



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Oregon State University's "Early Career Training Cruise" Project Proposal



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

Your file - Votre référence
24YN020
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs# 126582497

June 25, 2024

Mia Otokiak
Impact Assessment Officer
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 Oregon State University's "Early Career Training Cruise" Project Proposal

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On June 4, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Oregon State University's "Early Career Training Cruise" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures);

CIRNAC #1: Environmental Impact Identification and Mitigation

The Proponent has submitted a Garbage Management Plan, a Hazardous Waste Management Plan, a Proper Waste Disposal Plan, and a Sewage Spill Response Plan identifying that mitigative measures are in place to eliminate potential environmental impacts. CIRNAC notes that the Proponent did not use these plans to identify potential environmental impacts within the Application and Environmental Impact matrix.

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent identify and describe the potential environmental impacts associated with the scientific research activities identified within the Project Proposal. Some considerations include, but are not limited to:

- Waste Management
- Habitat disruption
- Marine life disturbance
- Physical disturbance
- Sediment resuspension
- Other localized potential impacts



CIRNAC #2: Consultation with Interested Parties

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent continue to consult with relevant interested Inuit, community members, and community organizations in Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk who may have an interest in the project.

As part of any consultation activities, several issues should be considered, including, but not limited to:

- Incorporation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional and non-traditional activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent disturbance to sites with cultural, archaeological, and/or environmental significance;
- Training and employment opportunities for Inuit and community members;
- Procurement opportunities for local and Inuit-owned businesses; and
- Regular updates on the status of project activities.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Courtney White by e-mail at courtney.white@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Richard Bingley
A/ Manager, Impact Assessment

