

August 28, 2012

Ms. Amanda Hanson,
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU.
X0B 0C0

BY EMAIL <u>ahanson@nirb.ca</u>

Dear Ms. Hanson;

## RE: Nunavut Planning Commission response to Information Request on the Kiggavik Project Proposal- Draft Environmental Impact Statement - NIRB File # 09MN003

Please find the Nunavut Planning Commission's (NPC) formal response to the Nunavummiut Makitagunarningit (Makita) Information Request (IR) in regards to Areva's *Kiggavik Draft Environmental Impact Statement DEIS*. The NPC reviewed for conformity the *Kiggavik Project proposal* with the *Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP)* and was given a positive determination on January 16, 2009- File # Areva Kiggavik Proposal-KIA File 308024, INAC 066A05001, NWB 2AM KIG.

IR Number: 23

**Source:** Nunavummiut Makitagunarningit (Makita)

To: Kivallia Hamlet Councils: AREVA: Kivallia Inuit Association (KIA): Nunavut

Tunngavik Inc.(NTI); Government of Nunavut (GN);NPC

Subject: Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan, Conformity Requirement (CR) 3.6

PREAMBLE: All of the organizations addressed in these questions (exempting AREVA) have issued policies supporting uranium mining since 2007. This took place without any public vote on the issue, despite the fact that Inuit in the region have historically opposed uranium mining and the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan stipulates that uranium mining cannot be carried out without the support of the people of the Kivalliq. It

also become clear that NTI and the KIA have entered into some form of legally binding agreements with uranium mining firms that they claim would make it impossible for them to reverse their policy on uranium. Makita has repeatedly called for a public vote on the issue of uranium mining in Nunavut. On August 23, the Ottawa Star quoted Baker Lake mayor David Aksawnee as saying that AREVA's Kiggavik proposal was "something that the people of Baker Lake will be voting on. It's up to the community"

## Information Request to the NPC:

- 1. (Hamlet Councils, KIA, NTI, GN, NPC) Why was a public vote not held before adopting pro-uranium mining policies.
- 4. (NTI, KIA, GN, NPC, Hamlet of Baker Lake) If the Inuit of Baker Lake vote "no" to the proposed Kiggavik mine, will the institutions addressed revise their policies regarding uranium mining accordingly?

**Response to:** IR Number 23, # 1, # 4

Source: Makita

**Subject:** Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan, CR 3.6

KRLUP, CR 3.6 Any future proposal to mine uranium must be approved by the people of the region.

The NPC interprets *CR 3.6* to be satisfied if; the KIA as the representative of the Inuit in the region passes a motion in support of a uranium development and mining proposal, the Hamlet of Baker Lake, plus three or more other Hamlets representing 50 % of the remaining Hamlets must also pass a Hamlet Council motion in support of a uranium development and mining proposal. How these approvals are coordinated; by industry, government or KIA is up to the Hamlets.

In the event that the conditions listed above are not met for any proposal to develop and mine uranium, a negative determination would be issued.

The AREVA Kiggavik Project proposal submitted to the NPC included;

- 1) Baker Lake Hamlet Council motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # 172/06/07
- 2) KIA motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # BM 07-01-15
- Arviat Hamlet Council motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # 111/2007

- Chesterfield Inlet Hamlet Council motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # 069/08
- 5) Coral Harbour Hamlet Council motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # 112/08
- 6) Rankin Inlet Hamlet Council motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # 526-06
- Repulse Bay Hamlet Council motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # 045-2007
- 8) Whale Cove Hamlet Council motion in support of the Kiggavik proposal Motion # 175

NPC's conformity determination process that includes a specific procedure to implement *CR* 3.6 as described above for proposals that include a development and mining of uranium does not contemplate that "a vote by the people of Baker Lake" be a determining factor prior to, or subsequent to a result of a conformity determination. Therefore, if the people of Baker Lake, and or the region were to vote "no" on the *Kiggavik Project proposal* at this stage, the result of the positive determination of January 16, 2009 conformity review would not be affected.

The NPC would like to thank the NIRB and the Makita for providing this input and questions in regards to AREVA's Kiggavik Project. If you have any further questions and or concerns, please feel free to contact m at (867) 857 2242 or e mail at <a href="mailto:aglukark@nunavut.ca">aglukark@nunavut.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

Brian Aglukark,

Director of Implementation

**Nunavut Planning Commission** 

CC. Makita

**AANDC** 

**NWB** 

Hamlet of Baker Lake, NU,

Arviat, NU,

Whale Cove, NU, Rankin Inlet, NU,

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