



NIRB File No. 09EN067

October 23, 2009

Dean Besserer, VP
Weststar Resources Corporation
Suite 1128 – West Pender Street
Vancouver, BC
V6C 1H2

Via email: dbesserer@apexgeoscience.com

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Weststar's "Ellesmere Island Coal Exploration" project proposal

Dear Dean Besserer:

On August 14, 2009 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Weststar Resources Corporation's (Weststar) Ellesmere Island Coal Exploration" project proposal. On August 18, 2009 Weststar was notified that the proposed project appeared to be located in an area which required conformity to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). On October 23, 2009 NIRB received a positive conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) and as such, the NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **09EN067**.

Following receipt of the original project proposal, the NIRB conducted a preliminary completeness check and it was determined that some clarification was required prior to conducting a Part 4 screening. The NIRB sent requested submission of the following information on September 11, 2009:

- A description of what extra resources would be required to initially set up the permanent camp.
- Clarification on set back distances for hazardous waste storage distances.
- Clarification on set back distances for fuel caches.
- Confirmation on inspections of fuel caches.

To date, the NIRB has not received the above information and is requesting that Weststar provide the information by November 2, 2009.

The proposed project is to be located on Ellesmere Island approximately 30 km southeast of Eureka. Resolute is approximately 623 km southwest of the project proposal and Grise Fiord is located approximately 400 km to the southeast. The proposed exploration program is expected to take place seasonally between March 1st to October 31st starting in late 2009 and concluding in 2014.

The proposed project activities include:

- Coal exploration including prospecting, mapping, ground geophysics and delineation drilling (on ice and on land).
- Helicopter assisted drill program, including daily transportation of field crew to drill sites.
- Disposal of drilling water and cuttings.
- Airborne geophysical surveying.

- Temporary fuel caches in the field to support exploration activities.
- Potential use of snow machines to transport crews as snow pack permits
- Water use for drilling and camp purposes.
- Permanent camp for up to 20 people, active between March 1st and October 31st (location yet to be identified).
- Sewage, grey water and waste production related to camp operation.
- Incineration of combustible wastes.
- Removal of non-combustible wastes to an approved disposal facility.
- Fuel cache to be constructed adjacent to the camp site (location yet to be identified).
- Potential storage of chemicals and hazardous materials adjacent to camp site.
- Community consultations in 2009 in Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/09EN067-Weststar%20Resources%20Corporation/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English*
- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in Inuktitut*
- *NIRB Part 2 PSIR Form*
- *Maps*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in Inuktitut*
- *NPC Conformity Determination*
- *Qikiqtani Inuit Association Access to Inuit Owned Land application*
- *Indian and Northern Affairs Land Use Permit application*
- *Nunavut Water Board Water Licence application*
- *Spill Contingency plan*
- *Abandonment and Restoration Plan*
- *Fuel Management Plan*
- *Waste Management Plan*
- *Wildlife Mitigation Plan*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB shall proceed to screen this project proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

The NIRB is copying interested parties and municipalities most affected by Weststar's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by November 9, 2009.

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 and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project 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.

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact NIRB's Technical Advisor, Kelli Gillard at 867-983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelli Gillard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kelli" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Gillard".

Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Brian Aglukark, NPC
 Spencer Dewar, INAC
 Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB
 Salamonie Shoo, QIA

Attachments:
 Comment Form (English)
 Comment Form (Inuktitut)