



Affaires autochtones et
Développement du Nord Canada

Aboriginal Affairs and
Northern Development Canada

Sous-ministre adjoint

Assistant Deputy Minister

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0H1

20 NOV 2013

Mr. Percy Kabloona
Acting Chair
Nunavut Planning Commission
PO Box 2101
CAMBRIDGE BAY NU X0B 0C0

Dear Mr. Kabloona:

This is further to Ms. Sharon Ehaloak's letter of September 18, 2013 to Minister Valcourt, regarding the Nunavut Planning Commission's process to consider a proposed amendment to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's Mary River project Early Revenue Phase. I am responding on behalf of Minister Valcourt. I have also received and reviewed the process map adopted by both the Nunavut Impact Review Board and the Nunavut Planning Commission.

In view of the fact that the Nunavut Impact Review Board has already conducted a review of the Mary River Project, and is in the midst of considering a request for reconsideration of the Project Certificate for the Early Revenue Phase, on behalf of the Minister, I agree that the Nunavut Impact Review Board may proceed with you in the Commission's review of the proposed amendment to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

While the Commission's process to review Baffinland's application for an amendment to the land use plan is legally distinct from the Board's assessment of Baffinland's application to amend the project certificate, I appreciate and encourage each tribunal's efforts to find efficiencies through process coordination.

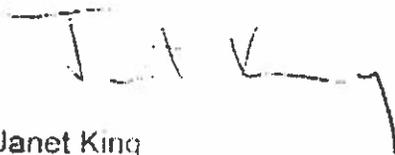
I have also noted that the Nunavut Impact Review Board has established a tentative date of March 3, 2014, for submitting its report and recommendations for amendments, if any, to the Project Certificate to the appropriate ministers in accordance with Article 12, Part 8 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

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- 2 -

We anticipate that following the Nunavut Impact Review Board's technical and community sessions and the Nunavut Planning Commission's own sessions, the Nunavut Planning Commission will be well-versed in the relevant issues at an early stage. In order to enable Minister Valcourt and the Responsible Ministers to consider both sets of recommendations, and to make a co-ordinated and timely set of decisions on both the proposed amendments to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan and any recommended amendments to the project certificate, the Minister requests that the Nunavut Planning Commission make its recommendation pursuant to article 11.6.3 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement within 15 days of receiving a copy of the Nunavut Impact Review Board's hearing report. The Minister appreciates your willingness to work toward this recommended timeline.

Sincerely,



Janet King
Assistant Deputy Minister
Northern Affairs Organization

c.c.: Ms. Elizabeth Copland
Mr. Erik Madsen
Mr. Mitch Bloom