

Info at NIRB

From: Zell, Erika <EZell@GOV.NU.CA>
Sent: May-14-18 12:36 PM
To: Laura MacKay
Cc: Robinson, Amy
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Hi Laura,

My apologies for the delay. See our responses below in **bold**.

Thanks!
Erika

From: Laura MacKay [mailto:Laura.MacKay@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca]
Sent: May 14, 2018 2:33 PM
To: Zell, Erika; Sophia Granchinho
Cc: Robinson, Amy
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Erika,

We are required to submit a response to the NIRB by tomorrow (May 15th). Would you be able to respond to my questions in red? Your answers will likely impact our response.

Thank-you,

Laura MacKay

(formerly Laura Barz)

Sr. Environmental Specialist, Environmental Services - Winnipeg
Public Service and Procurement Canada | Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada
100-167 Lombard Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0T6
Cell: 204-293-6530
Laura.MacKay@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

From: Laura Barz
Sent: May-07-18 8:41 AM
To: 'Zell, Erika' <EZell@GOV.NU.CA>
Cc: Robinson, Amy <ARobinson@GOV.NU.CA>
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Thank-you for this further clarification. I have a few additional questions which I was hoping you may be able to clarify before ECCC sends their response to the NIRB.

They are in red below..

Laura MacKay

(formerly Laura Barz)

Sr. Environmental Specialist, Environmental Services - Winnipeg

Public Service and Procurement Canada | Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada

100-167 Lombard Avenue

Winnipeg, MB R3B 0T6

Cell: 204-293-6530

Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

From: Zell, Erika [<mailto:EZell@GOV.NU.CA>]

Sent: May-04-18 3:04 PM

To: Laura Barz <Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>

Cc: Robinson, Amy <ARobinson@GOV.NU.CA>

Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Hi Laura,

See our reviewers' responses to your questions below. They should be similar to what we discussed over the phone earlier this week, though of course let me know if you need any further clarification. Apologies again for the confusion.

Have a great weekend,

Erika

GN-02 – General Wildlife Mitigation

1. *Does the GN have a specific list of plants and animals that would require surveys?*

- The GN does not have a list of plants and animals that would require surveys or rather, monitoring. However valued species have been identified in the proponents application (EIA, High Arctic Weather Station Project Improvements, table 4.5 and 4.6) and the NIRB's prior Project Decision Report.*
- In cases like this, where there is a lack of baseline data for a project area, the proponent should rely on literature reviews and expert opinion to inform the assessment results. GN DOE may assist the proponent by providing some wildlife research reports upon request.*

2. *It is proposed the project commences in early June. Most vegetation and wildlife surveys would best be completed in mid-summer. If ECCC conducted the surveys, this would severely delay the project schedule and put the project at risk. Are there other mitigations that ECCC could look into that would not impact the June start schedule.*

- GN recommends conducting a reconnaissance level survey of the area prior to commencing the construction activities to ensure no presence of polar bear and caribou. The GN recommends a Wildlife Management Plan be developed taking into consideration the recommendations included in comment GN-02 for this screening. Incidental and observation surveying (or rather monitoring) should be included as a component of this Plan. **Could trained, onsite staff conduct the reconnaissance survey and monitoring, or would the GN require a wildlife expert to complete this work? As you only specify polar bear and caribou, do no other flora/fauna require surveys or monitoring?***

Trained onsite staff can do the reconnaissance survey prior to commencing the construction work to ensure no presence of caribou and polar bears and expedite the construction start. ECCC's plans for environmental monitoring should be specified in its Wildlife Management Plan; a document that should be developed by a professional biologist. All of our present recommendations for this project's monitoring were specified in our April 24 2018 screening comments to the NIRB.

GN-03 – Wildlife Polar Bear

1. Site records have indicated that polar bears are very rare in this area.
2. Could the GN/DOE be more specific with how ECCC can meet “Before any activities requiring equipment or explosives are conducted, the DOE must be consulted”? The proposed project will result in aggregate being moved and piled.
 - *This correspondence received from ECCC satisfies the GN’s the concern/recommendation. The concern originated due to requirements under the Wildlife Act. The GN would like to receive any polar bear data (including reports of incidental observation) that may be collected by ECCC.*

GN-04 – Listed Vegetation Species

1. It is proposed the project commences in early June. This moss would likely need to be surveyed in August. If ECCC conducted the survey, this would severely delay the project schedule and put the project at risk. Are there other mitigations that ECCC could look into that would not impact the June start schedule.
 - *Project surveying (or monitoring) during construction and operation is recommended because photographic evidence is unclear regarding site location. Could trained, onsite staff conduct the survey or monitoring, or would the GN require a vegetation expert to complete this work?*

Trained onsite staff can do the reconnaissance survey prior to commencing the construction work.

