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March 29, 2018

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Resolute Bay

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Karén Kharatyan
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven NU X0B 1J0

RE: BAFFINLAND IRON MINES CORPORATION'S MARY RIVER PROJECT MODIFICATION REQUEST No. 7 – 2018 UPGRADES AT THE MINE SITE AND MILNE PORT

Dear Mr. Kharatyan,

This letter provides the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's (QIA) comments on Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's (Baffinland's) modification request No.7 pursuant to Water Licence 2AM-MRY1325¹ (Licence).

QIA, as the Designated Inuit Organization (DIO) for the Qikiqtani region, and Baffinland signed the Commercial Lease No. Q13C301² (Lease) for the Mary River mine in 2013. QIA's comments herein are focused on items as they relate to the Lease and QIA's role as DIO and its duties to administer Inuit Owned Lands.

Without limitation, QIA considers the following elements of the modification request to have a relationship to the Lease and/or associated Water Compensation Agreement:

- Adequate reclamation security
- Whether proposed activities satisfy all other applicable environmental laws and regulations as well as the Lease
- Updated Environmental Management Plans associated with water quality, quantity and flow
- For-construction and as-built documentation

Included in the modification request submitted from Baffinland are two main sections:

1. A **self-assessment** of the proposed changes versus the scope of the Approved Project, as described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and the FEIS Addendum.
2. The **modification request** as per the submission requirements of the Water Licence.

QIA finds Baffinland's self-assessment of the proposed modifications compared to the Approved Project to be reasonable. Based on QIA's review, the proposed activities appear to be within the scope of the Approved Project and do not conflict with Section 90 of the *Nunavut Project Planning*

¹ Nunavut Water Board (2015). Water Licence No: 2AM-MRY1325 Amendment No. 1. July 31, 2015.

² QIA and Baffinland (2013). Commercial Lease No: Q13C301. September 6, 2013.



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Clyde River

Grise Fiord

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Hall Beach

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Pangnirtung

Pond Inlet

Qikiqtarjuaq


Resolute Bay

Sanikiluaq

1. Baffinland has not provided any changes to relevant management and monitoring plans. When does Baffinland plan to provide changes to relevant management and monitoring plans? If Baffinland does not consider any relevant management and monitoring plans require changes, QIA recommends supporting this assumption with a relevant analysis.
2. The current modification request does not conform to Part D, Items 1 and 2 nor Part G, Item 3.f. of the Licence for any of the proposed modifications. Part D, Items 1 and 2 states that Baffinland shall provide all final design and construction drawings, stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer for review and acceptance at least sixty (60) days or in a timeframe otherwise approved by the Board in writing prior to construction for all infrastructure and/or facilities designed to contain, withhold, divert or retain Water and/or Waste. The provided engineering drawings are not stamped and signed and none are for construction so do not fulfill this requirement.
3. Environmental monitoring of construction activities has not been included. Planned activities included environmental inspections to ensure adherence to management plans and policies. Environmental monitoring should be further detailed based on the planned activities to ensure no unforeseen environmental impacts occur.

QIA notes that the approval of this modification request does not grant approval to commence construction activities. Baffinland is required to post sufficient reclamation security, during what QIA anticipates being a 2018 Security Review Addendum given a positive determination of the modification request.

QIA would like to thank NWB for considering these comments, and should you have any questions please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

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Fai Ndofor
Regulatory Manger
Qikiqtani Inuit Association