



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT  
NIRB FILE NO.: 23EN073**

NPC File No.: 150016

February 26, 2024

To: Tracey McCaie  
Manager, Land Administration  
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
P.O. Box 100  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: [tracey.mccaie@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:tracey.mccaie@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca) and [landsmining@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:landsmining@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)

**Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Emerald Geological Services’  
“Epworth” Project Proposal, Kitikmeot Region**

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Dear Administrators:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board’s (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Minister Dan Vandal, Minister of Northern Affairs for Emerald Geological Services’ “Epworth” in the Kitikmeot Region, dated February 26, 2024.

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 s. 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*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 s. 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 s. 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4605 or [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Cassel Kapolak  
Manager, Technical Administration  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 23EN073 (February 26, 2024)

cc: Bruce MacLachlan, Emerald Geological Services  
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board  
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Caroline Whittle, Department of Culture and Heritage - Government of Nunavut  
Sylvie LeBlanc, Department of Culture and Heritage - Government of Nunavut  
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Department of Environment - Government of Nunavut  
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