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April 28, 2025

Francis Emingak
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
femingak@nirb.ca

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Bronzite Exploration Corp's "Somerset Trough Project" Proposal (NIRB File No.: 24EN005)

Dear Francis Emingak,

On March 24, 2025, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on the Bronzite Exploration Corp. (Bronzite) Somerset Trough Project (the Project) proposal. Further to this comment period, on April 22, 2025, the NIRB notified Bronzite of an opportunity to address key comments received. In that letter, the NIRB provided Bronzite with a summary of the public concerns reflected in the comment submissions.

Bronzite has reviewed all submissions and wishes to thank all parties for their thorough review and thoughtful comments. Bronzite looks forward to working closely with all communities and regulatory bodies as the Project progresses.

As requested by the NIRB, Bronzite is providing responses to the summary of public concerns noted in the April 22 letter.

Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA)

Bronzite thanks the QIA for their thorough review and helpful comments.

During Bronzite's engagement efforts with the community and HTO of Resolute Bay, the area around Creswell Bay was identified as an important area for hunting and fishing. In addition, it is understood that some families still actively utilize the area in the summer. Bronzite has committed to notifying the HTO and families known to use Creswell Bay prior to any work being done in the area during the spring or summer months. In addition, for the 2025 field season, Bronzite has committed to avoiding helicopter and fixed flights in the area when community members are present. Bronzite will follow the requirements of the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan related to helicopter and fixed wing altitude and the requirements to avoid flying over wildlife when present. In addition, Bronzite will follow the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan requirements for other activities, including drilling, should these activities be required in 2026 and beyond.

Bronzite commits to further engagement of the QIA, community of Resolute Bay, the HTO, and families who utilize Creswell Bay, should additional work be proposed in the area beyond 2025.

Bronzite acknowledges that land access must be granted from the QIA prior to commencing any activities on Inuit Owned land. Bronzite currently holds a Land Access Authorization from the QIA for Inuit Owned Land (IOL) parcels RB-01 and RB-02 that includes previously screened activities. Should Bronzite require additional access to IOL, or if there is a change in the scope of activities for the IOL parcels currently permitted, we will ensure that the appropriate and timely application to the QIA is made.

Bronzite also notes that there were additional comments from the QIA that were not identified in the NIRB letter and commits to following up directly with the QIA on these comments.

Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA)

Bronzite wishes to thank the KIA for their review and comments.

Bronzite acknowledges that the Project area overlaps the KIA IOL parcel SB52, and Bronzite will not conduct any work in this area without the proper authorizations from KIA.

Bronzite strives to operate collaboratively and responsibly and has had numerous successful remote engagements with Taloyoak, including communications with the Senior Administrative Officer, Hamlet Council, and KIA Community Liaison. Bronzite has made ten attempts to engage with the Taloyoak HTO via email and phone, but thus far has had no response. In addition, we regret that our November 2024 visit to Taloyoak was cancelled mid-flight due to weather limitations in Taloyoak. Bronzite is currently working to reschedule this community visit to May or June 2025 and is happy to share the results of this engagement with the KIA and the NIRB. We look forward to further engagement with the KIA, communities, and HTOs within the region.

Bronzite also notes that there were additional comments from the KIA that were not identified in the NIRB letter and commits to following up directly with the KIA on these comments.

Government of Nunavut – Environment (GN)

Bronzite would like to thank the GN for their detailed review and comments.

Bronzite appreciates the additional clarity on the requirements to obtain a Wildlife Research License and commits to initiating the process once the program timelines and details are finalized.

Bronzite will update the Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan during its next revision to include additional information on polar bear management, including mitigation and monitoring.

Bronzite is currently planning to conduct a desktop terrestrial wildlife review and is considering initiating a limited site-based wildlife reconnaissance program to obtain preliminary site-based

knowledge of wildlife in the area. As required, Bronzite will submit a Wildlife Research Permit Application once details are finalized. Bronzite is aware of the timelines associated with the review process and will time the application accordingly. If the site-based wildlife reconnaissance program goes ahead, we would invite interested parties from the HTOs and communities to be involved and will incorporate any comments from Inuit participants into our reporting.

