



NIRB File No.: 08MN053

NPC File No.: 149960

NWB File No.: 2AM-MRY1325

QIA File No.: LUA-2008-008

DFO File No.: 2008 MR

October 29, 2024

To: The Honourable Dan Vandal, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Northern Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: dan.vandal@parl.gc.ca,

Re: Suspension of Assessment Activities for Baffinland Iron Mines Corp.'s "Sustaining Operations Proposal 2" Project Proposal, Pursuant to NuPPAA s. 143(2)

Dear Honourable Dan Vandal:

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide notice to the Minister of Northern Affairs that on October 3, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received correspondence from Baffinland Iron Mines Corp. (Baffinland or Proponent) requesting to suspend the NIRB's assessment of the "Sustaining Operations Proposal 2" project proposal, a modification to the Mary River Project (NIRB File No. 08MN053; Project Certificate No. 005).

After taking into consideration the Proponent's comments in respect of the requested suspension, pursuant to s. 143(2) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*) the Board suspended the assessment of the "Sustaining Operations Proposal 2" project proposal as requested, effective Thursday, October 3, 2024. As provided for under s. 143(4) of *NuPPAA*, if Baffinland wishes to resume the assessment of the Sustaining Operations Proposal 2, a written request must be filed with the NIRB within three (3) years of the suspension date, by **October 3, 2027**. If Baffinland's request to resume the assessment is not filed with the Board on or before October 3, 2027, the assessment of the "Sustaining Operations Proposal 2" will be terminated under s. 143(4) of *NuPPAA*. As set out in s. 143(5) of *NuPPAA*, Baffinland can also file an express written request to terminate the assessment at any time, and such termination becomes effective on the day the Proponent's request is received by the Board.

Documentation associated with the "Sustaining Operations Proposal 2" project proposal can be accessed at the NIRB's Public Registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125893.

PARTICIPANT FUNDING

The Board appreciates that prior to the suspension of the Board's assessment, the Responsible Ministers made participant funding available through the Northern Participant Funding Program to participants in the assessment. The Board notes the importance of participant funding being available to support participants in the assessment process, and maintains the request that the Responsible Ministers consider making participant funding available again in future if Baffinland requests the resumption of the NIRB's assessment of the "Sustaining Operations Proposal 2" project proposal.

CONCLUSION

Should you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the NIRB's Director, Operations, Tara Arko at tarko@nirb.ca

Sincerely,



Kaviq Kaluraq
Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Megan Lord-Hoyle, Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Lou Kamermans, Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
Mary River Distribution List