



Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Sous-ministre adjoint

Assistant Deputy Minister

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0H4



1 NOV 2011

Mr. Ryan St. John
Vice-President
Kivalliq Services Ltd.
PO Box 809
RANKIN INLET NU X0C 0G0

Dear Mr. St. John:

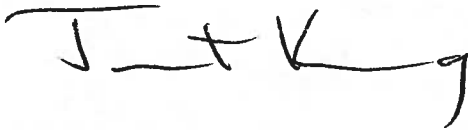
The Honourable John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, has asked me to reply to your letter of July 27, 2011, outlining your concerns with the Nunavut Impact Review Board's Screening Decision Report for Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited's all-weather road project. I regret the delay of this response.

In regard to the all-weather road project proposal, as required by Section 12.4.8 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the Minister, on August 11, 2011, returned the proposal to the proponent for clarification and re-submission to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. With respect to the Meliadine Gold project proposal, the Board completed a screening of the proposal on July 8, 2011, and recommended that it be reviewed under Article 12, Part 5 or 6 of the Agreement. On September 13, 2011, the Minister issued his decision to accept the Board's recommendation and refer the Meliadine Gold project proposal to the Board for a Part 5 review. The Minister acknowledged that this decision would also provide the proponent with the opportunity to re-apply for early development of the all-weather road.

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I want to assure you that the business community's concerns are always taken into consideration when a proposed project is undergoing an environmental assessment. The Department recognizes the importance of environmentally sound economic development to the existing and future well-being of the residents and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area.

Sincerely,



Janet King
Assistant Deputy Minister
Northern Affairs Organization

c.c.: The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, PC, MP
The Honourable Dennis Patterson, Senator
The Honourable Peter Taptuna, MLA
The Honourable Lorne Kusugak, MLA
Mr. Ryan Barry, Executive Director, Nunavut Impact Review Board ✓
Mayor Pujjuut Kusugak, Hamlet of Rankin Inlet
Mayor Bob Leonard, Hamlet of Arviat
Mr. Joe Kaludjak, President, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Mr. Denis Gourde, General Manager, Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited