



April 7, 2017

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Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Cote, Ms. Robinson, Ms. McCaie, Mr. Shoo and Ms. Rupert:

RE: [REVISED DECISION] NPC File # 148522 - Planetary analog studies at the Flashline Mars Arctic Research Station

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Research: Martian planetary analog studies at the Flashline Mars Arctic Research Station on Devon Island, Nunavut in support of both a biological and geological field research program. For the Biology component, a comparative microbial ecology of extreme environments in deserts and Polar Regions will be conducted with Mars mission simulation techniques. For the geology component, a Patterned Ground Research will be conducted over the summer months of 2017.

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

On March 28, 2017, the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) determined that this project proposal conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan, and forwarded it to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for screening. Since that decision, the NPC has been made aware that the activities involved in this project proposal were previously screened by the NIRB (NIRB FILE NO.: 07LN014). The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was

part of the original proposal and its inclusion is not a significant modification of the project, and the NPC retracts its March 28, 2017 decision.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148522&sessionid=>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 983-4632.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Savoy
Manager of Implementation
Nunavut Planning Commission