



May 23, 2017

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Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Cote, Ms. Chisholm, Ms. Pirie-Dominix, Ms. Merzouk:

**RE: NPC File # 148573 ArcticNet Project 1: The Northwest Passage At The End Of The Last Glaciation. ArcticNet Project 2: River Sampling During 2017 ArcticNet Expedition**

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

1. Scientific Research:
  - a. Project 1 – Beach surveys on foot and collection of a small number of empty beach shells (5-10), no excavations required, for radiocarbon dating.
  - b. Project 2 – Collection of river water samples for chemical analysis, including measurement of greenhouse gases.
2. Location: Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani Regions;
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creswell River</li> <li>• Cunningham River</li> <li>• Devon Island</li> <li>• Ellice Rive</li> <li>• Freshwater Creek</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garnier River</li> <li>• Jayko River</li> <li>• Le Feuvre Inlet</li> <li>• Mecham River</li> <li>• Pasley River</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saaqu River</li> <li>• Simpson River</li> <li>• Tingmeak River</li> <li>• Maxwell Bay</li> </ul>
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A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal, including:

- The use of CCGS Amundsen ship as the base location;
- Examining sea ice cover, ocean currents and contaminants;
- Mooring to measure the sinking of carbon to the ocean bottom;
- Use of sediment traps to obtain sediment core samples; and
- Collection of water, plankton, juvenile fish and sea ice samples

(conformity determination issued July 5, 2006). This conformity determination still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 06YN071).

The NPC has determined that the collection of river water samples in the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project. 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.

The above-noted project proposal requires 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 not part of the original or previously amended proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148573&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) 983-4634.

Sincerely,



Alana Vigna  
Senior Planner,  
Nunavut Planning Commission