



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 19EA019**

Related to NIRB File No.: 07EN067, 14EN033

NPC File No.: 149067

June 14, 2019

To: Tracey McCaie
Manager Land Administration
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Government of Canada
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: tracey.mccaie@aandc.gc.ca and landsminig@aandc.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Blue Star Gold Corp's "Hood River Gold Project" Proposal, Kitikmeot Region

Dear Tracey McCaie;

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, P.C., M.P., Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada for Blue Star Gold Corp.'s "Hood River Gold Project" in the Kitikmeot Region, dated June 14, 2019.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister that a review of the project is not required in accordance with paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of paragraph 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of s. 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact Andrea Omilgoitok, NIRB Environmental Administrator at (867) 983-4615 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Andrea Omilgoitok
Environmental Administrator

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 19EA019 (June 14, 2019)

cc: Peter Kuhn, Blue Star Gold Corp.
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Alexander Stubbing, Department of Culture and Heritage, Government of Nunavut
Sylvie LeBlanc, Department of Culture and Heritage, Government of Nunavut
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Mark D'Aguiar, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
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