



NIRB File No.: 12MN001

December 28, 2016

John Roberts
Vice President, Environmental Affairs
TMAC Resources Inc.
95 Wellington Street West, Suite 1010
Toronto, ON M5J 2N7

Sent via email: john.roberts@tmacresources.com

Re: Receipt of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for TMAC Resources Inc.'s "Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt" project

Dear John Roberts:

On December 28, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received TMAC Resources Inc.'s (TMAC; the Proponent) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project. In addition to providing notice of the DEIS submission, TMAC's cover letter further outlined its intent to continue the assessment as coordinated between the NIRB and Nunavut Water Board (NWB) processes.

On January 3, 2017 the Board will commence an internal review of the DEIS to determine whether the submission conforms to the NIRB's EIS Guidelines as issued to the Proponent by the Board on December 14, 2012¹. Given the Proponent's request to engage in the NIRB and NWB coordinated process, the NWB will assist the NIRB in the conformity review of the DEIS against the information requirements pertaining to a Type "A" Water Licence Application for the Project. The Board's conformity review is a presence or absence analysis of the required information only; it is not meant to evaluate the quality of the information presented, although it may identify significant deficiencies encountered.

If the DEIS submission is found to conform with the NIRB's EIS Guidelines, the Board will formally accept the submission and will provide public notice regarding the commencement of a technical review period in accordance with the NIRB's Rules of Procedure. The technical review period allows for a detailed review of the DEIS and provides interested parties with an opportunity to analyze the quality of the information presented by the Proponent. During the initial stage of the technical review period, interested parties will be invited to submit requests

¹ "Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt Project (NIRB File No. 12MN001)" December 2012.

for additional information (i.e., Information Requests) as may be required to facilitate the development of technical review comments for the Board's consideration.

Further information regarding the subsequent steps for the NIRB's Review and the NIRB-NWB coordinated process for the Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt project will be communicated to all parties upon acceptance of the DEIS.

At this time, the Board anticipates completing the internal conformity review and providing an indication as to the acceptability of TMAC's DEIS submission by **January 18, 2017**.

If you have any questions regarding the NIRB's Review of the Phase 2 Hope Bay Belt project, please contact Kofi Boa-Antwi, Technical Advisor, at kboaantwi@nirb.ca or (867) 983-4616.

Sincerely,



Tara Arko
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Oliver Curran, TMAC Resources Inc.
Shelley Potter, TMAC Resources Inc.
David Hohnstein, Nunavut Water Board
Sonia Aredes, Nunavut Water Board
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
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