



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 16EN062**

NPC File No.: File No. 148356

January 10, 2017

To: Tracey McCaie
Manager Land Administration
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Government of Canada
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

cc: Karén Kharatyan
A/Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Salamonie Shoo
Lands Administrator
Qikiqtani Inuit Association
P.O. Box 1340
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: tracey.mccaie@aandc.gc.ca; landsmining@aandc.gc.ca; karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca; licensing@nwb-oen.ca; and sshoo@qia.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s "Mel Project" Proposal, Qikiqtani Region

Dear Tracey McCaie:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Thomas Kabloona, Chairperson for Nunavut Water Board and P.J Akeeagok, President for Qikiqtani Inuit Association for North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s "Mel Project" in the Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani (South Baffin) Region, dated January 10, 2017.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this

assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister(s) that a review of the project is not required in accordance with paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of paragraph 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: “A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed.” Contravention of section 75(1) of *the NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact Natasha Lear, NIRB Environmental Administrator at (867) 983-4612 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Natasha Lear
Environmental Administrator

cc: Michael MacMorran, North Arrow Minerals Inc.
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report (NIRB File No.: 16EN062)