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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

July 13, 2022
NPC File No.: 149788

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Dear Mosha Cote, Richard Dwyer, Tracey McCaie, Daniel Haney, Carson Gillis, Jared Ottenhof, Talia Maksagak, and Sarah Rahmer:

RE: NPC File # 149788 [DRDC - Northern Watch Technology Demonstration Project (NWTD)]

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

1. Renewal of multiyear DND research application with activities focused on surveillance in maritime Arctic locations. Proposed activities include:
 - a. Deployment of the DRDC Towed Reelable Active Passive Sonar (TRAPS). TRAPS will be used as an active sonar source to conduct a Marine Mammal Arctic Behavioral Response Study (BRS) onboard

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HDW during Op NANOOK 22 (12 to 24 Aug 2022). This trial will assess the HDW class ability to embark a functional and operational containerized towed array, including a tactical active sonar capability, and will demonstrate environmental stewardship through responsible use of active sonar in the Arctic.

2. Associated NPC File # 148552, 148823 and 149525; Related NIRB FILE No. 08DN056
3. Summary of modification: addition of new project locations near the communities of Qikiqtarjuaq, Pond Inlet, and Artic Bay
4. Location: Qikiqtani Region; [multiple locations in Lancaster Sound area and near the community of Qikiqtarjuaq]

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, last conformity determination issued on April 16, 2021. This conformity determination still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 08DN056).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because of the addition of new locations. 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:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149788&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) 949-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue
Manager Planning and Implementation
Nunavut Planning Commission