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Dear Cassel Kapolak, Lisa Pirie-Dominix, Jesse Ajayi, José Audet-Lecouffe, Jared Ottenhof, and Julia Baak:

RE: NPC File No: 150271 [Seabird Surveys and Monitoring of Vessel Traffic within Akpait and Qaqulluit National Wildlife Areas]

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

1. **Category of Activity:** Marine based scientific research.
2. **Summary of Activities:** The primary purpose of this project is to conduct surveys of Thick-Billed Murres (Akpa) on Akpait, Nunavut and Northern Fulmar (Qaqulluit) Qaqulluit Island. The project is comprised of 12 people. Proposed activities includes: taking photos of the Thick-Billed Murre and Northern Fulmar colony from a boat with a camera and with a drone at Akpait and Qaqulluit Island; counting and comparing the number of Thick-billed murres and Northern Fulmar from the boat-based photographs and drone photographs to know the population size, and to know what survey method is best to use in the future; installation of trail cameras at Akpait and Qaqulluit Island to see when Thick-billed Murre and Northern Fulmar arrive for the breeding

season, when they lay eggs, when chicks hatch, when chicks fledge, and when they leave the colony at the end of the breeding season; installation of trail cameras, facing the ocean, to see how many small boats are using the National Wildlife Areas and when they are using them. In addition, the team will also search for a good area to build a cabin at Akpait or Qaqulluit Island with a drone, as suggested by the Sululiit Area Comanagement Committee. The team will also visit Durban Island with NTI to work on the Automatic Identification System (AIS) station on Durban Island that is used for monitoring large boats within the National Wildlife Areas.

3. **Location:** Qikiqtani Region; [approx. 75 km east of Qikiqtarjuaq, and 185km Northeast of Pangirtung]

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 determined that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the NIRB for screening. Project materials are available at the following address: <https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150271>

This decision 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.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Planning and Implementation
Nunavut Planning Commission