



NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 18YN020

NPC File No.: 148796

May 18, 2018

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Sent via email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca, arobinson@gov.nu.ca and
wildlife_research@gov.nu.ca

**Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Polar Knowledge Canada's
"Permafrost Dynamics in Response to Climate Change on Victoria Island,
Nunavut" Project Proposal, Kitikmeot Region**

Dear Land Administrators:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, for Polar Knowledge Canada's "Permafrost Dynamics in Response to Climate Change on Victoria Island, Nunavut" in the Kitikmeot Region, dated May 18, 2018.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister that a review of the project is not required in accordance with paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of paragraph 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of section 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact Andrea Omilgoitok, NIRB Environmental Administrator, at (867) 983-4615 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Andrea Omilgoitok
Environmental Administrator

cc: Stéphanie Coulombe, Polar Knowledge Canada
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report (NIRB File No.: 18YN020)