

Environmental Assessment North
Environmental Protection Operations (EPO)
Qimugjuk Building 969
PO Box 1870
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Tel: (867) 975-4631
Fax: (867) 975-4645

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EC file: 4704 004 034
NIRB file: 09YN022

Kofi Boa-Antwi
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board
29 Mitik, PO Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Via email: info@nirb.ca

**RE: Comment Request for Potential 12.4.3 Exemption to Rescan's Amendment Request
"2012 Hope Bay Belt Environmental Baseline Program" project proposal**

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) regarding the above-mentioned potential exemption. The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Rescan is proposing the installation of a 60 m high wind tower in the study area to monitor wind and potential wind resources on site as an addition to their previously screened activities related environmental baseline studies in the Hope Bay Region.

Tall structures such as wind towers can pose a collision hazard for migratory birds, especially during periods of low visibility. EC requests that the proponent provide additional details on the dimension of the wind tower rotor blades, tower lighting and whether the tower will be freestanding or supported by guy wires.

EC recommends the proponent consult the following documents for further information on potential impacts, risk categories, mitigation, and monitoring measures for wind towers and tall structures:

- Wind Turbines and Birds - A Guidance Document for Environmental Assessment
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/Publications/default.asp?lang=En&xml=9B1BDC4A-E66F-4EAD-B5A9-20475F7DB29B>
- Recommended Protocols for Monitoring Impacts of Wind Turbines on Birds
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/Publications/default.asp?lang=En&xml=C8CE090E-9F69-4080-8D47-0622E115A4FF>

If there are any additional changes in the proposed project, EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email at Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,



Paula C. Smith
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)
Ron Bujold (Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)
Allison Dunn (Sr. Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPO, Iqaluit, NU)
James Hodson (Environmental Assessment Coordinator, CWS, Yellowknife, NT)