



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Arctic Kingdom's "Arctic Kingdom Floe Edge Safari" Project Proposal



Nunavut Regional Office
918 Sivumugiaq Street
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 3H0

Your file - Votre référence
24TN011
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs# 123818981

March 25, 2024

Mia Otokiak
Technical Advisor I
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
via NIRB public registry

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Arctic Kingdom's "Arctic Kingdom Floe Edge Safari" Project Proposal

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On March 14, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Arctic Kingdom's "Arctic Kingdom Floe Edge Safari" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) has reviewed the project proposal and related documents, and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request.

Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CIRNAC 1: Potential Impacts to Vegetation

The Proponent indicated that a potential impact of the project is the destruction of fragile Arctic vegetation. The proposed mitigation measure states that tourism activities will mostly take place when snow is on the ground, which is expected to minimize impacts to vegetation, and visits to these locations will occur when the sea ice is viable.

CIRNAC notes that the Proponent did not provide specific mitigation measures it would implement in the absence of snow cover. Mitigation measures for potential impacts to vegetation should be considered because air temperatures during June may facilitate snowmelt and expose underlying vegetation. CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent outline mitigation measures it would take to minimize any impacts to vegetation from its tourism activities.

CIRNAC 2: Fuel Spill Response

The Proponent outlined mitigation and prevention measures it would take to minimize fuel spills while at the camp.

CIRNAC notes that the Proponent did not describe how it would respond if there is a residual effect to the surrounding environment after applying the proposed spill prevention and mitigation measures (e.g., contaminated land, snow, ice, seawater, etc.). CIRNAC recommends that the



Proponent describe how it would respond if the surrounding environment is impacted by fuel spills.

CIRNAC looks forward to working with the NIRB throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact John MacInnis by e-mail at john.macinnis@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca, or David Abernethy at david.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Richard Bingley
A/Manager, Impact Assessment

