

NIRB File No.: EX148 NWB File No.: 2BB-BOS0712

May 22, 2012

Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Via email: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

Re: Application Exempt from Screening pursuant to NLCA Schedule 12-1: Renewal to Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s NWB Type B Water Licence for the "Boston Advanced Exploration" project proposal

Dear Phyllis Beaulieu:

On April 25, 2012, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received an application from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) to renew the Type B Water Licence (NWB File No.: 2BB-BOS0712) for Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s "Boston Advanced Exploration" project proposal. Please be advised that where no further applications for authorizations have been referred to our office, it appears that this proposal is exempt from NIRB screening pursuant to Items 1 and 5 of Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), *Types of Project Proposals Exempt from Screening* as set our below:

Item 1 of Schedule 12-1 of the NLCA identifies:

"Land use activities not requiring a permit or authorization from the Government of Canada or Territorial Government"

And Item 5 of Schedule 12-1 of the NLCA further notes that:

"Water uses that do not require a public hearing under Section 13.7.3"

As the NLCA indicates that these types of project proposal are exempt from the requirement for Screening by NIRB, authorizations associated with this proposal may be processed by your office. If this application is associated with a project proposal which has previously been screened by the NIRB, the NIRB's Screening Decision Report may contain recommendations which are relevant to your organization. Screening Decision Reports can be accessed online

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at kboa-antwi@nirb.ca or (867) 793-4609.

Best regards,

Kofi Boa-Antwi, M.Sc.

Technical Advisor

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Chris Hanks, Hope Bay Mining Ltd. (chris.hanks@newmont.com)

Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association (sanablak@giniq.com)