



December 20th<sup>th</sup> 2013

**Amanda Hanson**  
Director, Technical Services  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
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Sent via e-mail: [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca); [ahanson@nirb.ca](mailto:ahanson@nirb.ca)

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

Dear Amanda,

As you are aware, on March 28, 2013, Xstrata (now Glencore) 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 (Glencore and Sabina) have assessed the extent of the new requirements identified in the Addendum. 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 in-water infrastructure, significant dredging would be required. Subsequently, further studies were initiated and these reports are expected late December 2013 or early 2014.

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.

When completed, these technical reports will be reviewed and integrated in a revised pre-feasibility study. We estimate that it will take approximately the next 12 months for this to be completed. Therefore, the submission of the Draft EIS for BIPR is only possible once the necessary engineering changes are taken into account and as such we will provide you with a further update on the BIPR Project by December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014.

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

Best regards,



Denis Hamel

Project Manager Hackett River Project  
Glencore



Matthew Pickard

Vice-President - Environment and Sustainability  
Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.