



**NIRB File No. 09YN071**

August 7, 2012

Derek Mueller, Assistant Professor  
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Via email: [derek\\_mueller@carleton.ca](mailto:derek_mueller@carleton.ca)

**Re: Application Acknowledgement for Carlton University's Amendment Request with the Nunavut Research Institute for the "Ice Islands of the Eastern Canadian Arctic" Project**

Dear Derek Mueller:

On May 25, 2012, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for an amendment to Carlton University's "Ice Islands of the Eastern Canadian Arctic" project.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 09YN071) was received by the NIRB from the NRI on November 20, 2009. The proposal was screened in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) and on January 26, 2010 the NIRB issued a 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions. Project components/activities included the following:

- Proposed project activities located within the North Baffin region, approximately 670 kilometres (km) northwest from Grise Fjord;
- Deployment of several (1-5) tracking beacons via helicopter or airplane on the surface of ice islands to monitor their movement in real time;
- Use results from tracking beacons to evaluate satellite imagery techniques and create ice charts to advise mariners of ice hazards;
- Researchers to be based out of temporary camps operated by the Canadian Hydrographic Service as part of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) project; and
- Program to take place from March to May 2010.

### **Amendment**

Carlton University is proposing to amend its scientific research permit to include the following additional components/activities:

- Conduct shape analysis of the ice islands using side-scanning sonar;
- Use of a tilt-meter and wave-rider to measure wave action;
- Record salinity and temperature of surrounding water, and ice temperature;
- Use of a warm water drill to access water underneath the ice island;
- Collection of water samples from surface melt;
- Servicing of tracking beacons; and
- Accommodations, waste disposal, and field supplies sourced from local community.

The NIRB has determined that this request may result in a change to the original scope of the project.

The NRI application and the original NIRB screening file (No. 09YN071) are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2010/09YN071-Canadian%20Ice%20Service%20-%20Derek%20Mueller/>.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

*“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:*

*(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or*

*(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project.”*

The NIRB is of the opinion that the request for the amendment is not likely to *significantly* change the general scope of the original project activities. Therefore the NIRB is *proposing* to re-issue the same terms and conditions as those in the attached January 26, 2010 Screening Decision, along with any new terms and conditions the NIRB considers appropriate. The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by this project and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by **August 17, 2012**.

The NIRB would like Parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the inclusion of the additionally proposed component(s) and/or activity(ies) would significantly modify the project;
- Any additional mitigation measures that are appropriate; and
- Any other matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please send your comments directly to the NIRB at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Technical Advisor, Tara Arko at [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca) or by phone 867-983-4611.

Sincerely,



Tara Arko  
Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc:                    Distribution List  
                      Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute

Enclosed:        Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)  
                      NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 09YN071 (January 26, 2010)