



NIRB File No.: 07EN011
Previous NIRB File No.: 06EN030
INAC File No.: Amendment to N2006J0010
KIA File No.: KVL307C02

March 30, 2007

Cameco Corporation
c/o Garth Drever
2121 – 11th St West
Saskatoon, SK
S7M 1J3

Via email: garth_drever@cameco.com

Re: Opportunity for Cameco Corporation to Address Comments Received about the Amended Aberdeen-Turqavik Project Proposal

Dear Garth Drever:

On February 13, 2007 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a positive conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission for Cameco's Amended Aberdeen-Turqavik project proposal (Aberdeen-Turqavik project). On February 21, 2007 the Board received Cameco's amendment request for the Aberdeen – Turqavik project proposal from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). However, on February 23, 2007 NIRB received correspondence from NPC that there was a question about whether or not the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) conformity determination addressed the amended activities. On March 8, 2007 NIRB was informed by NPC that the February 13, 2007 conformity determination was applicable to the amendment activities. Therefore, on March 9, 2007 NIRB commenced the Notice of Part 4 Screening for the Aberdeen-Turqavik project.

As you know, NIRB invited interested Parties and municipalities most affected by the Aberdeen-Turqavik project to comment directly to the NIRB by March 29, 2007.

By March 29, 2007 NIRB received comments from the following interested Parties:

- Mr. Orin Durey of Baker Lake
- The Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
- The Government of Nunavut Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth
- The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board
- Environment Canada
- The World Wildlife Fund

All documents comments received pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at:
ftp://ftp.nunavut.ca/nirb/NIRB_SCREENINGS/ACTIVE_SCREENINGS/07EN011-Cameco_Corporation/1-SCREENING/02-DISTRIBUTION/COMMENTS/

Comments were provided by all Parties regarding the project, and concerns regarding the project proposal were expressed by Mr. Orin Durey, the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment, the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board and the World Wildlife Fund.

The following is a *summary* of the main concerns:

- Project activities occurring in lands used by the Beverly and Ahiak caribou herds for spring migration, calving, post-calving and late summer, particularly during a proposed June 2007 GN/GNWT population survey of the Beverly caribou herd
- Potential impacts to caribou from disruptive activities, such as drilling, low-level flights by helicopter, and aircraft activity in general
- Lack of mitigation measures described for potential adverse impacts to Beverly caribou
- Lack of discussion of cumulative effects in relation to other projects in the area
- Proximity of the project proposal to the Thelon River, designated as a Canadian Heritage River, and the proposed Special Management Area, as designated in the Thelon Game Sanctuary Management Plan
- The necessity of a rigorous wildlife monitoring with particular emphasis on caribou
- Potential impacts to humans and wildlife, including grizzly bears, wolverines, wolves, foxes, and raptor nesting areas from noise, human-carnivore interactions and general disruption
- Potential impact to archaeological sites within project area
- Community consultation and public involvement, including clarification related to discussions with Baker Lake HTO regarding caribou and muskox
- Omissions regarding details about the winter trail, including discussions related to the Proponent responsibility to ensure the subcontractor follows all requirements to reduce environmental impacts, including the requirement for completion of the winter trail by April 30
- Omissions in the Spill Contingency Plan
- Potential for impacts from noise, and lack of mitigation measures described in information provided to NIRB

Due to these concerns, NIRB would like to provide the Proponent with an opportunity to address all the comments before proceeding with the next steps of the screening process. In preparation of your response, it is strongly recommended that Cameco review all comments provided to NIRB. In addition, Cameco must provide NIRB with an updated timeline regarding when the project activities are anticipated to take place, and include the locations where the activities will take place.

NIRB requests that a response to be provided to NIRB by **April 6, 2007**. Please forward your response to NIRB's Manager of Administration, Leslie Payette at lpayette@nirb.nunavut.ca.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 867-983-4607 or cinglis@nirb.nunavut.ca.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

Carolanne Inglis-McQuay
Technical Advisor

Cc: Distribution List
Jeff Holwell: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (holwellj@inac.gc.ca)
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