



NIRB File No.: 08MN053
QIA File No.: LUA-2008-008

July 15, 2016

Stephen Williamson Bathory
Director, Department of Major Projects
Qikiqtani Inuit Association
P.O. Box 1340,
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: swbathory@qia.ca

Re: Igloolik Community Visit

Dear Stephen Williamson Bathory:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 28, 2016 to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) which was provided in response to the NIRB's letter to the Mayor of Igloolik regarding an upcoming community update session in that community specific to the NIRB monitoring program for the Mary River Iron Ore Mine (NIRB File No. 08MN053). The letter from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) recommended additional public outreach activities that the NIRB should undertake while in the community; specifically multi-community radio programs and call-in shows, as well as in-person joint meetings with specific community organizations. The NIRB appreciates receiving suggestions and recommendations for improvements to the efficacy of its monitoring programs for approved development projects, as the Board believes continued improvements can be realized to ensure these programs achieve the desired results. I am pleased to respond to the issues raised in QIA's correspondence and provide the following clarification for your consideration.

With the increase in approved mining developments with NIRB project certificates, the NIRB has recently established several new staff positions to further address its monitoring responsibilities. In addition to Technical Advisors which serve as monitoring officers, the Board has recently established a Manager of Project Monitoring position with responsibilities for coordinating development and standardisation of methodologies, procedures, and guidance materials associated with NIRB monitoring programs. Also, the Board's newly-created Community Outreach Coordinator position functions to connect with communities Nunavut-wide to increase awareness of and participation in NIRB processes through various methods, including radio shows. The QIA's letter provided some precise recommendations on mechanisms to inform impacted communities and engage in active discussions which can be taken into consideration moving forward; the NIRB looks forward to continuing to engage

potentially impacted communities through these community-based organizations and broadcasting agencies.

The currently planned community update session associated with the NIRB's site visit to the Mary River Project is occurring in Igloolik due to it being identified as directly-impacted by the Project, in addition to other North Baffin communities. As a result the NIRB expects to provide a follow up opportunity to allow interested community members to better understand the Board's ongoing monitoring role and expectations of the site visit. During the last NIRB site visit to the Mary River Project in June 2015, a community information session was conducted in Pond Inlet to provide residents with a similar opportunity to get information about the NIRB process after a project is approved to proceed. As you have noted in your correspondence, several community organizations are actively participating in the NIRB's monitoring process and have been provided with opportunities to provide their feedback directly to the NIRB for consideration. The community update session is meant to provide information in an open public forum to interested community members who are not necessarily currently participating through these organizations.

The NIRB is not currently provided with a budget to undertake in person region-wide community meetings associated with its site visits, and has instead been proactively working with existing budgets to target the most affected communities with in-person meetings while providing engagement through other means for other communities in the region. At this time, and in consideration of the pending assessment for the amendment application for the project as well as concerns of consultation fatigue that have become more prominent recently, the NIRB believes its efforts to be appropriate.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the QIA's recommendations further, please contact the undersigned directly at tarko@nirb.ca or by phone at (867) 983-4611. If you require additional information regarding the community information session or monitoring of the Mary River Project, please contact Solomon Amuno, Technical Advisor II, at samuno@nirb.ca or by phone at (867) 983-4603.

Sincerely,



Tara Arko
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Mary River Distribution List
Shawn Stuckey, Hamlet of Igloolik
Wayne McPhee, Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Mr. Zach Kunuk, NITV
Mr. Jonathan Frantz, NITV
Mr. Jonny Malaya, QIA Board Member (Igloolik)
Mr. Enookie Inuarak, QIA Board Member (Pond Inlet)

Enclosed: QIA Letter to NIRB Re: Igloolik Community Visit (*June 28, 2016*)