



NIRB File No. 12MN001
NWB File No.: 2BB-MWL----

October 1, 2015

Hope Bay Belt Phase 2 Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Opportunity for Parties to Review Response to Comments Submitted by TMAC Regarding the NLCA 12.10.2(b) Exception

Dear Parties:

On December 29, 2014 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a submission from TMAC Resources Inc. (TMAC) describing the “Madrid Advanced Exploration Program” project proposal (the Application) associated with its Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt project proposal (NIRB File No.: 12MN001) which is currently undergoing review by the NIRB pursuant to Part 5, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). The Application was submitted for consideration pursuant to NLCA Section 12.10.2(b), which allows for exceptions for specific approvals to be granted for exploration or development activities related to a project under review by the NIRB where, in the judgment of the NIRB the activities can be considered and approved independently of the review.

On March 24, 2015 the NIRB received a referral from the Nunavut Water Board for a Type “B” water licence associated with the proposed project. Due to the Madrid Advanced Exploration Program being proposed to occur on Inuit Owned Land, on May 29, 2015 the NIRB requested confirmation from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) whether it intended to refer the Application to the NIRB for assessment, and subsequently on June 1, 2015 the KIA referred the Application to the NIRB.

On June 3, 2015 the NIRB circulated the notice of the application package, including the scope of the proposed project and invited comments from interested parties with a request for submissions to be submitted by June 24, 2015. On June 15, 2015 TMAC providing clarification on items of scope the NIRB had identified in its June 3, 2015 correspondence.

On or before June 24, 2015 comments regarding the Application were received from the following parties:

- Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA)
- Government of Nunavut (GN)
- Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)

- Environment Canada (EC)
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- Transport Canada (TC)

On July 20, 2015 the NIRB provided TMAC with an opportunity to address comments received and requested TMAC respond by August 7, 2015. On July 31, 2015 TMAC notified the NIRB it would require until August 21, 2015 to finalize their responses.

On August 21, 2015 TMAC submitted their response to comments from parties and further noted that it would be providing a response on September 15, 2015 to address the socio-economic comments brought forward by the GN and AANDC. As part of the GN's comment submission, the GN requested an opportunity to provide comment on materials once provided by TMAC.

On September 16, 2015 the NIRB received the final responses to comments submission from TMAC and parties were notified of the completed submission on September 17, 2015.

TMAC's full submission can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry using the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/02-REVIEWS/ACTIVE%20REVIEWS/12MN001-HBML%20PHASE%202%20HOPE%20BAY%20BELT/2-REVIEW/15-12.10.2%20EXCEPTIONS/03-COMMENTS/>.

The NIRB would like to provide parties with an opportunity to review TMAC's responses to comment submissions prior to proceeding with the next step in the NIRB's exception process.

By copy of this letter, the NIRB invites interested parties to review TMAC's responses to the comment submissions received from parties and to provide comments by **October 14, 2015**.

Please direct all forthcoming submissions to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions regarding the NIRB's Review of TMAC's Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt project proposal or the NIRB's exception process, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag.
Technical Advisor

cc: John Roberts, TMAC Resources Inc.
Sharleen Hamm, TMAC Resources Inc.
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Dave Hohnstein, Nunavut Water Board
Sonia Aredes, Nunavut Water Board
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
John Roesch, Kitikmeot Inuit Association