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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

August 30, 2017

David Akeeagok
Deputy Minister, Department of Environment
Government of Nunavut
Iqaluit, NU, Canada, X0A 0H0

John Hawkins
A/Deputy Minister, Department of Economic
Development and Transportation
Government of Nunavut
Iqaluit, NU, Canada, X0A 0H0

Delivered Via Electronic Mail

Dear Mr. Akeeagok and Mr. Hawkins,

Re: Correspondence of July 28, 2017 regarding the March 17, 2017 Amendment Application for the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan by Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (NPC File 148420)

Thank you for your correspondence to the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission) on July 28, 2017 relating to NPC File 148420. As you are aware, the Mary River Project is a complex file with many inter-related projects that are on-going, and the present application would allow construction and use of a new railway from the Mary River Mine site to Milne Inlet Port Site, additional infrastructure at the Milne Port site, and icebreaking. The Commission's staff are working diligently to meet the all the requirements regarding the Amendment Application as outlined in the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA) and the Commission's rules and internal procedures.

The Commission intended to use the supplementary funding requested from the Government of Canada on April 7, 2017 to notify Nunavummiut, communities, hunter and trappers organizations, and others of the Amendment Application and to seek input on the appropriate scope of the public review, specifically whether one or more hearings in affected communities would be required or not. In light of the Government of Canada's letter dated August 4, 2017 advising that supplementary funds would not be provided at this time, and recognizing the need for expediency and fairness to Baffinland, as well as to affected Nunavummiut, communities, hunter and trappers organizations, and others, the Commission will be moving forward with a written public review, and will solicit comments on whether a public hearing is required together with comments on the proposed amendment itself.

In response to your inquiry about when materials will be made publicly available, rule 11.1(a) of the *RPHPR* specify that "the Amendment Application and any related documents" shall be placed in its public record, and rule 11.2 provides that the public review period begins on the date the Commission elects to hold a public review. As you may be aware, Commission staff must consider section 204 of the *NuPPAA* before disclosing material, and are currently reviewing all letters and documents associated with the current Amendment Application. Relevant documents will be posted on our public registry in the near future.

In response to your request to comment on the Commission's Internal Procedures, the Commission is committed to an open and constructive dialogue with all NuPPAA Working Group members to help ensure the Commission can effectively and efficiently carry out its mandate in the interest of Nunavummiut and Canadians as a whole. The Commission would of course appreciate it if the Government of Nunavut can provide further detail on what changes it wants to propose, and why, before the Commission commits staff and resources to a review of the Internal Procedure.

Respectfully yours,



Andrew Nakashuk,
Chairperson, Nunavut Planning Commission

cc. Honourable Joe Savikataaq, Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut
Honourable Monica Ell-Kanayuk, Minister of Economic Development and Transportation,
Government of Nunavut
James T. Arreak, CEO, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
James Eetoolook, Vice President, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc
Stephen Van Dine, ADM Northern Affairs Organization, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Navarana Beveridge, Executive Director, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Paul Emingak, Executive Director, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Gabriel Karlik, Executive Director, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Todd Burlingame, Vice President Sustainable Development, Baffinland Iron Mines Corp.