

By Manager of Licensing at 9:11 am, Apr 28, 2011



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Kivalliq Inuit Association

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April 28, 2011

Nunavut Impact Review Board Cambridge Bay, NU XOB 0C0

To Whom it May Concern:

Response to NIRB - Comments for the all weather road to Meliadine project

Before going into detail about concerns, I want to emphasize first that the Kivalliq Inuit Association has the obligation to fulfill its responsibility to represent the Inuit of Kivalliq and the rights they have under the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement, and that includes matters relating to major development projects.

KIA has always been supportive of a good environmental review taking into account all the social aspects of such projects.

In the case of AEM, particularly in regard to the socio-economic aspects, the Kivalliq Inuit Association has not yet received a response from the proponent and yet the review of the project continues its course. KIA completed a technical report of the project to be sent to NIRB but this technical report is missing the socio economic component due to the lack of information from AEM regarding contracts and Inuit employment.

Furthermore, there are legal obligations of the proponent under its lease with KIA. The lease affirms AEM intention to employ Inuit and to contract with Inuit Businesses and requires its subcontractors to use similar best efforts. The lease also affirms AEM's intention to "establish practices to maximize the employment and economic opportunities for the Inuit of Kivalliq Region".

Kivalliq Inuit Association feels the socio economic issues are of such a project are of major significance and, given its responsibilities under the NLCA, must take a strong position in regard to the missing information. We request that NIRB extend this review until AEM responds to KIA and provides the missing information. For KIA to fully respond to NIRB with comments regarding this project, we need AEM to provide us with the missing information, therefore we do not know how long this extension should be for.

KIA will be happy to send the technical report as soon AEM responds to our request and supplies the missing information regarding this project.

Regards,

RANKIN INLET

Justin Merritt Executive Director

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