



NIRB File No.: 24XN038
NPC File No.: 150467

November 14, 2024

Gavin Law
West Kitikmeot Resources Corp.
PO Box 6, 30B Mitik Street
Cambridge Bay NU, X0B 0C0

Sent via email: glaw@westkit.ca

Re: Opportunity to Address Comments Received Regarding West Kitikmeot Resources Corp.'s "Grays Bay Road and Port" Project Proposal

Dear Gavin Law:

On September 24, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) circulated a public notice of the screening for West Kitikmeot Resources Corp.'s (WKR) "Grays Bay Road and Port" project proposal, inviting interested parties to provide comments directly to the NIRB by October 15, 2024. This date was later extended to October 30, 2024, by a request from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

On or before October 30, 2024, the NIRB received comments from the following interested parties:

- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Government of Nunavut
- Government of Canada
 - Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
 - Environment and Climate Change Canada
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada
 - Health Canada
 - Natural Resources Canada
 - Transport Canada
- Government of Northwest Territories
- Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization
- Athabasca Denesūliné Néné Land Corporation
- Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board
- Caribou Guardians Coalition
- Inuvialuit Game Council
- Tłcho Government
- Wek'èezhii Renewable Resources Board

All comment submissions received by the NIRB relating to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125987.

The NIRB would like to provide West Kitikmeot Resources Corp. with an opportunity to address the following questions raised from the comment submissions prior to the Board rendering its determination for this screening assessment and issuing its subsequent Screening Decision Report to the responsible Minister(s).

- *The Inuvialuit Game Council comment submission stated that there may be potential for construction of a staging area in Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories.*
 - Could WKR verify if there may be constructing or operating a staging area in Tuktoyaktuk for the proposed “Grays Bay Road and Port” project. Please clarify if the staging area is proposed, would it only be used during construction of the proposed project, or used for the life of the project?
- *The Government of Northwest Territories submission commented that an increase in shipping traffic, including icebreaking could have impacts on the Dolphin and Union caribou crossing across the Coronation Gulf*
 - Can WKR verify that they are only applying to operate the Port through the open water season and are not applying to operate year-round?
- *Grays Bay Road and Port Project – Project Proposal submitted to the NIRB for the screening of the project proposal*
 - In the document, there is description of specially outfitted fuel barges frozen in Grays Bay through the pre-construction and construction (referred to as construction). Would WRK be continuing this practice into operations or is this only required for the construction phase?
 - During construction, WRK has proposed having explosives stored at Grays Bay Port and quarries. The document also describes areas that are set aside for companies to develop for storage of explosives and/or manufacturing facilities for explosives. Does WRK require explosives during operations and would explosives be stored in the areas that were set aside for future users?
 - WRK stated that it would be constructing a seven (7) kilometre seasonal ice road between Jericho to join the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Ice Road connecting the Grays Bay Road to southern Canada. According to the literature available, the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Road went to the Lupin Mine for resupply of that project. Jericho used a seasonal ice road from the Lupin Mine to the Jericho Mine in its operations to supply its mine. Can WRK identify who would be constructing operating the ice road between Jericho and the Nunavut/Northwest Territories Border?
 - Is there any other infrastructure at the Jericho mine that the WRK is considering using for the project?

The NIRB respectfully requests that a response be provided directly to the NIRB by **November 21, 2024**.

If West Kitikmeot Resources Corp. determines that the time required to supply a written response is significantly greater than one (1) week, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please send any forthcoming submissions directly to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca, or through the online public registry at www.nirb.ca.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at or 867-983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard PAg, CTAJ
Senior Impact Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Nidhi Singh, Nunavut Water Board
Dustin Fredlund, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Jorgan Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
William Patch, Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services
Ken Wasylyshen, Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services
Shane Slifka, Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services
Olivier Forbes-Bouillon, Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services
Caroline Whittle, Government of Nunavut – Culture and Heritage
Sylvie LeBlanc, Government of Nunavut – Culture and Heritage
Natalie D’Souza, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment
Brad Pirie, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment
Michele LeBlanc-Harvard, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment
Adrian Paradis, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Lisa Pirie-Dominix, Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change General Inbox
Jose Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Peter Unger, Natural Resources Canada
Pierre-Olivier Emond, Natural Resources Canada
Transport Canada General Inbox
Hamlet of Cambridge Bay
Hamlet of Gjoa Haven
Hamlet of Kugaaruk
Hamlet of Kugluktuk
Hamlet of Taloyoak
Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association
Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization
Gjoa Haven Hunters and Trappers Organization
Kurtairujuark Hunters and Trappers Organization
Taloyoak Hunters and Trappers Organization

Omingmaktok Hunters and Trappers Organization
Burnside Hunters and Trappers Organization
Gwich'in Tribal Council
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
Inuvialuit Game Council
Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation
North Slave Métis Alliance
Tłıchǫ Government
Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Athabasca Denesųłiné NėNė Land Corporation