



NIRB File No.: 16EN062

NPC File No.: 148356

December 15, 2016

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

Sent via email: minister@aandc-aandc.gc.ca; carloyn.bennet@canada.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s "Mel Project" Proposal

Dear Ms. Carolyn Bennett:

On October 31, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received North Arrow Mineral Inc.'s "Mel Project" proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister(s) extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No.: 16EN062.

On November 8, 2016 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties, requesting comments be submitted for the Board's consideration by November 29, 2016. Due to concerns raised during the public comment period, on December 2, 2016 the NIRB provided the Proponent an opportunity to respond to the comments that had been received; a response from the Proponent is expected to be submitted by December 16, 2016. As a result of the additional time required to allow the Proponent to respond to the concerns and comments received, the Board requires additional time to complete its screening of this project proposal.

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: Mel Project
- NIRB File No.: 16EN062
- Application No.: 125020

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 **December 29, 2016**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister(s) for consideration.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the responsible authority 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 stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Michael MacMorran, North Arrow Minerals Inc.
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada