



NIRB File No.: 22YN035
NPC File No.: 149781

June 22, 2022

Katherine Crichton
University of Exeter
364 Route de Charavines Bilieu
38850 Bristol
United Kingdom BS5 9HQ

Sent via email: k.a.crichton@exeter.ac.uk and a.gallego-sala@exeter.ac.uk

Re: Opportunity to address comments received regarding University of Exeter's "ICAAP - Increasing Carbon Accumulation in Arctic Peatlands" Project Proposal

Dear Katherine Crichton:

On May 26, 2022, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen University of Exeter's "ICAAP – Increasing Carbon Accumulation in Arctic Peatlands" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). On June 8, 2022, the NIRB circulated a public notice of the screening for this project, inviting interested parties to provide comments directly to the NIRB by June 20, 2022.

On or before June 20, 2022, the NIRB received comments from the following interested parties:

- *Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)*

All comment submissions received by the NIRB relating to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125700.

A *summary* of the public concerns reflected in the comment submissions relate to the following:

- Concerns regarding the Proponent not identifying the possible impacts of the research on wildlife, sediment and soil quality, air, and water quality.
- Concerns regarding clarity on sampling locations, whether it is four or five sampling locations.
- Concerns regarding identifying fuel and spill related risks along with measures to mitigate incidents and/or accidents.
- Concerns regarding waste generated and management after the field work is completed.
- Concerns regarding the employment and training of local Inuit.

- Concerns regarding consultation with the Hamlet of Pond Inlet and Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization.
- Concerns regarding contacting the Government of Nunavut to determine if any actions are needed to ensure the protection of Nunavut's archeological and paleontological resources.

The NIRB would like to provide University of Exeter with an opportunity to address the comments noted above prior to the Board rendering its determination for this screening assessment and issuing its subsequent Screening Decision Report to the responsible Minister. The NIRB respectfully requests that a response be provided directly to the NIRB by **July 6, 2022**.

If University of Exeter determines that the time required to supply a written response is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please send any forthcoming submissions directly to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca, or through the online public registry at www.nirb.ca.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4622 or motokiak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Mia Otokiak
Junior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Jorgen Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Stephen Williamson-Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Agnes Simonfalvy, Government of Nunavut
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute