



**NIRB File No.: 14YN034**

August 20, 2014

The Honourable Paul Quassa  
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College  
Government of Nunavut  
P.O. Box 2410  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

*Sent via email: [pquassa@gov.nu.ca](mailto:pquassa@gov.nu.ca); [mkunuk2@gov.nu.ca](mailto:mkunuk2@gov.nu.ca)*

**Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's "Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity in Cambridge Bay" Project Proposal**

Dear Mr. Paul Quassa:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) hereby requests more time to screen the project proposal referenced above.

On July 18, 2014 the NIRB received Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's (AANDC) "Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity in Cambridge Bay" project proposal from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI). The NIRB assigned this project proposal file number 14YN034 and commenced screening pursuant to NLCA Article 12 Part 4. On July 29, 2014 the NIRB distributed the proposal to interested parties and communities potentially affected by the proposed project, requesting that parties provide comments to the NIRB on or before August 8, 2014, later extended to August 15, 2014.

As you are aware, the NIRB will be facilitating the Final Hearing for its Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Meliadine Gold Project from August 21 to August 27, 2014. While the Board is travelling and hosting the Final Hearing, the NIRB will be required to temporarily suspend its consideration of other files and will be unable to issue Screening Decision Reports that might be required. During this time several of the NIRB's staff members will remain in the office during the Final Hearing and will continue with the advancement of regular file administration, including receipt of new project proposals, maintenance of the Board's online public registry, and regular communications with outside agencies, project proponents and the general public. Following the close of the Final Hearing, the NIRB will endeavor to move forward on all open files as expeditiously as possible.

The NIRB is not able to provide a screening decision for AANDC's "Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity in Cambridge Bay" project proposal within the 45 day time period as per Section

12.4.5 of the NLCA and therefore requires additional time to screen the project proposal. It is anticipated that the screening process will be completed by September 5, 2014.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the authorizing agency will inform the Proponent, stakeholders and interested parties on the extension.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long horizontal line that extends to the right.

Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Dr. Donald McLennan, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Moshia Cote, Nunavut Research Institute