

July 8<sup>th</sup> 2013

the **BATHURST INLET**  
**PORT AND ROAD PROJECT**

**Amanda Hanson**

Director, Technical Services  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
PO Box 1360 Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0

**Re: Update on Bathurst Inlet Port and Road (BIPR) Draft EIS Submission**

Dear Amanda,

As you are aware, on March 28, 2013, Xstrata and Sabina issued an updated Project Description for the BIPR Project. On May 8, 2013 the NIRB issued an Addendum to the Guidelines to the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the BIPR Project. Since then, the BIPR Company (Xstrata and Sabina) have assessed the extent of the new requirements identified in the Addendum, and have been working assiduously towards the completion of the revised Draft EIS for the Project.

In parallel to that activity, a geotechnical drilling program has been initiated in the port area in April 2013 to assess the substrate quality at the proposed dock location. Preliminary results suggest that the foundation material is not adequate and that, in order to build required in water infrastructure, significant dredging would be required. To reduce the significant costs related to dredging, the geotechnical drilling program will continue to help us identify a more suitable site for the dock in the immediate vicinity.

Also, a detailed evaluation of construction schedules for both BIPR and its future clients' projects, suggest that the current laydown is not adequate to accommodate, in a timely manner, all the necessary supplies and major equipment.

As the design of the port infrastructure needs to be revisited and will likely be changed, it will have a direct impact of the environmental effects assessment of the project. Therefore, the submission of the Draft EIS for BIPR will take place only once we know more about the necessary engineering changes and this will take some time; we will provide you with a further update on the BIPR Project by November 29<sup>th</sup> 2013.

Should you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact Denis Hamel or Robert Prairie.

Best regards



Denis Hamel  
Project Manager  
Glencore



Matthew Pickard  
Director, Safety, Health, Environment & Community Relations  
Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.