



NIRB No.:07EN004
INAC No.: N2006C0036
QIA No.:Q05L2C14
DFO No.: NU-07-0002
NWB No.: NWB2MRY0406

March 2, 2007

The Honourable Jim
Prentice:
Minister of Indian and
Northern Affairs Canada
Ottawa, ON

Thomasie Alikatuktuk:
President of the Qikiqtani
Inuit Association
Iqaluit, NU

The Honourable Loyola
Hearn:
Minister of Fisheries and
Oceans Canada
Ottawa, ON

Via email: minister@inac.gc.ca; pres@qia.ca; Min@dfm-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of the Mary River Geotechnical Drilling Program Project Proposal

Dear Hon. Mr Prentice, Hon. Ms. Hearn, and President Alikatuktuk:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5 (b) of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) hereby requests more time to screen the project proposal referenced above (NIRB No.: 07EN004; INAC No.: N2006C0036; QIA No.: Q05L2C14).

NIRB commenced the screening of this file on January 22, 2007. On March 1, 2007 (38 days of NIRB's Part 4 Screening process), the Proponent submitted additional information to NIRB in response to comments from interested Parties. NIRB will be providing interested Parties an opportunity to review this additional information from the Proponent.

Therefore, NIRB requests additional time to receive comments from Parties and to screen this project proposal. It is anticipated that the screening process will be completed on or before March 31, 2007.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the authorizing agency will inform the Proponent, stakeholders and interested Parties on the extension.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Briscoe
Executive Director

Cc Rod Cooper: Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (rod.cooper@baffinland.com)
Richard Cook: Knight Piesold (rcook@knightpiesold.com)
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