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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

August 30, 2017

Mark Hopkins
Director General, Northern Affairs Organization
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Joe Wild
Assistant Deputy Minister, Treaties and
Aboriginal Government
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Delivered Via Electronic Mail

Dear Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Wild,

Re: Correspondence 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 (NPC) on August 4, 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 NPC'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 NPC'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.

Respectfully yours,

Andrew Nakashuk,
Chairperson, Nunavut Planning Commission

- cc. Sherri Rowe, Deputy Minister, Department of Economic Development and Transportation,
Government of Nunavut
David Akeeagok, Deputy Minister, Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut
James T. Arreak, CEO, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
James Eetoolook, Vice President, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc
Olayuk Akesuk, Vice President (A/President), Qikiqtani Inuit Association
P.J. Akeeagok, President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association