

We are aware from the Responsible Ministers' decision regarding the Production Increase Proposal in 2018, that they specifically set out the following¹:

“Recognizing the concerns of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and those most affected by the Project, and their expressed desire to actively engage with the Board with respect to Project monitoring, the Ministers also encourage the Board to host an annual marine monitoring and marine mitigation workshop in the community of Pond Inlet. Such a workshop would allow for direct involvement of the community in the review of project monitoring data, including but not limited to information collected under community-based monitoring programs.” (emphases added)

The Ministers' letter set forth clear objectives for the workshop, including offering the community of Mittimatalik an opportunity to **engage with the NIRB regarding project monitoring**, and to **review project monitoring data**. Given that the MHTO does not have a role in “decision-making” regarding project monitoring, and that we are not responsible for any monitoring (project-related or otherwise) in respect of the marine environment, we do not understand how a discussion of “community involvement in decision-making through MHTO” fits within the scope of the workshop as set out by the Ministers in their September 30, 2018 letter.

The MHTO respectfully requests that the NIRB circulate an *amended* agenda for Thursday's session which removes the noted bullet from Item 3 for the May 25th session. We have not received a response to the same request sent by email to your staff last week.

In respect of our participation more generally, we have clearly and repeatedly articulated to the NIRB, Baffinland, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and Government of Canada, that we **do not** have the resources needed to engage in the extended work related to the Mary River project. This upcoming session is an obvious case in point, and the inclusion of the MHTO as a topic for discussion on the agenda is concerning, especially without having appropriate resources in place to ensure our contribution. While the sessions are very important to the MHTO and to our community, unfortunately we do not have the financial resources required to provide for our meaningful participation in this workshop.

The MHTO would be pleased to prepare a written summary of our participation in matters related to marine aspects of the Mary River project monitoring to help the NIRB in informing Mittimatalingmiut of our involvement, and could also include an update on various community-based marine monitoring programs that we are informed of and/or play a role in. Please let us know if this would be helpful going forward.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact our Technical Advisor, at amanda.main@hmc-services.ca.

¹ September 18, 2018. Correspondence from Responsible Ministers Dominic LeBlanc and Carolyn Bennett (Canada) Letter to Elizabeth Copland, (then)NIRB Chairperson - Ministers' decision regarding Baffinland's Production Increase Proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Qamaniq', written in a cursive style.

David Qajaaq Qamaniq
Chairperson
Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization

cc: Jeremiah Groves, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Hannah Uniuqsaraq, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Members and Observers of the Marine Environment Working Group
Kim Pawley, CIRNAC