 with us. We thank you for acknowledging your 25 responsibilities and to ensuring that, you 26 know, we will work forward together with our</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">384</p> <p>1 partners at QIA to make sure that this is done 2 in a respectful and hopefully profitable way. 3 CIRNAC continues -- that's all the rest. 4 In closing, we thank the Water Board for 5 their leadership and their guidance on behalf 6 of the Federal family, and we would ask that 7 the -- the Board acknowledge all the hard work 8 and thank you very much. 9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, CIRNAC, 10 covering three Federal departments all 11 together. 12 Now next closing remarks, Baffinland Iron 13 Mines Corporation. Take the floor. Thank you. 14 Closing by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation 15 M. LORD-HOYLE: Qujannamiik. Megan 16 Lord-Hoyle for Baffinland. 17 Thank you to the Board and the Board staff 18 for arranging this public hearing and for your 19 care in managing this very comprehensive water 20 licence renewal process. 21 Baffinland's water licence renewal 22 application has been under active -- has been 23 under active review under the NWB for over 24 eight months. This application also benefit -- 25 benefitted from a draft review by the Qikiqtani 26 Inuit Association prior to submission to the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">385</p> <p>1 Water Board consistent with the terms of our 2 Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement. 3 I want to acknowledge the many hours and 4 resources that the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, 5 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 6 Canada, Environment Canada, and Fisheries and 7 Oceans Canada have spent with us reviewing this 8 application and the many hours that Inuit have 9 spent at technical meetings and meetings with 10 Baffinland or the Qikiqtani Inuit Association 11 in relation to this application or our project. 12 Our application was reviewed closely by 13 each of these parties who relied on their own 14 organizational expertise and technical experts 15 to provide their final recommendations to the 16 Board. 17 We respect the unique role the Qikiqtani 18 Inuit Association, as representatives of 19 Qikiqtani Inuit, bring in identifying and 20 balancing the wide range of views on a project 21 and the application. It is equally important 22 to Baffinland that we hear Inuit views on our 23 project, and we appreciate Inuit communities 24 welcoming us into their communities to discuss 25 issues relevant to this application or just to 26 the broader -- broader project.</p>

