



Canadian Northern Economic
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de développement
économique du Nord

5019 – 52nd Street
Yellowknife, NT – X1A 1T5

March 12, 2013

VIA FAX 1-867-392-6389

Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus,
Tłı̄chǫ Government
P.O. Box 412
Behchoko, NT X0E 0Y0

Dear Chief Erasmus,

RE: NICO Project (EA0809-004) - Invitation to provide comments on the Report of Environmental Assessment

In its January 25, 2013 Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision (EA Report), the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board recommended, under subparagraph 128(1)(b)(ii) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA), that the NICO Project be approved subject to the implementation of measures and commitments described in the EA Report (available on the MVEIRB's online registry at http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/project_detail.php?project_id=72&doc_stage=11).

As the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the Project, and on behalf of the other Responsible Ministers with jurisdiction related to the proposed Project, the Northern Project Management Office (NPMO), by way of this letter, is seeking to confirm with the Tłı̄chǫ Government whether the Developer's commitments, and the outcome of this environmental assessment, fully address your concerns regarding impacts to your potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights [the Responsible Ministers for this Project are: Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Transport Canada, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, and the Government of the Northwest Territories].

Part 5 of the *MVRMA*, allows for taking Aboriginal issues and concerns into account in the context of the environmental impact assessment process for this project. The Responsible Ministers rely on this process to gather information on the potential impacts of the Project on Aboriginal rights or title, and consider this process to be the most effective means by which the concerns of Aboriginal communities can be identified and addressed. It is, however, possible that some concerns may remain outstanding or outside of the Board's jurisdiction and therefore require attention by Responsible Ministers through further engagement and consultation.

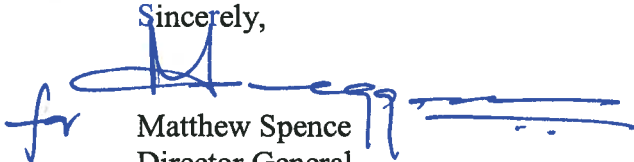
The NPMO, therefore, invites you to confirm if there are any potential impacts of the project on your Aboriginal or treaty rights that may not have been sufficiently identified

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and/or addressed in the environmental assessment process, the EA Report, the Developer's commitments or mitigation measures recommended by the MVEIRB. The Responsible Ministers consider your input important for informing decisions on this mine development proposal.

Please provide your written comments directly to NPMO's Project Coordinator, Bernard.LaRochelle@cannor.gc.ca, by April 12, 2013. If you have questions about the process outlined above, you may contact Mr. LaRochelle at 867-667-3271. Alternately, you may contact me directly at 867-766-8439, or Matthew.Spence@cannor.gc.ca. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Matthew Spence
Director General
Northern Projects Management Office

cc: Chief Edward Sangris, Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Chief Roy Erasmus Sr., Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Bill Enge, President, North Slave Métis Alliance
Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General, Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development Canada
Sue Milburn-Hopwood, Director General, Environmental Sustainability Branch, Environmental Protection Operations Division, Environment Canada
Dale Nicholson, Regional Director, Central and Arctic Region, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Sharon Ashley, Director General, Ecosystems Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
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Ray Case, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories.
Robin E. Goad, President & CEO, Fortune Minerals Ltd.
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Wek'èzhii Land and Water Board
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March 12, 2013

VIA FAX 1-867-873-5969

Chief Edward Sangris,
Yellowknives Dene First Nation
P.O. Box 2514
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P8

Dear Chief Sangris,

RE: NICO Project (EA0809-004) - Invitation to provide comments on the Report of Environmental Assessment

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Part 5 of the *MVMRA*, allows for taking Aboriginal issues and concerns into account in the context of the environmental impact assessment process for this project. The Responsible Ministers rely on this process to gather information on the potential impacts of the Project on Aboriginal rights or title, and consider this process to be the most effective means by which the concerns of Aboriginal communities can be identified and addressed. It is, however, possible that some concerns may remain outstanding or outside of the Board's jurisdiction and therefore require attention by Responsible Ministers through further engagement and consultation.

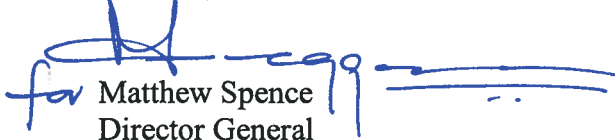
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Yellowknives Dene First Nation
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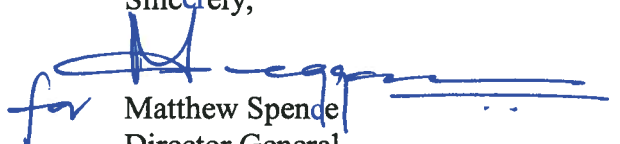
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The NPMO, therefore, invites you to confirm if there are any potential impacts of the project on your Aboriginal or treaty rights that may not have been sufficiently identified and/or addressed in the environmental assessment process, the EA Report, the Developer's commitments or mitigation measures recommended by the MVEIRB. The Responsible Ministers consider your input important for informing decisions on this mine development proposal.

Please provide your written comments directly to NPMO's Project Coordinator, Bernard.LaRochelle@cannor.gc.ca, by April 12, 2013. If you have questions about the process outlined above, you may contact Mr. LaRochelle at 867-667-3271. Alternately, you may contact me directly at 867-766-8439, or Matthew.Spence@cannor.gc.ca. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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February 28, 2013

VIA FAX 867-669-7442

Bill Enge, President
North Slave Métis Alliance
P.O. Box 2301
32 Melville Dr
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

Dear Mr. Enge,

RE: NICO Project (EA0809-004) - Invitation to provide comments on the Report of Environmental Assessment

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The Northern Project Management Office (NPMO), by way of this letter, is seeking to confirm with the North Slave Métis Alliance whether the Developer's commitments, and the outcome of this environmental assessment, fully address your concerns related to the proposed project [the Responsible Ministers for this Project are: Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Transport Canada, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, and the Government of the Northwest Territories].

Part 5 of the *MVMRA*, mandates that Aboriginal issues and concerns be taken into account in the context of the environmental impact assessment process for this project. The Responsible Ministers rely on this process to gather information and consider this process to be the most effective means by which the concerns of Aboriginal communities can be identified and addressed. It is, however, possible that some concerns may remain outstanding or outside of the Board's jurisdiction and could therefore require attention by Responsible Ministers through further engagement.

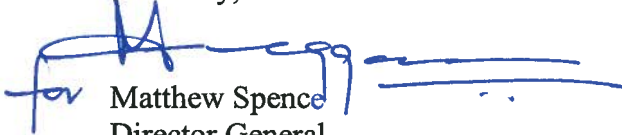
The NPMO, therefore, invites you to confirm if you have any concerns which have not been sufficiently identified and/or addressed in the environmental assessment process, the EA Report, the Developer's commitments or mitigation measures recommended by the MVEIRB. The Responsible Ministers consider your input important for informing

Canada 

decisions on this mine development proposal. The decision to engage with the North Slave Métis Alliance on the basis of good governance should not be considered as evidence that Canada has or would accept the assertions of the North Slave Métis Alliance regarding the existence of s. 35 rights.

Please provide your written comments directly to NPMO's Project Coordinator, Bernard.LaRochelle@cannor.gc.ca, by April 12, 2013. If you have questions about the process outlined above, you may contact Mr. LaRochelle at 867-667-3271. Alternately, you may contact me directly at 867-766-8439, or Matthew.Spence@cannor.gc.ca. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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