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NIRB and NWB Coordinated Process
December 2008

NIRB	NIRB	NWB	APPLICANT/PROPONENT	PARTIES	COMMENTS FROM INTERESTED PARTIES
Minister Decision to Refer to Part V Review	Time frame starts subject to direction on NPC conformity determination.	NWB engages with NIRB; NWB staff to be Technical Advisors (TA) to NIRB for all components of the Environment Assessment (EA) process.			
Scoping/Guidelines	NIRB to coordinate timelines with NWB. NIRB develops a Scoping report and issues DEIS Guidelines.	TA to NIRB, NWB to provide standard Supplemental Information Guide (SIG) for Mine Development (MM3) as appendix to NIRB Guidelines.	Participate in review of EA Scoping and Guideline development.	Participate in review of EA Scoping and Guideline Development.	Would DEIS Guidelines require a greater level of detail regarding some of the information to be provided in the DEIS in order to meet requirements for water licence (see further related comments below). Or is this addressed in NWB SIG?
DEIS			Submit DEIS with appendix containing draft water licence application referenced to relevant components of the DEIS (i.e. A and R plan, spill contingency plan). Applicant to highlight pre-development, short term approval options (NLCA 12.10.2 and 13.5.5).		Given that draft water licence application is to be included in DEIS will greater technical detail be required in the EIS with respect to environmental monitoring and management plans, abandonment and reclamation plans etc. Also would the proponent be required to provide greater detail on final engineering design?
Conformity/Technical Review	EA conformity and technical review.	TA to NIRB; NWB internal conformity review of Appendix containing SIG MM3.	Provide responses to Information Request (IR's) within specified (NIRB) timelines.	EA technical review. Provide IR's within specified (NIRB) timelines. Comment on issues to be heard by NIRB in the EA process and NWB in the regulatory process.	Are all parties (subject to their expertise and mandate) to participate in review for both EA and NWB processes?
Technical Meeting/PHC	NIRB issue PHC Decision with EA Supplemental Information Requirements (SIRs) including SIRs related to NWB internal conformity review of draft appendix.	TA to NIRB, NWB issues conformity determination and SIR's as appendix to NIRB PHC Decision.	Participate in Technical Meeting/PHC.	Participate in Technical Meeting/PHC.	
FEIS		NWB acknowledges receipt of a Type A water licence application.	Submit FEIS to NIRB including appendix water licence application(s) to the FEIS where cross referencing permitted to eliminate duplication and for ease of party review. Submit to the NWB separate stand alone water licence application(s) to the NWB (no cross referencing to the FEIS). Responsible for ensuring that all information documents contained in the water licence application(s) is identical to the FEIS. Submission to NWB and NIRB completion of concordance table provide in the NWB's SIG MM3.		Will FEIS contain greater technical detail to meet requirements of regulatory review including greater detail on final engineering design? Also, will more detailed environmental monitoring and management plans, abandonment and reclamation plans etc. need to be included in the FEIS? Presumably these plans may be modified pending outcome of NIRB hearing and associated recommendations and conditions for approval which could also result in modifications in project design etc.

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Compliance Review	NIRB issue compliance review determination. Notice of Hearing given to all parties.	TA to NIRB. NWB issues decision on conformity as appendix to NIRBs determination.			
Technical and Final Submission Review		TA to NIRB ; NWB may identify preliminary list of issues for the regulatory process.	Participates in EA technical review.	Participates in EA technical review.	
	NIRB makes 1210.2 decision	NWB issues Type B water licenses related to NLCA 12.10.2 and 13.5.5.			
NIRB Final Hearing	On EA issues as defined by NIRB in the PHC decision	TA to NIRB.	EA Hearing only on FEIS. Participate in Final Hearing	EA Hearing only on FEIS. Participate in Final Hearing	
		Following NIRB final hearing, the NWB may hold technical meeting on Regulatory issues related to water licensing and may provide SIG MM3 Project Specific Guidelines (PSG) in Draft.			
NIRB Decision to the Minister	Decision issued by NIRB.				
			Submission of supplemental information in concordance with PSG.		
		NWB conformity determination on concordance to PSG. Provide notice to parties to begin Technical Review.	Participate in NWB technical review.	Participate in NWB technical review.	Do all parties that participated in EA review participate in NWB technical review?
			If necessary Supplemental Information Request (SIR) as a result of Project Specific issues being addressed.		
Minister Decision	Minister decision received by NIRB.				
	NIRB schedules Regulatory Project Certificate (PC) meeting.				
Regulatory PC meeting		NWB participate in Project Certificate (PC) as a regulatory agency.			
		NWB holds PHC meeting immediately following PC meeting and issues NWB PHC decision including providing sixty (60) notice of hearing.			
NIRB Issue PC	NIRB issued PC.				
NWB Process				Parties submit final interventions to NWB hearing.	
		NWB holds Type A Public Hearing.			
		NWB issues Type A water licence decision and licence to the Minister.			
		Minister Decision			

The NIRB and NWB may modify and amend these procedures to ensure a just, expeditious and fair hearing.