



NIRB File No. 16TN052
NPC File No.: 148269

July 28, 2016

Conrad Combrink
Silversea Cruises Ltd.
Wells Fargo Center, 333 Southeast 2nd Avenue
Suite 2600, Miami 33131 USA

Sent via email: ConradC@silversea.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Silversea Cruises Limited's "MS Silver Explorer, North Atlantic Adventure" project proposal

Dear Conrad Combrink:

On July 4, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Silversea Cruises Limited's (SCL) "MS Silver Explorer, North Atlantic Adventure" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission).

Pursuant to section 86 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **16TN052**.

INFORMATION REQUEST

Following a preliminary completeness check, the NIRB determined that the proposal as submitted did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening. On July 15, 2016 the NIRB requested that SCL provide additional information in support of this proposal by July 29, 2016. On July 18, 2016 the NIRB received the requested additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the NuPPAA.

PROJECT SCOPE

The proposed "MS Silver Explorer, North Atlantic Adventure" project is a cruise ship which proposes to originate in Greenland and travel to the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region for vessel-based tourist activities with a stop at Iqaluit, in addition to visits to two locations in Newfoundland and Labrador and visits to the Nunavik Marine region in Quebec. The program is proposed to take place during September 2016.

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Transportation and accommodation of up to 263 passengers, staff and crew aboard MS Silver Explorer vessel;
- Storage and use of diesel for vessel operations, and gasoline for zodiac operations;
- Use of approximately ten (10) inflatable zodiac boats fitted with outboard engines to facilitate shore landings and sightseeing excursions;
 - Potential landings to include stops at Iqaluit and Nunavik Island;
 - Cruise around isolated islands near Iqaluit;
 - Visits to tourism sites in Iqaluit;
 - Undertake viewing of marine wildlife, polar bears and birds.
- Desalination and use of seawater for vessel operations;
- Generation of combustible wastes, and non-combustible wastes with disposal at a certified reception port;
- Generation of hazardous waste, sewage and grey water with treatment prior to disposal at sea or on shore of a certified reception port;
- Conduct education and training of passengers, crew and expedition team during project duration;

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: MS Silver Explorer, North Atlantic Adventure
- NIRB File No.: 16TN052
- Application No.: 124689

The documents received include:

- *NPC Screening Referral*
- *NPC Application*
- *NIRB's Online Application Form (formerly the NIRB Part 1 form in English)*
- *NIRB Part 1 Form in Inuktitut*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English, French and Inuktitut*
- *Environmental Impact Assessment Report*
- *Revised Environmental Impact Assessment Report*
- *Voyage timing*
- *Map noting voyage route and expedition highlights*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by SCL project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **August 18 2016**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**. **The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via www.nirb.ca.**

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4603 or at samuno@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Solomon Amuno, PhD
Technical Advisor II
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Victoria Wheatley, Expedition Voyage Consultants Ltd.
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Lynda Orman, Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Georgina Williston, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Enclosures 4: Public Notice of Screening (English and Inuktitut)
Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)