



NIRB File No.: 07EN024
AANDC File No.: N2007C0003
QIA File No.: Q05L3C01
NWB File No.: 2BE-SNN0813

March 19, 2012

The Honourable John Duncan
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
c/o Jeff Mercer, Manager Land Administration
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Iqaluit, NU

Sent via email: jeff.mercer@aandc.gc.ca and landsmining@aandc.gc.ca

Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Stornoway Diamond Corp.'s "Aviat" project

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On February 16, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) for an extension to Stornoway Diamond Corporation's (Stornoway) Land Use Permit (No. N2007C0003) for its "Aviat" project.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 07EN024) was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC; now Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada or AANDC) on February 27, 2007 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On April 4, 2007 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Additional extension requests for the AANDC Land Use Permit (No. N2007C0003) and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association Access to Inuit Owned Land Permit (No. Q05L3C01) associated with this project have also been reviewed by the NIRB following screening of the original project proposal. In each instance the NIRB confirmed that the applications were exempt from the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and that the activities therein remained subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original April 4, 2007 Screening Decision Report.

Authorization	Application			Correspondence Issued by NIRB
	Date Received by NIRB	Type	Reason for Application	
N2007C0003	February 24, 2009	Extension	Ongoing mobilization	March 10, 2009
Q05L3C01	May 5, 2009	Extension	Ongoing mobilization	May 27, 2009
N2007C0003	August 28, 2009	Extension	Exploration	September 1, 2009
N2007C0003	December 14, 2010	Extension	Exploration	December 17, 2010

The current AANDC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (07EN024) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2007/07EN024-Stornoway%20Diamond%20Corp/>

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 07EN024), the "Aviat" project was located within the Qikiqtani region, approximately 80 kilometres (km) west of Igloolik. The Proponent indicated that it intended to evaluate the potential for economically important concentrations of minerals within the project area.

The activities and components associated with the original project proposal included:

- Use of existing exploration camp on Crown land – maximum population of 40 personnel
- Geological mapping, rock and till sampling, ground geophysical surveys, prospecting
- Helicopter supported land-based and ice-based drilling on Crown and Inuit-Owned Lands (IOL)
- Consumption of water and generation of wastes
- Temporary storage of fuel at drill site locations and at camp-site
- Daily incineration of combustible wastes; non-combustible wastes back-hauled to Igloolik for disposal
- Abandonment and restoration of project sites

CURRENT APPLICATION:

Stornoway is requesting a one year extension to its Land Use Permit (No. N2007C0003) for the "Aviat" project in order to conduct demobilization and restorative activities of the camp and to allow for the completion of final abandonment and reclamation activities as outlined in the Abandonment and Restoration Plan received by the NIRB on May 5, 2009.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

"Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:

(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or

(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project. ”

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current application, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed extension does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original April 4, 2007 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tara Arko, Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director

cc: Nicole Westcott, Stornoway Diamond Corporation
Robert St. Eloi, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 07EN024 (April 4, 2007)