

NIRB File No.: 07EN046

AANDC File No.: N2014C0010 NWB File No.: 2BE-SCH0712 KIA File No.: KVL307C01

January 16, 2014

The Honourable Bernard Valcourt Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development 10 Rue Wellington Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

Sent via email: minister@aandc.gc.ca; bernard.valcourt@parl.gc.ca

## Re: <u>Update on NIRB Screening of Forum Uranium's "Schultz Lake" (North Thelon)</u> <u>Project Proposal</u>

Dear Mr. Bernard Valcourt:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), on August 20, 2014 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) provided correspondence to your office requesting additional time to screen the project proposal referenced above (AANDC File No. N2014C0010). The current correspondence is intended to provide an update on the status of this assessment and serve as notice that additional time is required to complete the screening of this project proposal, for reasons outlined below.

On July 8, 2014 the NIRB received Forum Uranium Corp.'s (Forum) "Schultz Lake" (North Thelon) project proposal, including an application for a new Land Use Permit (No. 2014C0010) from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. On July 17, 2014 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission for this file. The NIRB determined that this application was related to the project proposal previously screened under NIRB file number 07EN046 and commenced screening pursuant to NLCA Article 12 Part 4. The NIRB received an additional application in support of this proposal from the Nunavut Water Board on July 18, 2014.

Following a preliminary completeness check of this project proposal, the NIRB identified that annual reporting required by the Board's previously-issued Screening Decision Report for the Schultz Lake project had not been received for the years 2009, 2011, 2012, and 2013. As the NIRB requires previously-screened projects to be in compliance with monitoring requirements prior to consideration of additional amendment or renewal requests on July 25, 2014 the NIRB requested that the outstanding information be supplied on or before August 4, 2014.

On August 20, 2014, pursuant to Section 12.4.5(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) requested more time to screen the project proposal referenced above (AANDC File No. N2014C0010).

The NIRB has communicated with Forum on numerous occasions regarding the outstanding information required to conduct this assessment, including on August 11, 2014, September 15, 2014, October 8, 2014, October 27, 2014, and December 18, 2014. As of the date of this letter, the NIRB had not yet received the information as requested.

Following the receipt of the outstanding reporting information, the NIRB will endeavor to move forward on the file as expeditiously as possible. It is anticipated that the consideration of the application will be completed within 45 days of receiving the outstanding information from the Proponent.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Ryan Barry

**Executive Director** 

Ryan Barry

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Anthony Williams, Forum Uranium Corp.
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
David Ningeogan, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Tracey McCoia, Aboriginal Affairs and North

Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada