



**NIRB File No.: 08EN078**

AANDC File No.: N2008C0032

NWB File No.: 2BE-BOR0813

QIA File No.: Q09L3C07

October 3, 2012

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@aandc.gc.ca](mailto:jeff.mercer@aandc.gc.ca) and [landsmining@aandc.ca](mailto:landsmining@aandc.ca)

**Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening Pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Bluestone Resources Inc.'s "Borden Property-Mining Exploration and Campsite" project**

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On September 21, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) for an extension to the AANDC land use permit (No. N2008C0032) for Bluestone Resources Inc.'s (formerly known as Indicator Minerals Inc.) "Borden Property-Mining Exploration and Campsite" project proposal.

Please be advised that on August 13, 2008 the NIRB received the original project proposal (NIRB File No. 08EN078) from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC; now AANDC) and proceeded to screen the proposal in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On October 10, 2008 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC (now AANDC) which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On August 26, 2010 the NIRB received an application from AANDC for an extension to the land use permit (No. N2008C0032) for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the extension request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on August 30, 2010.

On October 7, 2011 the NIRB received an application from AANDC for an extension request to the land use permit (No. N2008C0032) for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the extension request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on October 14, 2011.

The current AANDC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (File No. 08EN078) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2008/08EN078-Indicator%20Minerals%20Inc-Borden%20Property/>

#### PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 08EN078), the "Borden Property-Mining Exploration and Camp" project was located within the Qikiqtani region, approximately 90 kilometres (km) southeast of the community of Arctic Bay and 150 km southwest of Pond Inlet. The southernmost boundary of the Sirmilik National Park was approximately 25 km north of the proposed camp location. The proposed project activities were to occur between April 2009 and September 2013.

The proposed project activities included:

- Exploration drilling (on-ice and on-land);
- Use of pre-existing land-based airstrip;
- Generation of waste and water use;
- Temporary structures (canvas tents with wooden frames);
- Use of helicopter to transport crew and equipment;
- Incineration of combustible waste;
- Water use for drilling activities; and
- Temporary fuel storage (20 drums of diesel and 50 drums of Jet B fuel).

On August 26, 2010 Indicator Minerals Inc. proposed a 12 month extension to its AANDC land use permit (No. N2008C0032) in order to seek adequate project financing and to continue with project exploration activities it was unable to complete in 2010. In its August 2010 application, Indicator Minerals Inc. advised that activities proposed within the extension request would be the same as has been proposed in the original application.

In 2011, Indicator Minerals Inc. proposed to extend its AANDC land use permit (No. N2008C0032) for a one year period to continue with previously proposed exploration activities.

#### CURRENT APPLICATION:

Bluestone Resources Inc. is currently proposing to extend its land use permit (No. N2008C0032) for a one year period in order to continue undertaking exploration activities as previously proposed.

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 the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original October 10, 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](mailto:kgillard@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Andrea Maynes, Bluestone Resources Inc.  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Bernie MacIsaac Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: NIRB File 08EN078 (October 10, 2008)