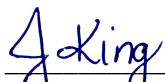
<p style="text-align: right;">386</p> <p>1 As we have discussed through this hearing, 2 we have developed an Inuit-led approach to 3 engagement where our northern affairs team has 4 expanded its community staffing, conduct 5 engagements in Inuktitut whenever possible, and 6 prioritizes the open sharing of community 7 knowledge and project information. 8 I specifically want to acknowledge and 9 thank Joe and Paul who have been instrumental 10 in leading us through this important change. 11 While not specific to this licence renewal, 12 I do want to speak to the collection of 13 baseline data as it was a frequent topic of 14 conversation at this hearing, and I want to 15 address that we have heard the comments on this 16 topic. 17 Baffinland has extensive baseline data and 18 information for both the southern Steensby and 19 northern portions of the project with baseline 20 information collection specifically conducted 21 by Baffinland going back as far as 2006. 22 However, understanding that we are actively 23 planning to move forward with the Steensby 24 component of the project, we have been 25 collecting supplemental baseline information in 26 the project area since 2021, and we want to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">387</p> <p>1 ensure that those in this room understand that 2 this data is actively being updated. 3 Baffinland has engaged Inuit from the 4 communities closest to this work through this 5 process and has benefitted greatly from their 6 insights and participation in our programs. 7 This is an important relationship, and we 8 look forward to continuing advancing a shared 9 understanding of the project area and how our 10 project will interact with it for more informed 11 management and monitoring strategies. 12 Through the jointly proposed amendment to 13 Part B, Item 17 and Schedule B, Baffinland and 14 the Qikiqtani Inuit Association have put 15 forward a means to address concerns related to 16 the integration of Inuit Qaujimanituqangit and 17 related information into the management 18 mechanisms governed by the licence respecting 19 the important feedback we regularly receive 20 from our work with Inuit and the Qikiqtani 21 Inuit Association. 22 I would also like to take a moment to 23 acknowledge the history of this licence. In 24 2013, the Nunavut Water Board developed the 25 licence based on the careful advice of all 26 these same parties, including community</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">388</p> <p>1 representatives. All of us did our very best 2 work on that licence, and the result was a very 3 strong and stringent licence designed to 4 protect Nunavut waters. 5 Two years later, the Board amended that 6 licence again with the same careful and 7 thoughtful advice from the parties here and 8 adding even stronger and stringent licence 9 requirements. 10 Today, very few changes to this licence 11 have been identified as a result of the renewal 12 process because the licence is already very 13 strong. That being said, the amendments 14 proposed in the submitted water licence 15 framework address key issues raised during 16 the -- this renewal process and will only 17 further ensure the ongoing protection of 18 Nunavut waters. 19 In addition to these amendments, Baffinland 20 has committed to evolve the monitoring and 21 mitigation plans governed by the licence and 22 subject to Board review and approval. 23 It's also important to acknowledge that our 24 operations under the licence are subject to 25 regular inspections by Crown-Indigenous 26 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">389</p> <p>1 Baffinland has a demonstrated record of 2 compliance. 3 Baffinland is subject to multiple 4 inspections on the project relevant to our 5 water licence, including those by Environment 6 and Climate Change Canada and the independent 7 inspections that QIA, the Qikiqtani Inuit 8 Association, carries out under the commercial 9 lease. Ever since the licence has been in 10 effect, Baffinland has adjusted its mitigation 11 and monitoring programs based on the feedback 12 received through the annual reporting process 13 or standalone reviews of our management plans. 14 In each case, these reviews are public and 15 carefully facilitated by the Nunavut Water 16 Board. This is an important factor in our 17 request to the Board to issue a 15-year licence 18 term. The water licence renewal process is not 19 the only opportunity that's provided to make 20 adjustments where needed. Care and attention 21 to these matters is required throughout the 22 licence term, and we have every confidence that 23 all parties will continue to fully participate 24 in and give feedback through standard and 25 expected Nunavut Water Board facilitated 26 reviews.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">390</p> <p>1 Thanks to the very hard work of all the</p> <p>2 parties, we have been able to find very strong</p> <p>3 consensus on the technical comments issued by</p> <p>4 the parties during this review.</p> <p>5 Of the 86 comments received, we are</p> <p>6 encouraged to report that 83 of those comments</p> <p>7 have been fully resolved either through</p> <p>8 providing additional information or through the</p> <p>9 development of mutually agreed commitments.</p> <p>10 In the interest of time, we will not review</p> <p>11 or address the three outstanding technical</p> <p>12 issues in this closing, but we believe we have</p> <p>13 provided a reasonable path forward for the</p> <p>14 Board's consideration, and that information is</p> <p>15 contained within our disposition table,</p> <p>16 commitment list, and the water licence</p> <p>17 framework.</p> <p>18 Again, we greatly appreciate the time</p> <p>19 parties have provided to this review and to the</p> <p>20 ongoing discussions with us in the pursuit of</p> <p>21 agreeable solutions and recommendations to the</p> <p>22 Board.</p> <p>23 In closing, we do want to stress the</p> <p>24 importance of advancing a long-term approval of</p> <p>25 our water licence which expires on June 10th,</p> <p>26 2025. We do not wish to operate under a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">391</p> <p>1 temporary licence, and we believe that there is</p> <p>2 time for the Board and Minister's careful</p> <p>3 decision-making to be -- to be completed before</p> <p>4 that date.</p> <p>5 Thank you again to the Board and its staff</p> <p>6 for arranging this meeting, to the interpreters</p> <p>7 and their tireless efforts to allow us to</p> <p>8 understand each other, to the parties, and to</p> <p>9 the community members for their participation,</p> <p>10 and the community of Mittimatalik for hosting</p> <p>11 us. I wish everyone safe journeys for wherever</p> <p>12 they are going at the close of this hearing.</p> <p>13 Qujannamiik.</p> <p>14 Closing Remarks by The Chair</p> <p>15 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you,</p> <p>16 Applicant, for your closing remarks.</p> <p>17 As we bring this public hearing to a close,</p> <p>18 on behalf of the Board and my fellow panel</p> <p>19 members, I would like to thank all the parties</p> <p>20 who contributed to making this public hearing</p> <p>21 and community session a success, especially the</p> <p>22 Applicant, Baffinland and its representatives;</p> <p>23 Intervenors, Qikiqtani Inuit Association,</p> <p>24 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>25 Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada,</p> <p>26 Fisheries and Oceans Canada; the NWB staff and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">392</p> <p>1 legal counsel; interpreters, Ben Kogvik, Rhoda</p> <p>2 Katsak, Titus Arnakallak; court reporter, Julie</p> <p>3 Deanne King; audio facilitator, Chris Coomber;</p> <p>4 and all the community members and Elders for</p> <p>5 the valued participation in this hearing.</p> <p>6 As we are at the end of the hearing, I will</p> <p>7 make some comment to let parties know that what</p> <p>8 happens next for the new -- renewal</p> <p>9 application.</p> <p>10 The Board will now close the public hearing</p> <p>11 record. What this means is that all evidence</p> <p>12 with regards to this renewal application is now</p> <p>13 before the Board, and no -- and no further</p> <p>14 information will be considered by the panel</p> <p>15 before they make their decision about the</p> <p>16 application.</p> <p>17 Now that the record is closed, the Board</p> <p>18 will remit the file to the panel to decide</p> <p>19 whether or not to approve the renewal and grant</p> <p>20 the Type A licence as requested by Baffinland.</p> <p>21 Within 30 to 45 days after the public</p> <p>22 hearing record closes, NWB will issue its</p> <p>23 records and -- of proceeding and decision to</p> <p>24 the Minister of Northern Affairs. If the Board</p> <p>25 decision is to grant the licence, a draft of</p> <p>26 the renewed Type A water licence will be</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">393</p> <p>1 attached to the Board decision for the</p> <p>2 Minister's approval.</p> <p>3 That concludes the public hearing component</p> <p>4 of the Nunavut Water Board's consideration of</p> <p>5 Baffinland's application to renew their water</p> <p>6 licence.</p> <p>7 The Board and I wish to all -- wish you all</p> <p>8 a good afternoon and good evening and have safe</p> <p>9 travel.</p> <p>10 I'd like to ask Joshua to have a closing</p> <p>11 prayer for us. Joshua.</p> <p>12 (CLOSING PRAYER)</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p>

1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT:

2
3 I, J. King, certify that the foregoing
4 pages are a complete and accurate transcript of
5 the proceedings taken down by me in shorthand
6 and transcribed from my shorthand notes to the
7 best of my skill and ability.

8 Dated at the City of Airdrie, Province of
9 Alberta, this 22nd day of March 2025.

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11 
12 _____

13 J. King, CSR(A)

14 Official Court Reporter

15 Commissioner for Oaths Appointee No. 0733800

16 ASRA Membership No. 146
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