



NIRB File No.: 23YN023
NPC File No.: 150024

June 13, 2023

To: The Honourable Joanna Quassa
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
P.O Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

Sent via email: jquassa6@gov.nu.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of the Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences' "Arctic Climate variations during the late glacial" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Minister:

On March 31, 2023, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen the Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences' "Arctic Climate variations during the late glacial period" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). **Pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 23YN023.**

On March 31, 2023, the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and commence screening. On April 17, 2023, the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On May 9, 2023 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by May 19, 2023.

Due to the high volume of screenings currently before the Board, the NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA* and additional time is requested to complete the decision-making for this file. The NIRB anticipates screening of this project proposal will be completed by **June 26, 2023**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister for consideration; should any additional time be required to conclude the screening process, the NIRB commits to providing further updates as deemed appropriate.

If this request is approved, the NIRB understands that the Minister will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125800.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Karen D. Costello
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Gábor Újvári, Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences
Lootie Toomasie, Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
Moshá Cote, Nunavut Research Institute