

July 22, 2011

Honourable John Duncan  
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

**Re: Screening Decision, Agnico Eagle Mines; NIRB File 11M034, 5510-5028**

Dear Minister,

As you are aware the July 4<sup>th</sup> decision by NIRB to defer their approval of the Meliadine road and to include it in the future environmental assessment review of the actual Mine-Mill Development Project has caused significant concern to the business community of the Kivalliq Region.

While we appreciate the role NIRB plays in the approval process for developments like the Meliadine Mine, it is our opinion that the road has undergone completely adequate environmental assessments. All of the other parties associated with approving this phase of the project, including the Nunavut Water Board through their Water License amendment, feels that the assessments on this project were adequate.

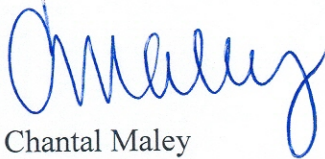
We note that in NIRB decision to defer this project they do not mention any of the previous reviews already complete. As mentioned, NIRB is an integral part of the development process in Nunavut; however they still need to remain harmonious to the other organizations and the general public as Nunavut works its way through this major development. In this case, it is our opinion that this decision by NIRB is not supported by the findings of the assessments and is in complete opposition to all of the other parties that have signed off on their approval of this project. We are talking here about the construction of a 30 kilometer road through an area that is already heavily used by all terrain vehicles.

The repercussions of this decision have been immediate and profound in the business community of Nunavut. Confidence in the incremental development associated with a future mine has gone with an end result of economic decisions and plans being frozen by most business organizations. The Arctic and especially Nunavut have been a welfare state for a long time. The hopes and dreams of our people to progress and move out of this repressed economy rest with the development of our natural resources. Decisions like this on development projects that have been already adequately assessed is not conducive to attracting investment. This is of grave concern to our company.

We urge the Minister to examine this issue and allow the road construction project to continue without delay.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Chantal Maley  
President  
Pingasut Inuit Inc.  
Rankin Inlet, NU