



NIRB File No.: 17EN020

NPC File No.: 148482

April 27, 2017

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca and carolyn.bennett@canada.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of 5530 Nunavut Inc.'s "Meadowbank Precious Metal Project" Proposal

Dear Ms. Carolyn Bennett:

On February 17, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received 5530 Nunavut Inc.'s (5530 Nunavut) "Meadowbank Precious Metal Project" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister(s) extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 17EN020.

Following a preliminary completeness check, the NIRB determined that the proposal as submitted did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening, therefore on February 20, 2017 the Board requested that the Proponent provide additional information. On March 7, 2017 the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the NuPPAA. Prior to initiating the public comment period for this file, on March 15, 2017 the NIRB received an *updated* conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission for 5530 Nunavut's Meadowbank Precious Metal Project confirming that the project proposal conformed to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan following an update on the project scope that had been provided by the Proponent.

On March 20, 2017 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by April 10, 2017. Due to concerns raised during the public comment period, on April 13, 2017 the NIRB provided the Proponent with an opportunity to respond to the comments that had been received; a response from the Proponent is expected to be submitted by April 27, 2017.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Meadowbank Precious Metal Project
- NIRB File No.: 17EN020
- Application No.: 125086

The NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the NuPPAA. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this project proposal will be completed by **May 8, 2017**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister(s) for consideration.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the responsible authority will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Tara Gunson, Apex Geoscience
Fabio Capponi, 5530 Nunavut Inc.
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Brenda Osmond, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Brian Aglukark, Nunavut Planning Commission