

NIRB File No.: 16EN062 NPC File No.: 148356

December 2, 2016

Michael MacMorran North Arrow Minerals Inc. 960-789 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1H2

Sent via email: mmacmorran@northarrowminerals.com

# Re: Opportunity to address comments received regarding North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s "Mel Project" Proposal

Dear Michael MacMorran:

On October 31, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen North Arrow Mineral Inc.'s (North Arrow) "Mel Project" proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). On November 8, 2016 the NIRB circulated a public notice of the screening for this project, inviting interested parties to provide comments directly to the NIRB by November 29, 2016.

On or before November 29, 2016 the NIRB received comments from the following interested parties:

- Government of Nunavut (GN)
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)
- Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers Association (Hall Beach HTA)
- Abraham Qammaniq (A Qammaniq)

All comment submissions received by the NIRB relating to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at <a href="www.nirb.ca">www.nirb.ca</a> by using any of the following search criteria:

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

A summary of the public concerns reflected in the comment submissions relate to the following:

## Waste and Spill Management

- Locate any hand-dug pits for sewage disposal no closer than 31 metres from the high water mark of any water bodies.
- The Proponent to update the emergency contact list and spill reporting procedures in its Spill Contingency Plan.

## Project Activities, Schedule and Environment

- Clarify whether the proposed project activities will be conducted during summer, winter/spring, or both periods.
- Provide a description of project activities, timeframes, duration and intensity, drill locations, and flight paths.
- Provide a description of the physical environment, including geomorphological features and hydrology.
- Provide a description of the biological environment, including vegetation and wildlife such as caribou and Species at Risk with habitat overlapping the area proposed for the project activities.
- Describe measures proposed to mitigate potential environmental impacts, including cumulative impacts, associated with the project activities.
- Describe measures to remediate the project site on closure.

### Caribou and Caribou Habitat

- The Proponent should not conduct exploration activities within 14 kilometres outside the boundaries of calving grounds during the period of May 30 to June 25.
- The Proponent should implement measures to avoid interfering with caribou movement.
- The Proponent should cease field operations when pairs of cows and calves are observed or when 25 or more caribou are observed within two (2) kilometres of location of project activities.
- The Proponent should locate the temporary exploration camp to the east side of the most northeastern mineral claim as this location is outside the habitat range of the Wager Bay caribon herd
- The Proponent should avoid flying over calving and post-calving grounds from May 30 to July 12, and maintain a minimum altitude of 610 metres, except when approaching landing sites.

## Archaeological Resources

• The Proponent should conduct a field archaeological assessment program before any land disturbances associated with the proposed project are initiated.

#### Community Consultation

 The Proponent consult with representatives, including the Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers Association, in the potentially impacted communities regarding the proposed project activities and potential local employment opportunities prior to commencing any field activities.

The NIRB would like to provide North Arrow with an opportunity to address the comments noted above prior to the Board rendering its determination for this screening assessment and issuing its subsequent Screening Decision Report to the responsible Minister(s). The NIRB respectfully requests that a response be provided directly to the NIRB by **December 16, 2016**.

If North Arrow determines that the time required to supply a written response is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please send any forthcoming submissions directly to the NIRB at <a href="mailto:info@nirb.ca">info@nirb.ca</a> or via fax at (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4616 or kboaantwi@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Kofi Boa-Antwi, M.Sc., R.P.Bio.

Technical Advisor II

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List

Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada