



NIRB File No.: 10EN006  
NWB File No.: 2BB-MEL0914

June 9, 2010

Thomas Kabloona  
Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board  
c/o Phyllis Beaulieu, Manger of Licensing  
Gjoa Haven, NU

Via email: [licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)

**Re: Application exempt from NIRB Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Comaplex Mineral Corp.'s "Meliadine River – Mining Exploration" project**

Dear Phyllis Beaulieu:

On April 7, 2010 the NIRB received an application for an amendment to Water Licence No. 2BB-MEL0914 from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) in support of Comaplex Minerals Corp.'s (Comaplex) "Meliadine River – Mining Exploration" project proposal. Comaplex is proposing to amend its water licence to include geotechnical drilling of approximately 60 holes at the following locations, to determine the integrity of the subsurface for the potential placement of future infrastructure:

- Along the routing of a proposed all weather road, including at/near various water crossings and potential rock and granular quarries;
- Along the Discovery spur road; and
- Within the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 10EN006) was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on February 1, 2010 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On March 19, 2010 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The "Meliadine River – Mining Exploration" project is located within the Kivalliq region, approximately six kilometres (km) northwest of the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet. The Proponent intends to conduct exploration diamond drilling and geotechnical drilling in Comaplex's lease located between Iqulugaarjuup Nunanga Territorial Park and Rankin Inlet. The activities/components associated with the original proposal included:

- Claim staking;
- Surface prospecting and mapping;
- Ground geophysical (magnetic) surveys;
- On land diamond drilling (using a LF70 drill) to assess potential gold deposits. The first year approximately 2500 metres (m) will be drilled. Additional diamond drilling may be conducted in the next two years depending on what is identified in 2010;
- Movement of drill by helicopter to drill sites to different sites;
- Geotechnical drilling on the banks of the Meliadine River (within 31 metres of high water mark) to assess current bedrock conditions in support of a potential all weather-road and bridge (not included in current project proposal);
- Conduct environmental and heritage studies in support of potential all weather-road and bridge over the Meliadine River;
- Use of existing camp at Meliadine Lake or use of facilities at Rankin Inlet;
- Potential daily transportation of crew and equipment from Meliadine Lake camp with helicopter or transportation of crew from Rankin Inlet with vehicles;
- Fuel storage at drill sites;
- Water usage for drilling;
- Use of calcium chloride for drilling purposes; and
- Removal of wastes for disposal at Meliadine Lake camp or at Rankin Inlet.

The INAC application, the original NIRB screening file and Screening Decision, 10EN006 are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

[http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2010\\_SCREENINGS/10EN006-Comaplex%20Minerals/1-SCREENING/](http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2010_SCREENINGS/10EN006-Comaplex%20Minerals/1-SCREENING/)

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

*“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:*

*(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or*

*(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project.”*

After completing a review of the information provided, the NIRB is of the understanding that the application received from NWB does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original March 19, 2010 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-7337 or [kgillard@nirb.ca](mailto:kgillard@nirb.ca).

Best regards,



Stephanie Autut  
Executive Director

cc: Mark Balog, Comaplex Minerals Corp.  
Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of INAC  
Lou-Ann Cornacchio, INAC Water Resources, ([louann.cornacchio@inac.ainc.gc.ca](mailto:louann.cornacchio@inac.ainc.gc.ca))

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 10EN006 (March 19, 2010)