

Mittimatalik Hunters & Trappers Organization  $\Gamma^{\ } \Gamma \subset {}^{\ } \Gamma \quad {}^{\ } J \simeq {}^{\ }$ 

March 1, 2021

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Sent via Email: info@nirb.ca

RE: NIRB FILE NO: 08MN053 Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation Phase 2 proposal

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

The Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization (MHTO) submits the enclosed questions in response to the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) February 12, 2021 procedural direction.

As indicated in correspondence to the Government of Canada and which was copied to your office on February 11, 2021, we again stress that the MHTO does not have resources to participate adequately and effectively in the NIRB's amended and extended process for this Hearing. The MHTO lacks the resources to extend retainers with experts and legal counsel that it had previously secured with participant funding and additional funding grants. The significant and abrupt changes to the NIRB's process have rendered the MHTO unable to provide fulsome and thorough questioning in written format as requested by the Board. In particular, the MHTO has not prepared questions in respect of QIA's proposed Exhibits 32-34, nor is it fair of NIRB to require parties to prepare questions about documents not yet in evidence. Should NIRB allow those documents to be filed, the MHTO reserves the right to ask QIA questions of these exhibits at the resumption of the hearing in April.

The MHTO requested additional time to provide questions and to respond to the same, however, this request, as with many other such requests to provide accommodations that would ensure our meaningful participation, has been denied by the NIRB. As such, we submit the enclosed questions noting they have been prepared under very challenging circumstances, and without appropriate resources or support in place to ensure our fulsome participation.

Our submission includes questions to the Proponent and the following intervenors, ordered as follows:

- Baffinland
- Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
- Qikiqtani Inuit Association
- Government of Nunavut
- Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
- Fisheries and Oceans
- Health Canada
- Parks Canada
- Transport Canada
- Oceans North
- WWF Canada

Please contact the MHTO's Technical Advisor, Amanda Hanson Main at <u>amanda.main@hmc-services.ca</u> with any questions or for further clarification.

Sincerely,

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Eric Ootoovak Chairperson Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization

Encl. (1)