



NIRB File No.: 06EN048_Renewal
INAC File No.: 076M07001 (Westerly Shore of High Lake)

June 19, 2008

Aaron MacDonell
Zinifex Canada Inc.
401-1113 Jade Court
Thunder Bay, ON
P7B 6M7

Via email: aaron.macdonell@zinifex.com

Re: Application Acknowledgement for Zinifex Canada Inc's Surface Lease Renewal Request with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Dear Aaron MacDonell:

On June 6, 2008, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) requesting screening of Zinifex Canada Inc's Surface Lease Renewal for the westerly shore of High Lake. Zinifex is proposing to renew their Surface Lease for a further term of 10 years, until 2018.

The original application for the above project was received by the NIRB on May 1, 2006 from INAC. The project proposal was screened in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On August 11, 2006 the NIRB issued a 12.4.4(a) screening decision to INAC and to Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) allowing the proposed project to proceed subject to project-specific recommended terms and conditions. Project components or activities included the following:

- 1450 metre by 45 metre gravel runway at Sand Lake;
- A temporary weatherhaven construction camp at Sand Lake (40 persons);
- The operation of a winter trail between Ulu and Sand Lake to haul equipment north from Ulu to High Lake and Sand Lake;
- A 500,000 litre fuel storage facility at Sand Lake;
- 12 kilometre of road from High Lake to Sand Lake, approximately 6 metre wide and 0.3 metre high constructed of sand and gravel taken from two quarry sites;
- Long-term weatherhaven camp (70 persons) with generator, incinerator, 50-100,000 litres of fuel storage and shop; and
- All equipment and supplies not coming from Ulu will be flown to Sand Lake or High Lake by Hercules, landing on the ice at Sand Lake and High Lake

The INAC and KIA applications, the original NIRB screening file (06EN048) and the surface lease renewal are available from NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/2008_AMENDMENTS_RENEWALS/06EN048-Zinifex%20Canada%20Inc%20-%20High%20Lake%20Relicensing/

The NIRB is of the opinion that the request for the renewal does not *significantly* change the general scope of the original project activities. Therefore, the NIRB is *proposing* to re-issue the same terms and conditions as those in the attached August 11, 2006 Screening Decision, along with any new terms and conditions the NIRB feels are appropriate. The NIRB is copying interested Parties and municipalities most affected by this project and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by **June 26, 2008**.

The NIRB would like Parties to provide comments regarding:

- whether the proposed component or activity was a part of the original proposal;
- whether its inclusion would significantly modify the project;
- any additional mitigation measures that are appropriate; and
- any other matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please send your comments to the attention of the NIRB's Manager of Environmental Administration Leslie Payette at lpayette@nirb.ca or via fax to **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Technical Advisor Sophia Granchinho at sgranchinho@nirb.ca or by phone at 867-983-4607.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Jeffrey Holwell, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Attachment: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 06EN048 (August 11, 2006)