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Nunavut

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Minista Avatiliritjutinut
Minister of Environment
Ministre de l'Environnement

April 28, 2014

Mr. Percy Kabloona, A/Chair
Nunavut Planning Commission
PO Box 2101
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Dear Mr. Kabloona;

On behalf of the Government of Nunavut I am pleased to accept the proposed Amendment No. 2 (Milne Inlet Tote Road and Marine Transportation Corridor) to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. The Government of Nunavut welcomed the opportunity to provide comment on a draft of this amendment, and I am satisfied with the final version that has been recommended for approval. I include a copy of the signed approval page, which will come into effect now that it has been signed by both myself and the federal Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

I am, however, unable to accept Amendment No. 1 (Mary River Mine Site Transportation Corridor). As per section 11.5.6(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, I am referring it back to the NPC for reconsideration. The key reason for rejection of Amendment No. 1 is the restriction of the transportation corridor to a single user. This is contrary to both the key principles found in the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan and general planning principles. I suggest you consider using similar wording to that found in Amendment No. 2.

While this is the most significant concern with Amendment, there are other issues in the text that could potentially lead to difficulties in interpretation. Department of Environment staff will provide your staff with detailed recommendations on proposed revisions to Amendment No. 1 to the NBRLUP, and I hope to see that input incorporated into a revised amendment.

I would like to thank the Commission for its work to date. Should you have any outstanding concerns with my decisions on these amendments to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Hon. Johnny Mike
Minister

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