



January 17, 2016

File No. 64496

Ontario Energy Board
23 Yonge Street, Suite 2700
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Ms. Kristen Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli,

**Re: Regional Planning and Cost Allocation Review - EB-2016-0003; and
Intent to Participate and Request for Cost Award Eligibility**

Northern Iron Corporation is keenly aware of the issues with respect to transmission costs that we face in the Northwest Region, and immediately require substantive amendments the Transmission System Code ("TSC") and with respect to:

- a. cost responsibility and its huge impact on Northern Iron Corporation's ability to carry on business in Northwest region or the province of Ontario;
 - b. the effect of the proposed amendments to the TSC, on Northern Iron Corporation, and the ability to start our business; without incurring substantial, business limiting transmission costs associated to the construction of transmission lines necessary for our mineral resource extraction and processing operation;
 - c. and the unacceptable amount of time that it takes to construct new transmission facilities from the time our application is filed with the IESO and OEB to the actual Leave to Construct is issued.
2. Northern Iron Corporation is interested in ensuring that regional planning in the Northwest is implemented and that the proposed amendments to the TSC relating to cost responsibility, are appropriately reviewed and revised to reflect and give effect to the fair and equitable cost allocation through the ratepayer base rather than proponent pay system that effects the entire Northwest Region specifically; and Northern Iron Corporation in particular.



3. Northern Iron Corporation brings to the Board's attention that its mining operation will be employing upwards of six hundred people and the entire project will be constructed for a cost over one billion dollars. Until investors are confident that this transmission line issue can be resolved in a timely and equitable fashion, none are willing to inject capital, thus putting the whole project at risk.

Yours Sincerely

Michael Hepworth
VP Corporate Development

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Hepworth". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Northern Iron Corp