2. Based on some brief observations and discussions with experts, it appears the moss prefers an environment that is not similar to where the project is located (cliffs, very moist areas etc). ECCC will be conducting further research on this, but ECCC wanted to confirm if the GN considered this.
 - *With the pictures provided DOE reviewers are more confident that the species is less likely to be present on the Project site. However please see our recommendations to ECC’s first question regarding GN-04, above.*

From: Laura Barz [<mailto:Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>]

Sent: May 2, 2018 4:50 PM

To: Zell, Erika

Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Thank-you Erika.

As per my last comment regarding the GN-04 – Listed Vegetation Species, I went back to find some photographs of the project area. Based on the Recovery Strategy, it appears the Porsild’s Bryum moss typically grows in moist, cliff side rock formations. From the photos, this is not typical of the environment at the Eureka site.

I thought I would send these photos for your information.

Thank-you,
Laura

From: Zell, Erika [<mailto:Ezell@GOV.NU.CA>]

Sent: May-02-18 3:27 PM

To: Laura Barz <Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Hi Laura,

Thanks so much for this, and for the conversations earlier. I'll circulate to our reviewers asap to get any additional comments so you can keep moving on your response to for the NIRB.

Give me a call anytime if you need to talk more (though my voicemail is down right now, so if you don't get through a follow-up email will be helpful).

Talk soon,

Erika

From: Laura Barz [<mailto:Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>]
Sent: May 2, 2018 2:36 PM
To: Zell, Erika
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Thank-you again for the call. That was very helpful.
I already had this list of questions generated and thought I would send for the record.

GN-02 – General Wildlife Mitigation

1. Does the GoN have a specific list of plants and animals that would require surveys?
2. It is proposed the project commences in early June. Most vegetation and wildlife surveys would best be completed in mid-summer. If ECCC conducted the surveys, this would severely delay the project schedule and put the project at risk. Are there other mitigations that ECCC could look into that would not impact the June start schedule.

GN-03 – Wildlife Polar Bear

1. Site records have indicated that polar bears are very rare in this area.
2. Could the GoN/DOE be more specific with how ECCC can meet "Before any activities requiring equipment or explosives are conducted, the DOE must be consulted"? The proposed project will result in aggregate being moved and piled.

GN-04 – Listed Vegetation Species

1. It is proposed the project commences in early June. This moss would likely need to be surveyed in August. If ECCC conducted the survey, this would severely delay the project schedule and put the project at risk. Are there other mitigations that ECCC could look into that would not impact the June start schedule.
2. Based on some brief observations and discussions with experts, it appears the moss prefers an environment that is not similar to where the project is located (cliffs, very moist areas etc). ECCC will be conducting further research on this, but ECCC wanted to confirm if the GoN considered this.

Thank-you very much for your time.

Laura MacKay

(formerly Laura Barz)

Sr. Environmental Specialist, Environmental Services - Winnipeg
Public Service and Procurement Canada | Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada
100-167 Lombard Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0T6
Cell: 204-293-6530

Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

From: Zell, Erika [<mailto:EZell@GOV.NU.CA>]
Sent: May-02-18 9:32 AM
To: Laura Barz <Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Will do!

From: Laura Barz [<mailto:Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>]
Sent: May 2, 2018 10:29 AM
To: Zell, Erika
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Sounds great. You can call me at 204-293-6530.

From: Zell, Erika [<mailto:EZell@GOV.NU.CA>]
Sent: May-02-18 9:27 AM
To: Laura Barz <Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

I'm EST. How about 2:00PM my time, 1:00PM yours?

From: Laura Barz [<mailto:Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>]
Sent: May 2, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Zell, Erika
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

No problem at all. Thanks for the email.
What time zone are you in? I am available anytime between 11:00-3:30 CST (Winnipeg).

Laura MacKay
(formerly Laura Barz)
Sr. Environmental Specialist, Environmental Services - Winnipeg
Public Service and Procurement Canada | Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada
100-167 Lombard Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0T6
Cell: 204-293-6530
Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

From: Zell, Erika [<mailto:EZell@GOV.NU.CA>]
Sent: May-02-18 9:23 AM
To: Laura Barz <Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Hi Laura,

My apologies. Want to try again this afternoon? I could do at 2:00PM, or any time after 3:30.

Erika

From: Laura Barz [<mailto:Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca>]
Sent: May 2, 2018 10:15 AM
To: Zell, Erika
Subject: NIRB Submission for 12XN020

Hello Erika,

I am writing in response to the NIRB comments that were provided for the ECCC Weather Station Project Proposal (12XN020). I left you a voicemail yesterday, and thought I would follow up with an email.

I am working with ECCC to assist them with the environmental and regulatory requirements for this project. I had a couple of questions regarding the recommendations that the GoN provided, and was hoping you could call me to discuss?

I look forward to your call.
Thank-you for your time.

Laura MacKay

(formerly Laura Barz)

Sr. Environmental Specialist, Environmental Services - Winnipeg

Public Service and Procurement Canada | Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada

100-167 Lombard Avenue

Winnipeg, MB R3B 0T6

Cell: 204-293-6530

Laura.Barz@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada