

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

October 23, 2015

John Roberts
Vice President, Environmental Affairs
TMAC Resources Inc.
95 Wellington Street West
Suite 1010, P.O. Box 44
Toronto, ON M5J 2N7

Sent via email: john.roberts@tmacresources.com

Re: <u>Final Opportunity to Address Comments Received Regarding TMAC Resources</u> Inc.'s Application for NLCA 12.10.2(b) Exception

Dear John Roberts:

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). The Application is associated with TMAC's 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 Application. Due to the Application 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 notice of the application package and invited comments from interested parties on TMAC's 12.10.2(b) application package, with a request for submissions to be received on or before June 24, 2015. On July 20, 2015 the NIRB provided TMAC with an opportunity to address comments received and requested TMAC response by August 7, 2015; however, on August 1, 2015 TMAC notified the NIRB it would require until August 21, 2015. On August 24, 2015 TMAC submitted the first submission of its response to comments and committed to providing the outstanding socio-economic materials and on September 16, 2015 the NIRB received the final submission from TMAC. On October 1, 2015

the NIRB provided parties an opportunity to provide comment TMAC's response to comments package as requested by the GN and invited parties comment on or before October 14, 2015. On or before October 14, 2015 comments were received from the following parties:

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

All submissions 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%20EXECEPTIONS/03-COMMENTS/.

Areas of potential concern include the following:

- data analysis, alternatives assessments and potential environmental impacts,
- cumulative traffic, mining and exploration activities and whether noise, traffic and visual stimuli has been assessed,
- mitigation and monitoring measures, and
- socio-economic benefits of the project.

Prior to making its determination for this file, the Board would like to provide a final opportunity to TMAC to address the concerns raised during the public commenting period. The NIRB requests that a response be provided on or before **November 2, 2015**.

Please direct all forthcoming submissions to the NIRB at <u>info@nirb.ca</u> 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, please contact myself at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag.

Technical Advisor

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: 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
Hope Bay Belt Phase 2 Distribution List