



QIA's Mandate

- To protect and promote the rights and values of Inuit in the Qikiqtaaluk
- Represent Inuit interests before Institutions of Public Government
- Negotiate Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement
- Management of Inuit Owned Lands



QIA's Review Process Objectives

- Inuit want the “best possible project”
- Encourage Community Involvement
- Focus on Priorities to Inuit
- Conduct Detailed Technical Review
- Encouragement the participation of other review parties
- Participate in the evolution of project assessment in Nunavut



Participation in the NIRB Process

- Part 4 Screening of Development Proposal
- Guidelines Development
- DEIS Review
 - Conformity Technical Review
 - DEIS Information Requests
 - DEIS Technical Review
 - “Tote Road Option” Review
 - PHC Technical Meeting
 - “Pre-development Works Application”
 - 2012 Work Plan Application
- FEIS Review
 - FEIS Information Requests
 - FEIS Technical Meeting
 - Final Hearings



Mary River Project Committees

- QIA Executive Establishment of the MRPC
- MRPC creation in Arctic Bay, Cape Dorset, Clyde River, Hall Beach, Igloolik, Kimmirut, and Pond Inlet
- A MRPC Coordinator supports the MRPC.
- Each MRPC are comprised of up to six individuals and include representatives appointed by:
 - local Hunters and Trappers Organization,
 - local Hamlet Council,
 - local Community Lands and Resource Committee,
 - woman's representative appointed by QIA Board,
 - youth representative appointed by QIA Board,
 - and one hunter appointed by QIA Board
- Recommendations made by MRPCs form the basis of QIA's Final Submission



Overarching Issues

1. Socio-economics
2. Caribou
3. Steensby Inlet
4. Marine Mammals
5. Shipping and Ice Breaking
6. Community Based Monitoring
7. Working Groups



Progressive Issue Resolution

- Evolution of review process discussions
 - DEIS
 - FEIS
- The outstanding issues for QIA have been directed towards NIRB's Project Certificate
- These recommendations are contained in **Appendix D** of QIA's Final Submission.



1. Socio-Economics

- QIA remains concerned about some significance determinations set out for the Valued Socio-economic Components.
 - Potential for serious negative outcomes, or the challenges to actually realizing benefits, is downplayed in the FEIS.
 - Imperative that the proposed mitigation measures be fully implemented and effective; that monitoring and adaptive management will successfully address issues as they arise over time; and that BIMC, QIA and government agencies will cooperate and each fulfill their responsibilities and mandates.
 - All partners in monitoring and mitigation must identify and commit the human and financial resources necessary to sustain this effort over the life of the Project.



1. Socio-Economics

- Qikiqtaaluk Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
 - Project Specific Committee – draft Terms of Reference (Appendix D, G-1)
- IIBA
 - Variety of provisions, IIBA does not deal with all predicted impacts



2. Caribou

- The rail route passes through known barren-ground caribou calving and post-calving ranges.
- Uncertainties regarding the predicted effects and proposed mitigations to caribou are of importance to Inuit.
- The uncertainties are partially a reflection of limited baseline, which in turn, resulted in shortcomings in the assessment of effects, mitigations and monitoring.
- **QIA has worked to develop a Terrestrial Environment Working Group – Draft Terms of Reference.**



3. Steensby Inlet

- While a number of views continue to be expressed by Inuit regarding the port-site, QIA understands that a port-site at Steensby Inlet may in fact be the most viable option for BIMC.
- QIA respects that project feasibility is based on multiple factors including: socio-economic impacts, environmental impacts, and, project economics.
- Overwintering of fuel in a fuel vessel at Steensby Inlet is also proposed. The Mary River Project Committee members have requested that an alternative means to fuel storage be considered, with a preference for fuel storage on land.



4. Marine Mammals

- The shipment of iron ore through Hudson Strait and Foxe Basin crosses important areas for marine mammals and seabirds.
- The magnitude of shipping and ice-breaking activities is unprecedented in Canadian Arctic waters. Potential impacts of shipping and icebreaking are a substantial concern among Inuit.
- QIA has identified important information gaps and methodological issues that raise uncertainty about the significance of potential impacts. Further, current baseline information may not provide a sound basis for impact prediction and future monitoring.
- **Consequently, QIA believes that additional information and further analyses are required in advance of commercial shipments of iron ore.**
- **QIA has worked to develop a Marine Environment Working Group – Draft Terms of Reference.**



5. Shipping and Icebreaking

- Potential impacts of shipping and icebreaking are a substantial concern among Inuit in impacted communities, especially the cumulative effects of these impacts. Shipping-related effects of primary concern include:
 - Disturbance to marine wildlife from vessel noise;
 - Mortality from vessel collisions, particularly with bowhead whales;
 - Potential changes to marine communities related to the discharge of ballast water into Steensby Inlet, which could have physical and chemical oceanographic effects and/or introduce aquatic invasive species;
 - Habitat alteration by shipping through pack ice and landfast ice, and bottom scouring; and,
 - Potential for catastrophic events such as accidental oil spills.



6. Community Based Monitoring

- Inuit expect to participate in and maintain long-term monitoring programs over all aspects and phases of the Project.
- The Mary River Project Committees strongly recommend community-based monitoring as a major component in overall monitoring plans, particularly in relation to ongoing monitoring of affected land and marine species (e.g., seals, walrus, narwhal, fish, caribou and birds) and socio-economics.
- **QIA concludes that specific components of the Mary River Project require further planning in terms of baseline, monitoring, mitigation, and adaptive management.**



7. Working Groups

- Provide a mechanism for parties to engage in the development and execution of monitoring programs and management plans post-permitting through to construction, operation, and closure of the mine.
- QIA, BIMC and other agencies have agreed in concept to develop working groups in the following areas:
 - Marine, terrestrial, and socio-economics
- QIA cannot understate the risk posed to project monitoring and assessment by creating Working Groups with limited commitments to participate and adequately fund participation to support the mandate of each working group.

QIA Proposed Terms and Conditions



- Draft Project Certificate Conditions have been developed by QIA for NIRB's consideration in drafting a Project Certificate for the proposed Mary River Project.
- **Conditions ensure that Inuit issues are addressed.**
- QIA understands and respects NIRB's mandate and authority in developing Project Certificate Terms and Conditions.



Conclusion

- Should all the conditions presented during this presentation be accepted by all parties and be endorsed by NIRB through a Project Certificate, QIA feels that appropriate mechanisms will be in place to effectively monitor and manage the Mary River Project in an acceptable manner.

Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA)



- QIA is committed to reaching an Agreement-in-Principle
- Negotiations have been on-going since 2006
- QIA Executive is committed to touring communities once an Agreement-in-Principle is reached
- QIA's Board will decide upon ratification

Commercial Production Lease



- QIA is committed to reaching an Agreement-in-Principle
- Negotiations are on-going
- QIA Executive is committed to touring communities once an Agreement-in-Principle is reached
- QIA's Board will decide upon ratification



Conclusions

- Significance as described in environmental assessment is not equivalent to significance for Inuit. Major impacts will exist should the project proceed.
- Inuit involvement and engagement is a cornerstone for the success of this project.
- Information gaps related to baseline information must be addressed prior to impacts occur.



Conclusions

- Key thrust of QIA's interest is the development and function of Working Groups (Socio-Economic, Terrestrial and Marine)
- A significant project risk is the capacity of all agencies to fulfill their roles in the project, throughout the life of the project
- Inuit have an important and critical role to play in the development and stewardship of this project
- Capturing the potential benefit from the project is not without significant challenge or risk – Inuit are taking a long-term multigenerational approach to this project



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Thank you very much!