



NIRB File No.: 07EN038
INAC File No.: N2007C0014

June 29, 2011

The Honourable John Duncan
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
c/o Jeff Mercer, Manager Land Administration
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Iqaluit, NU

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

Re: Application Exempt from NIRB Screening Pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA:
Burnstone Ventures Inc.'s "Erichsen Lake" project

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On June 21, 2011, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for an extension to INAC Land Use Permit N2007C0014; this extension has been applied for in support of Burnstone Ventures Inc.'s (formerly Pure Diamonds Exploration Inc.; the Proponent) "Erichsen Lake" project.

Please be advised that the original "Erichsen Lake" project proposal (NIRB File No.: 07EN038) was received by the NIRB from INAC on May 1, 2007 and was screened by the NIRB in accordance with Article 12, Part 4 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On June 11, 2007, the NIRB issued the enclosed 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On May 31, 2009, the NIRB received an application for an extension to this Land Use Permit from INAC. The NIRB confirmed that the proposed activities had previously been screened and were therefore exempt from further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA. On June 4, 2009, the NIRB reissued the June 11, 2007 Screening Decision Report for this project to the Minister of INAC.

On May 20, 2010, the NIRB received an application for an extension to this Land Use Permit from INAC. The NIRB confirmed that the proposed activities had previously been screened and were therefore exempt from further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA. On May 27, 2010, the NIRB reissued the June 11, 2007 Screening Decision Report for this project to the Minister of INAC.

The current INAC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (07EN038) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2007/07EN038-DeBeers%20-%20Erichsen%20Lake/>

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No.: 07EN038), the "Erichsen Lake" project was an early exploration program for kimberlite, and was located in the North Baffin region.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Geoscientific sampling by diamond drilling and soil sampling;
- Temporary camping;
- Fuel storage;
- Use of aircraft and land vehicle;
- Use of on-site mechanized vehicles; and
- Disposal of sewage or greywater via sump;

CURRENT APPLICATION:

Burnstone Ventures Inc. is currently applying for an extension to its INAC Land Use Permit N2007C0014 to undertake the following activities in its on-going project:

- Camp inspections;
- Secondary containment for fuel on site; and
- Site clean-up

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 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 Screening Decision Report to INAC dated June 11, 2007 (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Kofi Boa-Antwi, Assistant Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4609 or kboa-antwi@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Autut
Executive Director

cc: Kristopher J. Raffle, APEX Geoscience Ltd. (kraffle@apexgeoscience.com)
Nicholas Kavanagh, INAC (Nicholas.Kavanagh@inac-ainc.gc.ca)
Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB (licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)
Robert St. Eloi, QIA (finances@qia.ca)

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 07EN038 (June 11, 2007)