

NIRB File No.: 08EN061 AAND File No.: N2008C0031 KIA No.: KTL306C001

July 15, 2011

The Honourable John Duncan Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development c/o Jeff Mercer, Manager Land Administration Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada P.O. Box 100 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Via email: jeff.mercer@inac-ainc.gc.ca and landsmining@inac-ainc.gc.ca

Re: <u>Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: North</u>
Arrow Minerals Inc.'s "Anialik River" project

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On July 13, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AAND) for an extension to AAND Land Use Permit N2008C0031 for North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s (North Arrow) "Anialik River" project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 08EN061) was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on May 27, 2008 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On July 2, 2008 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On May 24, 2010 the NIRB received an extension request from INAC for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the extension, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from further screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on May 31, 2010.

The current AAND application, the previous extension request and the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (08EN061) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

ftp://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2008/08EN061-North%20Arrow%20Minerals/

## PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 08EN061), the "Anialik River" project was located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 180 kilometres (km) southeast of Kugluktuk. The Proponent indicated that it intended to conduct exploration activities from July to September of each year beginning in 2008 until 2010.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Camp site for approximately 16 workers;
- Airborne and ground geophysical surveys (up to 10 grids per year);
- Geological mapping, prospecting, sampling and ground truthing;
- Diamond drilling up to 10 holes (up to 200 m in depth);
- Establishment of fuel caches; and
- Transport by helicopter or fixed wing aircraft.

In 2010 North Arrow applied to extend its permit for one year to allow it to conduct field work during the 2010 summer field season. It was noted in this application that no field work had been conducted in 2009.

## CURRENT APPLICATION:

North Arrow is currently proposing to extend AAND Land Use Permit N2008C0031 for one year to allow it to conduct continued exploration activities in 2011. No exploration activities appear to have been conducted on site in either 2009 or 2010.

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 in support of the current application, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed extension does not change the general 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 July 2, 2008 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

## Sincerely,

Stephanie Autut Executive Director

cc: Gordon Clarke, North Arrow Minerals Inc.

Isa Qamaniq-Mason, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Tracey McCaie, AAND

enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 08EN061 (July 2, 2008)