Regarding flight altitudes, Bronzite met with GN officials on November 18, 2024, to discuss the Project, and this topic was raised. As with any project, there are operational requirements for specific low-level flying during activities, including, but not limited to, geophysical surveys, wildlife and environmental surveys, and helicopter slinging activities. Bronzite agrees that additional clarity is appropriate and commits to updating the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program to clarify that Bronzite will restrict aircraft/helicopter activity related to the project to a minimum flight altitude of 610 metres (2,100 ft) above ground level except during landing, take-off or if there is a specific requirement for low-level flying, which does not disturb wildlife or migratory birds.

Bronzite also notes that there were additional comments from the GN that were not identified in the NIRB letter and commits to following up directly with the GN on these comments.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)

Bronzite thanks CIRNAC for the comment regarding the use of native species for re-vegetation in the Project area.

Bronzite will update the appropriate sections of the Abandonment and Restoration Plan during the next revision of the Plan.

Transport Canada (TC)

Bronzite wishes to thank the TC for providing guidance on the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* and the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations*.

Bronzite will use the online “Project Review Tool” to complete the Transport Canada Navigation Protection Program self-assessment and will follow up with TC as appropriate.

Bronzite acknowledges that any shippers of dangerous goods must have the appropriate International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) training.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

Bronzite thanks ECCC for reviewing the Somerset Trough Project proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns in the future.

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

Bronzite thanks DFO for reviewing the Somerset Trough Project proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact Bronzite if you have any questions or concerns in the future.

Taloyoak Umarulirigut Association (TUA)

Bronzite respectfully acknowledges the TUA's concerns related to the Somerset Trough Project.

Bronzite has attempted to engage with the TUA on multiple occasions. In addition, our planned November 2024 in-person meeting with the community was unfortunately cancelled mid-flight due to weather limitations in Taloyoak. As has been communicated to the TUA, Bronzite would appreciate the opportunity to meet with the TUA to introduce the Bronzite team and discuss the Project. Bronzite intends to be in the community in late May or early June and hopes that an in-person meeting can be scheduled.

Bronzite acknowledges that the area around Somerset Island, like many areas of Nunavut, is habitat for marine mammals. Currently, Bronzite does not propose any work in the marine environment. Should that work be required in the future, Bronzite will follow the appropriate processes, including those established by the Nunavut Planning Commission and the NIRB. In addition, Bronzite commits to further engagement with the community of Taloyoak and the TUA before any in-water marine works commence.

Bronzite appreciates the information related to Somerset Island's historical and cultural significance and looks forward to working with the KIA, the community of Taloyoak, and the TUA to better understand and document the area's Traditional Knowledge, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, and Community Knowledge.

Bronzite acknowledges the TUA's proposal for an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA) and looks forward to continued discussion with the TUA, the community of Taloyoak, the KIA, GN, and others on this proposal.

Peter Aqqaq

Bronzite acknowledges that the area around Somerset Island, like many areas of Nunavut, is habitat for marine mammals. Currently, Bronzite does not propose any work in the marine environment. Should that work be required in the future, Bronzite will follow the appropriate processes, including those established by the Nunavut Planning Commission and the NIRB. In addition, Bronzite commits to further engagement with the community of Taloyoak and the TUA before any in-water marine works commence.

Bronzite acknowledges that two of the ten communications issued to the TUA utilized an older email address that was no longer in use. Bronzite commits to updating the consultation record to identify these as 'not received due to inactive email address'.

Bronzite appreciates that statement on Perry Caribou living on Somerset Island and looks forward to working with the GN, KIA, QIA, TUA, and Resolute HTO on future wildlife programs to gain additional information on Caribou in the Project area.

Bronzite wishes to thank NIRB for providing the opportunity to respond to comments. Please contact the undersigned at sam.robbs@bronziteexploration.com should you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Samuel Robb
Director and Vice President
Bronzite Exploration Corp.