

October 16, 2018

NIRB - Nunavut Impact Review Board
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PROPONENT:
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Dear Ms. Lear, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. McCaie, Ms. Osmond, Mr. Gilchrist, Ms. Williston, Mr. D'Aguiar, Mr. Lavoie, Mr. Turmel:

RE: NPC File # 148953 [Whale Tail Pit - Expansion Project]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

- 1. A change to the Whale Tail Pit mine site development area
- 2. Intensification of mining activity

- 3. Increase in duration of mining at Whale Tail Pit.
- 4. Location: Kivalliq Region; [Whale Tail Pit, NW of Baker Lake, near Amaruq]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below. The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal, including mine and haul road establishment.

The Meadowbank Mine was the subject of positive NPC conformity determinations on July 12, 2002 and July 21, 2003; the Amaruq exploration project received positive NPC conformity determinations on March 10, 2011 and October 15, 2015; and the Amaruq access road received an NPC conformity determination on July 16, 2015. The Whale Tail Pit and haul road received a positive conformity determination (NPC file 148297) on June 17, 2016. These conformity determinations still apply.

In addition, associated activities were previously reviewed by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NOs: 03MN107, 11EN010, 16MN056; and NIRB Project Certificates No. 4 and No. 8).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because of the increased area, intensity, and duration of mining. It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original or previously amended proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

http://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148953&sessionid=

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 857-2242.

Sincerely,

Peter Scholz, Senior Planner Nunavut Planning Commission