



March 22, 2002

To:  
Stephanie Briscoe, Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
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RE: Screening Of The Closure And Reclamation Plan For The Nanisivik Mine.

Dear Ms. Briscoe:

In regard to your letter dated March 20, 2002 NTI Lands and Resources has reviewed the questions NIRB has posed, as well as, the two Volumes, Closure And Reclamation Plan For The Nanisivik Mine.

We agree with the NIRB view that the project is indeed a project as defined under the NLCA. In addition this project does not qualify for exemption under Schedule 12-1, and the NWB has forwarded this to NIRB for formal screening, the Article 12 authorization has been triggered.

With respect to question 1; Should the A&R Plan be the subject of a Public review under the NLCA?, I reference 12.4.2 (a) points (ii) &(iii):

*12.4.2 In screening a project proposal, NIRB shall be guided by the following principles:*

- (a) NIRB generally shall determine that such a review is required when, in its judgement,*
  - (ii) the project may have significant adverse socio-economic effects on northerners,*
  - (iii) the project will cause significant public concern, or*

The Nanisivik project falls into these two descriptions.

However, In reviewing the Closure And Reclamation Plan For The Nanisivik Mine, it clearly states that certain issues pertaining to the details of the plan are requisite on the completion of the "Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment and Ecological and Human Health Risk Assessment". As this Phase 2 ESA will endeavour to identify the specific issues of health risks, one of the major issues of community concern, It would be prudent to have these issues finalized before a Public hearing.



This would suggest that the appropriate course of action is to proceed with 12.4.4.(c).

*12.4.4 Upon receipt of a project proposal, NIRB shall screen the proposal and indicate to the Minister in writing that:*

*(c) the proposal is insufficiently developed to permit proper screening, and should be returned to the proponent for clarification; or*

In regards to your second question,

With out a thorough background of all the permits, certificates, licences or approvals (authorizations) in place, NTI does not have knowledge of any of the above that may be required.

I hope this is will be helpful in NIRBs decision

Sincerely

Stefan B. Lopatka M.Sc.A.

SENIOR ADVISOR

Environment, Water and Marine Management

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

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