

NIRB No.:07EN004 INAC No.: N2006C0036 QIA No.:Q05L2C14 NWB No.: NWB2MRY0406

March 5, 2007

Rod Cooper Vice President Operations Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation Suite 1016, 120 Adelaide Street West Toronto, ON M5H 1T1

Via email: rod.cooper@baffinland.com

Re: Request for Parties to Review Baffinland's Response to Comments regarding the Geotechnical Drilling Project Proposal

Dear Mr. Cooper:

On January 24, 2007, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Baffinland Iron Mine Corporation's (Baffinland) Mary River Geotechnical Drilling Program (Drilling Program) project proposal from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA).

As you are aware, NIRB received a number of comments from interested Parties about the project proposal, and directed Baffinland to provide a response to the comments. On February 28, 2007 NIRB received the document entitled *Response to Comments Regarding Baffinland Geotechnical Drilling Program* (Response to Comments). This document is attached to this letter and can also be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at:

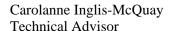
<u>ftp://ftp.nunavut.ca/nirb/NIRB_SCREENINGS/ACTIVE_SCREENINGS/07EN004-Baffinland_Geotechnical_Program/1-SCREENING/02-DISTRIBUTION/CORRESPONDENCE/</u>

By way of notice of this letter, NIRB would like to provide interested Parties with an opportunity to review the Response to Comments before proceeding with the next steps of the screening process. Parties should review the Response to Comments, and if necessary, provide correspondence to NIRB by **Friday March 9, 2007**.

All correspondence should be directed to NIRB's Manager of Environmental Administration, Leslie Payette at lpayette@nirb.nunavut.ca.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 867-983-4607 or cinglis@nirb.nunavut.ca.

Sincerely,



Attachment: Baffinland's Response to Comments

Cc Distribution List

Richard Cook: Knight Piesold (rcook@knightpiesold.com)

Spencer Dewar: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (dewars@inac.gc.ca)

Carl McLean: INAC (<u>mcleanc@inac.gc.ca</u>)
Terry Audla: QIA (<u>execdir@qia.ca</u>)

Phyllis Beaulieu: Nunavut Water Board – (<u>licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org</u>)
Tanya Gordanier: Fisheries and Oceans Canada (<u>gordaniert@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</u>)

Mike Atkinson: Government of Nunavut Department of Environment (matkinson@gov.nu.ca)

Malachi Arreak: Hamlet of Pond Inlet (<u>hamletpond_sao@qiniq.com</u>)

Julie Ross: Government of Nunavut Culture, Language, Elders and Youth (jross@gov.nu.ca)

Cindy Parker: Environment Canada (c.gc.ca)
Colette Spagnolo: Environment Canada (spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca)
Sandra Cashin: Transport Canada (CASHINS@tc.gc.ca)