



**NOTICE OF INDICATION FOR  
12.10.2(b) DETERMINATION REPORT  
NIRB FILE NO.: 12MN036**

NWB File No.: 2BW-BRP----

April 30, 2015

To:

Tracey McCaie  
Manager Land Administration  
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
P.O. Box 100  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Georgina Williston  
Fisheries Protection Biologist  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
867 Lakeshore Road  
Burlington, ON L7R 4A6

Geoffrey Clark  
Director, Lands, Environment & Resources  
Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
P.O. Box 360  
Kugluktuk, NU X0B 0E0

Phyllis Beaulieu  
Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

*Sent via Email*

**Re: Notice of Indication for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation's "Site Preparation Work" NLCA 12.10.2(b) Application, NIRB File No. 12MN036**

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Dear Sir and Madams:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB) 12.10.2(b) Determination Report to the Honourable Ministers Bernard Valcourt and Gail Shea, to President Stanley Anablak, and Chairperson Thomas Kabloona, for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation's (Sabina) "Site Preparation Work" application in the Kitikmeot Region, Nunavut.

The NIRB has assessed Sabina's application for the "Site Preparation Work" to be rejected as an exception from the NIRB's Review of the Back River Gold Mine project proposal (NIRB File No. 12MN036). In assessing the application, the NIRB considered potential ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts and further took into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities.

The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), Section 12.10.2 states the following:

*12.10.2 “Notwithstanding Section 12.10.1, where a project proposal has been referred for review pursuant to Part 5 or 6, approvals or licences for exploration or development activities related to that project may be issued if*

*(a) the activity falls within Schedule 12-1; or*

*(b) the activity can, in the judgement of NIRB, proceed without such a review.”*

Based on this assessment, the NIRB’s determination, in accordance with 12.10.2 (b) of the NLCA, is to reject the exception of Sabina’s “Site Preparation Work” application from the NIRB’s ongoing Review of Sabina’s Back River Gold Mine Project (NIRB File No. 12MN036).

The enclosed NIRB 12.10.2(b) Determination Report for NIRB File No. 12MN036, signed on April 30, 2015 by Elizabeth Copland at Churchill, MB has been issued to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and the Nunavut Water Board. Please be advised that the enclosed determination applies only to the exceptions activates as described within the “Site Preparation Work” application. Activities related to the ongoing exploration and research of the “Beechy Lake Area” (NIRB File No.: 08EA084) as well as exploration supplies staging and movement via the “Winter Roads – Hackett, George and Goose Camps” project (NIRB File No.: 09RN066) may still be permitted to proceed.

Should you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact me directly by telephone at (867) 983-4611 or by email at [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Tara Arko  
Director, Technical Services  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Mathew Pickard, Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation  
Luigi Torretti, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Back River Distribution List

Enclosure: NIRB 12.10.2(b) Determination Report (NIRB File No.: 12MN036)