



Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Sous-ministre adjoint

Assistant Deputy Minister

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0H4

23 NOV 2011



Mr. Lucassie Arragutainaq
Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board
PO Box 1360
CAMBRIDGE BAY NU X0B 0C0

Dear Mr. Arragutainaq:

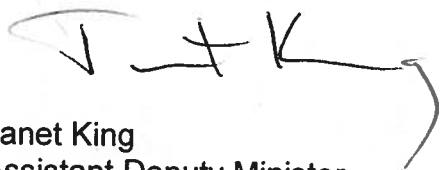
The Honourable John Duncan has asked me to reply to your letter of November 1, 2011, regarding the screening decision of the Nunavut Impact Review Board on the land use application for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Meliadine All-Weather Access Road Project Proposal, Kivalliq Region, Nunavut (NIRB 11RN017, INAC N2011F0024). In your letter, you request additional time to screen the proposed project.

Under Article 12.4.5 (b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the period of time required for the screening of a project proposal by the Nunavut Impact Review Board may exceed 45 days with the approval of the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. I recognize that this project proposal involves unique considerations making screening within 45 days impossible for the Nunavut Impact Review Board. On the Minister's behalf, I am granting the Nunavut Impact Review Board permission to exercise this provision of the Land Claim and exceed the 45-day limit for the screening of this project. I would like to thank the Nunavut Impact Review Board for its diligence in reviewing this proposal.

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I note that the Nunavut regional office has advised you that the time period for processing of this land use application has been extended. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jeff G. Mercer, Manager of Land Administration, Nunavut Region, by phone at 867-975-4280.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J + K', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right and a curved line underneath.

Janet King
Assistant Deputy Minister
Northern Affairs Organization
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
Development Canada