

January 8, 2025

Alex Vilela
Somerset Minerals Ltd.
Vancouver, BC

Sent via email: alex.vilela@somersetminerals.com.au

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request

Dear Alex Vilela:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Somerset Minerals Ltd's "Coppermine Project" proposal:

- October 8, 2025, the Nunavut Planning Commission noted that it is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan, and
- On December 18, 2025, the NIRB received a complete application and assigned it file number **25EN075** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

The NIRB has commenced screening the project proposal pursuant to the *Nunavut Agreement* and *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*¹ and by copy of this letter, **invites interested parties and municipalities potentially affected by the proposal to comment directly to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.**

SCOPE OF PROPOSED PROJECT

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Location | Kitikmeot region, 60km southwest of Kugluktuk on Crown and Inuit Owned Land. Two temporary camps to be built over 60km away from each other. |
| Objective | The Proponent intends to increase exploration of copper, build two temporary camps, and a winter trail from Kugluktuk. |
| Timeline | December 30, 2025, to October 25, 2031 (Construction and operation) |

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Construct two temporary camps and fuel caches over 60km away from each other. Up to approximately 49 personnel may be onsite at any given time across the two camps
- Primary access and mobilization for all activities by helicopter/fixed-wing aircraft or temporary winter trail (snowmobile, snowcat, or ATVs).

¹ Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*)

- Use of satellite imagery and aerial photography to identify optimal winter trail path. No use of gravel, grading, or fill, to be 3 to 5m wide.
- Geological mapping and prospecting. Collect rock, soil, and/or till.
- Core logging and cutting, chip sampling, sieving, XRF analysis, and magnetic analysis.
- Geophysical Surveys which may include seismic, magnetic, gravimetric, electromagnetic, and other methods as required. As well as aerial photography and remote sensing.
- Use of reverse circulation and diamond drills. Exact locations will be results-driven, and only on land.
- Use of heavy equipment, including generators (diesel), a dual-chamber incinerator, frost fighter heaters, inflatable boats, Chieftain or equivalent units, low-pressure transport trailers/sleds, water trucks, skid steers, dozers, loaders, Hägglunds, service trucks, and a grader.
- Fuel will be stored and handled using approved containment measures, and spill prevention procedures will always be in place.
- Greywater and drilling overburden contained in sumps. All other wastes backhauled to approved facilities in Kugluktuk, Yellowknife, or Alberta.
- All temporary camps, access routes, drill sites, sumps, and associated disturbances will be progressively reclaimed and fully remediate upon demobilization.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

The NIRB has identified

- no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Documents received and describing the proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/126241 including:

- *Commission Application and Conformity Determination*
- *NIRB Application*
- *CIRNAC land use permit*
- *Closure and reclamation plan*
- *Consultation log*
- *Hamlet of Kugluktuk waste disposal approval*
- *KIA land use license*
- *NWB water license*
- *Spill and fuel management plan*
- *Waste management plan*
- *Wildlife management plan*

The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

By copy of this letter, the NIRB is inviting interested parties and municipalities potentially affected by the project proposal to comment directly to the NIRB by **January 29, 2026**.

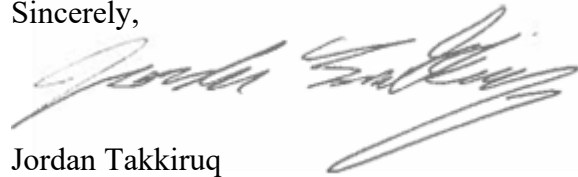
The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send comments to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca, via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/126241. Questions should be directed to the undersigned at 1-866-233-3033 or jtakkirug@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Jordan Takkirug
Impact Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English, and Inuinnaqtun)
Comment Forms (English, and Inuinnaqtun)

cc: Distribution List

- Jonathan Savoy, Nunavut Planning Commission
- Goump Djalogue, Nunavut Planning Commission
- Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
- Dustin Fredlund, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Jorgan Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Cory Barker, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
- Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
- Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut
- Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut
- Caroline Whittle, Government of Nunavut
- Adam Pollock, Government of Nunavut
- Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut
- Tracey McCaie, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
- Marcus Bermann, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada