

NIRB File No.: 17EN059 NPC File No.: 148574 KIA File No.: KTL113B001

July 4, 2017

Thomas Hart Transition Metals Corporation 410 Falconbridge Road, Unit 5 Sudbury, ON P3A 4S4

Sent via email: trhart@transitionmetalscorp.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Transition Metals Corporation's "Arcadia Bay Property" project proposal

Dear Thomas Hart:

On May 19, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Transition Metals Corporation's (Transition) "Arcadia Bay Property" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), which noted that the project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement) and section 87 of the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number 17EN059.

### INFORMATION REQUEST

Following a preliminary completeness check, the NIRB determined that the proposal as submitted did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening. Pursuant to subsection 144(1) of the NuPPAA, on May 23, 2017 the NIRB requested that the additional information from TMC be provided to the Board. The NIRB followed up with the Proponent on May 30, 2017 noting that the NIRB required additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On June 20, 2017 the NIRB received the requested additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the NuPPAA.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

## Project Scope:

The proposed "Arcadia Bay Property" project is located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 160 kilometres (km) east of Kugluktuk, and 305 km southwest of Cambridge Bay. The Proponent intends to explore for economic gold deposits along the shore of Arcadia Bay, south of the Coronation Gulf. The program is proposed to take place seasonally from July 2017 to June 2022.

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Establishment of a temporary camp site for up to 12 personnel to support exploration activities:
- Use of a fixed wing aircraft (float or ski-equipped) to transport all supplies and equipment to the project area from Yellowknife, Cambridge Bay and/or Kugluktuk;
- Use of a helicopter for transportation of fuel, equipment and personnel, and for daily drop off and pick-ups to field locations within the Project area;
- Potential use of a barge landing site at Coronation Gulf during the summer months to bring in supplies and/or equipment;
- On-land drilling with the use of a diamond drill to undertake a 12 hole diamond drilling program, totalling 2,500 metres;
- Use of water from a river adjacent to the camp for domestic and drilling activities;
- Use of a dual-chamber controlled air incinerator for incinerating combustible wastes;
- Transportation, storage (caching) and use of 32,910 litres (L) of fuel (diesel, gasoline and aviation fuel) for refuelling aircraft, equipment and engines;
- Potential small temporary fuel caches to support the drilling and exploration programs;
- Transportation, storage and use of chemicals; Generation and disposal of grey water, sewage and drill water into sumps; and
- Storage of non-combustible wastes and hazardous waste materials in sealed containers for recycling or disposal offsite.

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at <a href="https://www.nirb.ca">www.nirb.ca</a> by using any of the following search criteria:

Project Name: Arcadia Bay Property

NIRB File No.: 17EN059Application No.: 125155

### The documents received include:

- NPC Screening Referral
- NPC Application and Conformity Questionnaire
- NIRB's Online Application Form

- Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English, French and Inuktitut
- Environmental Management Plan
- Emergency Response Plan
- Spill Contingency and Fuel Management Plan
- Abandonment and Restoration Plan
- Waste Management Plan
- Maps noting Proposed Claims Area

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Transition project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by July 25, 2017.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why:
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socioeconomic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca, via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

Project Name: Arcadia Bay Property

■ NIRB File No.: 17EN059 Application No.: 125155

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4603 or at samuno@nirb.ca.

# Sincerely,

Solomon Amuno, PhD Technical Advisor II Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List

Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English and Inuinnaqtun)

Comment Forms (English and Inuinnaqtun)

P.O. Box 1360 Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0 Phone: (867) 983-4600 Fax: (867) 983-2594