



NIRB File No.: 18EN026

NPC File No.: 148801

June 8, 2018

The Honourable Carolyn Bennett
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca and carolyn.bennett@canada.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Baffinland's "Ege Bay Exploration Program" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Minister:

On April 17, 2018 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's (Baffinland) "Ege Bay Exploration Program" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). **Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 18EN026.**

On April 17, 2018 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to subsection 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that the information provided be sufficient to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and that sufficient information has been provided to commence screening. On April 27, 2018 the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On May 9, 2018 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by May 30, 2018. Due to concerns raised by parties to date regarding the proposed activities, the NIRB will be providing the Proponent an opportunity to respond to the concerns prior to the Board making its decision. As a result, the Board requires additional time to fully consider the project proposal and to allow the Proponent to respond to comments, prior to completing the screening.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Ege Bay Exploration Program
- NIRB File No.: 18EN026

- Application No.: 125336

The NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA*. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this project proposal will be completed by **June 30, 2018**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister for consideration; should any additional time be required to conclude the screening process, the NIRB commits to providing further updates as deemed appropriate.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the Minister will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Megan Lord-Hoyle, Baffinland Iron Mine Corporation
Lootie Toomasie, Nunavut Water Board
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
P.J Akeegok, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada