



NIRB File No.: 12EN018
KIA File No.: KVL312C02
NWB File No.: 2BE-MVP

April 13, 2012

Jason Rickard
Vale Exploration Canada Ltd.
Highway 17 West
Copper Cliff, Ontario
P0M 1N0

Via email: Jason.Rickard@vale.com

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Vale Exploration Canada Inc.'s "Melville Peninsula" project proposal

Dear Jason Rickard:

On February 15, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Vale Exploration Canada Ltd.'s (Vale) "Melville Peninsula" project proposal from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA). On March 14, 2012 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC). Further, on March 28, 2012 the NIRB received a referral from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) to screen this project proposal. The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number 12EN018.

Following receipt of the initial application materials, the NIRB undertook a preliminary completeness check and found that the proposal as submitted did not contain sufficient information for the NIRB to permit proper screening. On April 5, 2012 the NIRB requested that additional information from the Proponent be provided to the Board by April 19, 2012. On April 9, 2012 the NIRB received the requested information in support of this project proposal.

The project is located in the Kivalliq and Qikiqtani regions near the communities of Repulse Bay, Kugaaruk, Hall Beach and Igloolik. The program is proposed to conduct early exploration for nickel, to take place from May 2012 to December 2017.

The project activities include:

- Mineral exploration for nickel. Program to include:
 - Geological mapping, prospecting, staking, geophysical surveys (ground and airborne), soil sampling and sediment sampling;
 - On land drilling using 2 diamond drills;

- Possible on-ice drilling if prospective areas are identified;
- Use of calcium chloride (CaCl₂) and potential use of bentonite as drill additive;
- Setup of camp facilities for up to 30 people. Two options presented for camp facilities:
 - Potential use of former Mackar Inlet/CAM-5 DEW line station as camp facility including the use of the existing airstrip (*requires approval from the Government of Canada*); or
 - Setup of temporary weatherhaven camp facility (camp to be setup if approval not received from the Government of Canada for use of DEW line station) – location of camp to be determined after field season in 2012. Facility to include kitchen/dry, office, core cutting, core logging, toilet block, office, medic facility, helicopter facility and 6 sleepers.
- Transportation, storage and use of fuel at camp site with fuel cache located at drill locations. Total amount of fuel to be stored at site include:
 - 400 drums of 205 litres [L] for a total of 82000 L diesel;
 - 10 drums of 205 L for a total of 2050 L gasoline;
 - 400 drums of 205 L for a total of 82000 L aviation fuel;
 - 60 cylinders (100 pounds);
- Transportation, storage and use of chemicals and hazardous materials;
- Use of snowmobile and ATV to load and unload aircraft;
- Camp supplies and personnel to be brought in by fixed wing aircraft;
- Use of helicopter to transport equipment to drill sites;
- Use of water for domestic and drilling purposes;
- Production of human, combustible, non-combustible and grey-water wastes;
- Incineration of combustible wastes and solid sewage; and
- Removal of non-combustible wastes and incinerated ash to local landfill (Hall Beach or Repulse Bay) and removal of hazardous waste to an approved waste facility.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/12EN018-Vale%20Exploration%20Canada%20Inc%20Melville%20Project/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English and Inuktitut*
- *NIRB Part 2 Form in English*
- *Maps*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuktitut*
- *NPC Conformity Determination and Questionnaire*
- *KIA Land Use Licence III Application and Detailed Project Description*
- *QIA Land Use Licence III Application and Detailed Project Description*
- *Closure and Restoration Plan*
- *Spill Contingency Plan*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB shall proceed to screen this project proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Vale project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **May 4, 2012**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact NIRB's Technical Advisor, Sophia Granchinho at (867) 793-4633 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Sarah Gagné, Golder Associates Ltd.
Julie Ross, Golder Associates Ltd.
Maria Serra, KIA
Veronica Tattuinee, KIA
Salamonie Shoo, QIA
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board

Enclosures (2): Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)