



NIRB File No.: 24XN038

NPC File No.: 150467

May 6, 2025

To: Grays Bay Road and Port Distribution List

Re: Follow Up to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Request to the Minister in relation to West Kitikmeot Resource Corp.'s "Grays Bay Road and Port" project proposal NIRB Part 5 Review

Dear Parties:

On May 1, 2025 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) was copied with the attached letter from the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) to the Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, PC, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (the Minister), requesting the approval of the Minister to enter into an agreement with the NIRB under s. 142 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVEIRB's request). MVEIRB's request is to enter into a project-specific agreement with the NIRB to facilitate the MVEIRB's participation in the NIRB's impact assessment under Part 5 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada* (Nunavut Agreement) and s. 94(1)(a)(iv) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA) of the West Kitikmeot Resource Corp.'s "Grays Bay Road and Port" project proposal (NIRB File No.: 24XN038) (Proposal).

Further to MVEIRB's request, the NIRB confirms that, as indicated in MVEIRB's correspondence to the Minister, under the framework established under the MVEIRB/NIRB's existing Memorandum of Understanding and associated Implementation Plan, the NIRB is committed to working together efficiently and transparently with the MVEIRB and communities in the Northwest Territories to complete the assessment. Accordingly, the NIRB stands ready to develop and enter into a formal project-specific agreement with MVEIRB to facilitate the ability of both Boards to streamline cooperation, coordination and collaboration during the Part 5 Review of the Proposal.

Recognizing that the NIRB's Part 5 Review of the Proposal is underway and that NuPPAA has established timelines for the NIRB's completion of the Review and decision-making, the NIRB also emphasizes to all parties that a formal MVEIRB/NIRB project-specific agreement will respect the applicable legislated timelines and process requirements established under Part 5 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and Part 3 of the NuPPAA. As contemplated in the Memorandum of Understanding and Implementation Plan, the project-specific agreement will focus on streamlining our activities and builds upon the collaborative approach underlying the existing Memorandum of Understanding and Implementation Plan.

Should you have any questions regarding the NIRB's Review of the "Grays Bay Road and Port" proposal in general or the NIRB's approach to cooperation, coordination and collaboration with MVEIRB in relation to the NIRB's Review, please contact Heather Rasmussen, Manager, Policy at (867) 983-4606 or hrasmussen@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Dionne Filiatrault
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: James Eetoolook, *Acting* President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Fred Pedersen, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Eva Walker, Environment and Climate Change Canada
José Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Fisheries Protection Program, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Peter Unger, Natural Resources Canada
Pierre-Olivier Emond, Natural Resources Canada
Transport Canada

Enclosure: MVEIRB Request Letter, NIRB File No. 24XN038 (May 1, 2025)