



NEWS RELEASE

NIRB File No. 08MN053

Project Certificate No. 005, Amendment No. 003

Nunavut Impact Review Board Issues Amendment No. 003 to Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's Mary River Project Certificate No. 005 for the Extension Request to the Production Increase Proposal

CAMBRIDGE BAY, NU – June 19, 2020: Following the completion of the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) assessment of the potential ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of the "Extension Request to the Production Increase Proposal" related to the previously approved Mary River Project (NIRB File No. 08MN053) and as approved by the Responsible Ministers in their May 22, 2020 correspondence, the NIRB has issued amended Project Certificate No. 005 to Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (Baffinland or Proponent).

The Extension Request to the Production Increase Proposal includes modifications to the previously-approved Mary River Project, located on Inuit-owned lands, approximately 150 kilometres (km) south-west of Pond Inlet. Under Amendment 003 of the Mary River Project Certificate, Baffinland has now been approved to transport and ship up to six (6) million tonnes of Iron Ore per year along the Tote Road and Northern Shipping Route until December 31, 2021. The continued increase in transportation and shipping of iron ore will be facilitated by the existing infrastructure both at the Mary River Mine Site and at the Milne Port. Other aspects of the Mary River Project will continue as previously approved and in accordance with the amended Project Certificate issued on June 18, 2020.

The amendment to the Project Certificate includes additional mitigation and monitoring measures required to limit the potential for effects on marine mammals, with a focus on the incorporation of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. In the May 22, 2020 approval, the Responsible Ministers provided additional clarification to terms and conditions 179(c) and 183 which were varied in accordance with s. 112(6)(b)(ii) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Within the amended Project Certificate, varied term and condition #179(c) requires the Proponent to resource and support the completion of a third party performance audit of its commitments made in relation to both the Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement and the amended Project Certificate, with audit reports completed and submitted to the NIRB twice each year. Revised term and condition #183 requires Baffinland to collaborate with the Marine Environment Working Group to develop and implement impact avoidance or mitigation strategies for the protection of the marine environment, to implement direction from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and to provide a tracking table to Marine Environment Working Group every six months to report about the fulfillment of these commitments.

The NIRB will remain in contact with regulators to support the subsequent permitting process associated with the amended activities for the Mary River Project. The NIRB will also continue to work with Baffinland to monitor the Mary River Project in accordance with Part 7 of Article 12 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and s. 135 of the *NuPPAA*, according to the requirements of the amended Project Certificate.

The NIRB appreciates the participation of the affected communities, regulators, the Proponent, and other interested parties during the Board's assessment of the Extension Request to the Production Increase Proposal and the implementation of the monitoring program for the Mary River Project. Documentation relevant to Project Certificate No. 005 (including this amendment) and Baffinland's Mary River Project is available online from the NIRB's public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/123910.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. Kaur Kaluraq". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "M." and last name "Kaluraq" clearly distinguishable.

Kaviq Kaluraq
Chairperson of the Nunavut Impact Review Board

For more information, the media may contact:

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