



NIRB File No.: 16EN062

NPC File No.: 148999

Related to NPC File No.: 148356

NWB Licence No.: 2BE-MPP1719

January 25, 2019

Michael MacMorran
North Arrow Minerals Inc.
960-789 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1H2

Sent via email: mmacmorran@northarrowminerals.com

Re: Notice of Screening for North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s "Mel Project" Proposal

Dear Michael MacMorran:

On December 24, 2018 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s "Mel Project" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The NPC noted that the previous conformity determination issued on October 31, 2016 for the activities associated with the current proposal continues to apply and has determined that the project proposal is a significant modification to the project because of the addition of a waste incinerator may have ecosystemic impacts over a broader area.

Pursuant to 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 section 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal. Due to the proposal containing activities that are sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number **16EN062**, the NIRB views this project proposal as an amendment to the previously screened project and has assigned this proposal with this previous file number. Please reference this file number in all future related correspondence. A summary of the previously screened project activities can be found in **Appendix A**.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On December 24, 2018 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that the information provided be sufficient to determine the scope of the project activities being

proposed and that sufficient information has been provided to commence screening. On January 11, 2019 the NIRB followed up with the Proponent requesting an online application, and on January 24, 2019 the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

The “Mel Project” project activities as previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 16EN062) included a seasonal exploration program for diamonds within six (6) mineral claims. A complete description of the scope of activities previously approved has been included within **Appendix A**.

North Arrow Minerals Inc. is currently proposing the “Mel Project” project which would be located in the same area as previously approved and would be located within the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region and the area of jurisdiction of the KRULP, approximately 150 kilometres (km) south from Hall Beach and 200 km northeast from Naujaat. The Proponent intends to amend the scope of previously approved activities to include an incinerator and extend the period of operation for the project activities. The program is proposed to take place from 2019 to 2024.

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

- Addition of a waste incinerator; and
- Continue to use existing temporary camp to facilitate mineral exploration activities.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

At this time, 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

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB’s online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125434.

The documents received include:

- *NPC Screening Referral and Conformity Determination*
- *NPC Application and Conformity Questionnaire*
- *NIRB’s Online Application Form*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English, French and Inuktitut*
- *Maps noting camp and claim block*
- *Spill Contingency Plan*
- *Abandonment and Restoration Plan*
- *NIRB Part I Form (2016)*
- *NIRB Part II Form (2016)*
- *Water Licence Application (2016)*
- *Land Use Permit Application (2016)*

- *Mel Project 2018 NIRB Annual Report*
- *North Arrow Minerals Annual Report for Water Licence 2BE-MPP1719*
- *Waste Management Plan*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by North Arrow Minerals Inc. project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **February 4, 2019**.

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.

Please note that *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment (**Appendix B**).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your 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/125434.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4609 or at johokannoak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Jaida Ohokannoak
Technical Advisor II
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachments: Appendix A: Previously-Screened Project Proposals
Appendix B: *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions

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

cc: Distribution List
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Sean Joseph, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relation and Northern Affairs Canada

Appendix A: Previously-screened Project Proposals

The original project proposal (NIRB File No.:16EN062), was received by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission) on October 31, 2016, which also noted that it considered this project proposal to be located outside of an area with an approved land use plan in place.

The project proposal was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and Section 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). On January 10, 2017 the NIRB issued a screening decision pursuant to p. 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA* to the then Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

North Arrow Minerals Inc.'s (Proponent) original "Mel Project" project was located in Kivalliq and Qikiqtani (South Baffin) regions, approximately 150 kilometres (km) south from Hall Beach and 200 km northeast from Nauyasat. The Proponent indicated that it intended to conduct a seasonal exploration program for diamonds within six (6) mineral claims. The program is proposed to take place for up to six (6) weeks in either April/May, or July through September from 2017 to 2019

According to the previously screened project proposal, the scope of the project included the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Transportation of up to twelve (12) personnel, equipment, and supplies via helicopter or fixed wing aircraft from Hall Beach or Nauyasat to the exploration site(s);
- Establishment of a temporary twelve-person exploration camp on site;
- Use of up to two (2) snowmobiles to transport field personnel from camp to exploration site(s);
- Conduct prospecting, mapping, till sampling, geophysical surveys, and drilling on land or ice;
- Temporary storage of the following fuels and hazardous materials at the camp site to support exploration activities:
 - i. 10,250 litres of diesel, 60 litres of gasoline, 10,250 litres of aviation fuel, and 12 litres of engine oil;
 - ii. 500 pounds of propane;
 - iii. 125 litres of antifreeze;
 - iv. 40 litres of drilling muds/grease; and
 - v. 20 pounds of salt;
- Withdrawal of up to 50 cubic metres of water daily from surrounding waterbodies for drinking, cooking and cleaning, and drilling activities;
- Generation and disposal of the following wastes associated with the exploration program:
 - i. Greywater to be disposed in sumps and backfilled;
 - ii. Combustible, non-combustible, and hazardous waste to be transported offsite to an approved disposal facility;
 - iii. Drill cuttings and drill water to be contained in a natural depression or hand-dug sump;

- iv. Sewage to be buried with application of lime; and
- Demobilization and removal of exploration equipment and materials from site on completion of the program.

Appendix B
Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General.

1. (updated) The Proponent shall operate in accordance with all commitments stated in correspondence provided to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC File No.:148999) and the NIRB (Online Application Form, January 17, 2019) and the additional information submitted on January 24, 2019.

Waste Disposal/Incineration

2. The Proponent shall incinerate all combustible wastes daily, and remove the ash from incineration activities and non-combustible wastes from the project site to an approved facility for disposal.
3. The Proponent shall ensure that no waste oil/grease is incinerated on site.