



NIRB File No. 14AN024
NPC File No.: 148268

August 11, 2016

To: The Honourable Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

and

The Honourable George Kuksuk
Minister of Culture and Heritage
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca; catherine.mckenna@parl.gc.ca;
gkuskuk@gov.nu.ca; twood@gov.nu.ca

Re: Screening Decision for Silversea Cruises Limited's "MS Silver, Expedition High Arctic" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region

Dear Ms. McKenna and Mr. Kuksuk:

On June 7, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Silversea Cruises Limited's (SCL or Proponent) "MS Silver Explorer, Expedition High Arctic" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission) with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan due to significant modification to the original project proposal.

Pursuant to section 86 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal. Due to the proposal containing activities that were sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number **14AN024**, the NIRB viewed this project proposal as an amendment to the previously screened project and assigned this proposal with this previous file number.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of Silversea Cruises Limited's "MS Silver Explorer, Expedition High Arctic" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the NuPPAA.

Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated August 11, 2016 to the responsible Minister(s). The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the project proposal will not be enclosed due to the size of the electronic document and the limited bandwidth. However, an electronic copy of the project proposal is accessible online from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: MS Silver Explorer, Expedition High Arctic
- NIRB File No.: 14AN024
- Application No.: 124680

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Copland, Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure: Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 14AN024 (August 11, 2016)