



NIRB File No.: 07EN012
INAC File No.: N2007F0004
INAC File No.: 2009QP0071

May 7, 2010

Honourable Chuck Strahl
Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
c/o Spencer Dewar, Manager Land Administration
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Iqaluit, NU

Via email: Spencer.Dewar@inac-ainc.gc.ca

**Re: Application exempt from NIRB Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA:
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's request for an extension to INAC Land Use
Permit and a new Quarry Permit**

Dear Mr. Dewar:

On May 7, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) was forwarded an application from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for an extension to Land Use Permit N2007F0004, and a new Quarry Permit to replace expiring Quarry Permit 2009QP0071, associated with continuous operation and maintenance of the Milne Inlet Tote Road included in Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's (Baffinland) "Mary River Bulk Sampling" project.

The original "Mary River Bulk Sampling" project proposal was received by the NIRB on January 25, 2007 from INAC and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), and screened in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On May 4, 2007 the NIRB issued a 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC allowing the proposed project to proceed subject to project-specific recommended terms and conditions in enclosed NIRB's Screening Decision Report.

The current INAC applications and the original file information (NIRB File No.: 07EN012) are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

[http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/ARCHIVE/2007_SCREENINGS/07EN012-Baffinland Bulk Sampling Program/](http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/ARCHIVE/2007_SCREENINGS/07EN012-Baffinland_Bulk_Sampling_Program/)

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:

(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or

(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project.”

After completing a review of the information provided, the NIRB is of the understanding that the application received from INAC does not change the scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original May 4, 2007 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Li Wan, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4606 or liwan@nirb.ca.

Best regards,



Stephanie Autut
Executive Director

Cc: James Millard, Baffinland Iron Mine Corp., Jim.Millard@Baffinland.com
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board, licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org
Stephen Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association, landsdirector@qia.ca
Tracey McCaie, Indian and Northern Affairs, Tracey.McCaie@inac-ainc.gc.ca

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Report Decision, File No. 07EN012 (May 4, 2007)