



NIRB File No.: 08MN053
NWB File No.: 2AM-MRY1325
QIA File No.: LUA-2008-008
DFO File No.: 2008 MR

August 12, 2024

His Worship Joshua Arreak
Mayor of Pond Inlet
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Olayuk Akesuk
President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
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And

Megan Lord-Hoyle
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Suite 300, 360 Oakville Place Drive
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megan.lord-hoyle@baffinland.com

Sent via email

Re: Notice of Marine Monitoring and Marine Mitigation Workshop for the Mary River Project in Pond Inlet on September 5, 2024

Dear Joshua Arreak, Olayuk Akesuk, and Megan Lord-Hoyle:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) is providing notice of its upcoming Marine Monitoring and Marine Mitigation Workshop **in Pond Inlet on September 5, 2024**, following the NIRB's annual monitoring update scheduled for the evening of September 4, 2024.

The Minister of Northern Affairs¹ recommended the workshop be held each year in Pond Inlet to update the community on marine monitoring activities related to the Mary River Project, most recently clarifying the ongoing expectations of the workshop² as:

“The Board’s Report notes that the responsible ministers, in their September 2018 decision letter for the Production Increase Proposal, encouraged the Board to

¹ Ministers Approval Re Production Increase Proposal available on the NIRB's Public Registry as Doc ID: 320546 dated September 30, 2018.

² Minister Response to NIRB Reconsideration Report and Recommendations for the Phase 2 Development Proposal available on the NIRB's Public Registry as Doc ID: 342156 dated November 16, 2022.

hold an annual marine monitoring and marine mitigation workshop in the community of Pond Inlet. The Board requested direction as to whether the workshop should continue to be held, notwithstanding the expiry of the prior production increase proposals. As noted by the Board, community concerns persist regarding current impacts. The responsible ministers are supportive of the approach adopted by the Board and suggest the workshops continue to be held.”

These meetings build on the NIRB’s ongoing monitoring obligations for the Mary River Project, to provide awareness as well as discussion opportunities about the existing project, monitoring of the marine environment, and shipping activities for the Mary River Project. In its recent decisions, the NIRB highlighted the value provided from bringing together Parties including the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Association (MHTO), the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), and other agencies participating on the Mary River Projects’ Marine Environment Working Group (MEWG) to provide the community regular updates to the public.

MEETING FORMAT

The Marine Monitoring and Marine Mitigation Workshop will be held in-person on **September 5, 2024 at the Atakaalik Community Hall in Pond Inlet**. The NIRB has made the following arrangements for the Workshop:

- Meeting times:** 9:00 am local time until 5:00 pm, and resume for an evening session from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm local time.
- Interpretation:** Simultaneous English and Inuktitut interpretation will be provided to the extent practicable.
- Materials:** Presentations or other information shared for the workshop will be provided in print copy where practicable.

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSIONS

To provide updated information, the NIRB requests that Baffinland prepare presentations on:

- Summary of activities completed to date, and activities associated with the ongoing shipping from Milne Inlet;
- How Baffinland is coordinating project-specific monitoring with NIRB and other regulators, and Baffinland’s responses to previous Marine Workshop recommendations;
- Actions taken by Baffinland to address community concerns as well as recommendations made by NIRB and other regulators to limit project-specific impacts; and
- Opportunities to demonstrate photos, videos, equipment and other media that can provide the public a tangible opportunity to better understand how Project monitoring and data collection occurs.

The NIRB also encourages Baffinland to share direct monitoring data, maps, and experiences of its local monitoring staff to support community awareness. Open topics for discussion include:

- Ballast Water Exchange Locations;
- Anchoring Locations;

- Shipping Transits and caravan operations;
- Results of ongoing community-based monitoring programs relevant to the marine environment, and
- Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and marine mammals around the shipping route.

The NIRB encourages other regulators and interested parties to attend and be prepared to provide responses to questions from community members especially on coordination efforts, effectiveness of current monitoring and mitigation measures, and results of ongoing community-based monitoring programs relevant to the marine environment. Agencies are encouraged to participate especially where they are maintaining a regulatory role for the project, have marine-related mandates, or expertise to inform the discussion with the community during this workshop.

NEXT STEPS

The NIRB requests that parties planning to attend the upcoming marine workshop provide confirmation to the NIRB, including number of representatives, names and area of expertise or authority, on or before **August 23, 2024**.

Should you have any questions regarding the upcoming Marine Monitoring and Marine Mitigation Workshop in Pond Inlet, please contact Cory Barker NIRB's Manager, Project Monitoring at cbarker@nirb.ca; or Tara Arko, Director, Operations at tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Dionne Filliatrault
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Lou Kamermans, Baffinland Iron Mines
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Jorgan Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
Adrian Paradis, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Julie Anderson, Health Canada
Peter Unger, Natural Resources Canada
Audrey Steedman, Parks Canada
Jackie Barker, Transport Canada
David Stockley, Hamlet of Pond Inlet
David Qamanig, Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization
Chris Debicki, Oceans North
World Wildlife Fund

APPENDIX A – AGENDA

NIRB File No.: 08MN053 – Marine Monitoring and Marine Mitigation Workshop
Proponent: Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Facilitator: NIRB Staff
Location: Atakaalik Community Hall, Pond Inlet, NU
Dates & Times: September 4, 2024 6:30 pm – monitoring update
September 5, 2024 9:00 am – 5:00 pm; 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Note: Meeting times are local time and are approximate based on the priority of community feedback. A short health break will be provided during the morning, afternoon, and evening session on September 5th.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024 – 6:30 P.M.

NIRB Monitoring update and time to discuss questions or receive feedback from the community

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 – 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.; 7:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

1. NIRB Welcome and Opening Remarks – NIRB (*20 minutes*)
 - Introduction of workshop objectives, agenda, and participants
 - Housekeeping Items
2. Baffinland Presentation (*30 minutes*)
 - Overview of shipping activities, mitigation, and project-specific monitoring
 - Actions taken to address community feedback and the Board's previous Marine Workshop recommendations
3. Question and answer session with the public

Lunch Break

4. Baffinland Presentation (*20 minutes*): Coordination with community led monitoring
 - Approach to marine monitoring, and development of management and mitigation measures
 - Overview of each program: purpose, equipment used, information collected, and coordination with local monitoring staff or programs
 - Shipping notifications for shipping activities, communications protocols for shipping vessels, and public notices
5. Question and answer session with the public

Dinner Break

6. Baffinland Presentation (*20 minutes*): Marine Environment Working Group
 - Overview of group function: purpose, participants, discussion items, tracking of issues discussed
7. Question and answer session with the public
8. Wrap-up and next steps