



NIRB File No.: 08EN067
KIA File No.: KTL308C008
INAC File No.: N2007C0009
NWB File No.: 2BE-HG0712

August 7, 2008

Ian Neill
Zinifex Canada Inc.
Suite 200, 1159 Alloy Drive
Thunder Bay, ON
P7B 6M8

Via email: Ian.Neill@zinifex.com

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Zinifex Canada Inc's "Canoe Lake Exploration" project proposal

Dear Ian Neill:

On June 11, 2008 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a land license amendment application from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) for Zinifex Canada Inc's (Zinifex) "Canoe Lake Exploration" project proposal. The amendment to Land Use License KTL108C002 would allow for diamond drilling on Inuit Owned Lands (parcels CO-26 and CO-23). The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number, 08EN067.

The NIRB has requested, on numerous occasions, additional information required to conduct the environmental screening of Zinifex's "Canoe Lake Exploration" project proposal, with correspondence issued to Zinifex on June 16, July 3 and July 18, 2008 on this matter. To date, the NIRB has received only some of the requested information, with the following information still outstanding:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in Inuinnaqtun*
- *Maps*
- *Non- technical Project Proposal summary in Inuinnaqtun*
- *NIRB Project Specific Information Requirements (Part 2 form), including:*
 - *Spill Prevention Plan*
 - *Equipment Use*
 - *Fuel and hazardous material use*
 - *Waste disposal and treatment methods, including a waste management plan*
 - *Drilling activities and related information*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB is proceeding to screen this project proposal with the currently available information. Zinifex have been forewarned that failure to address the deficiencies before the NIRB completes its screening may result in Zinifex's project proposal being returned for clarification in accordance with Section 12.4.4 (c) of the NLCA. If Zinifex should correct the information deficiencies in this project proposal during the screening period, the NIRB will forward all information to Parties for further review and consideration.

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/08EN067-Zinifex%20Canada%20Inc%20-%20Canoe%20Lake/1-SCREENING/01-APPLICATION/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *KIA Amendment to Land Use License Application*

The "Canoe Lake Exploration" project is located in the Kitikmeot Region. The closest communities to the project are Bathurst Inlet (located approximately 100 km to the East), and Kugluktuk (located approximately 180 km to the Northwest). The proposed project activities would occur from August 2008 to October 2008, with a second phase to occur during the spring of 2009.

The proposed project activities include:

- Diamond drilling of potential base metal showings in Canoe Lake and surrounding areas
- Helicopter use to transport crew and equipment
- Potential movement of equipment and crew by snowmachine during the spring months
- Installation of temporary survival and equipment shacks
- Staking and prospecting
- Geophysical surveys
- Water use for drilling activities
- Temporary fuel storage

The NIRB is copying interested Parties and municipalities most affected by Zinifex's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by **August 28, 2008**.

The NIRB would like Parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal contains sufficient information to provide adequate comments;
- 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 attention of NIRB's Manager of Environmental Administration, Leslie Payette via email at lpayette@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact NIRB's Technical Advisor, Sophia Granchinho at 867-983-4607 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Andrew Mitchell, Zinifex Canada Inc.
Jason Rickard, Zinifex Canada Inc.

Attachments:
Comment Form