



NIRB File No.: 24XN038
NPC File No.: 150467
www.nirb.ca/project/125987

April 16, 2025

To: Grays Bay Road and Port Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Draft Scope List and Draft Impact Statement Guidelines for the West Kitikmeot Resources Corp.'s "Grays Bay Road and Port" Project Proposal

Dear Parties:

On March 11, 2025, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) commenced the NIRB's Review of West Kitikmeot Resources Corp.'s "Grays Bay Road and Port" project proposal (Project Proposal) which included details on the NIRB's Scoping and Impact Statement Guidelines Sessions and released the *Draft Scope List* (English) for information only.¹

The NIRB is soliciting input regarding whether the listing and description of proposed project components and activities as outlined in the *Draft Scope List* of the Project Proposal is accurate or whether there are any specific inclusions or exclusions that should be considered. The NIRB is also requesting comments and/or suggested revisions to the *Draft Impact Statement Guidelines* be provided for the Board's consideration.

Responsible Authorities, parties with jurisdictional responsibility for aspects of the Project Proposal, and other interested parties please review the enclosed *Draft Scope List* and the *Draft Impact Statement Guidelines* and submit comments and/or suggested revisions directly to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or through the NIRB's Public Registry on or before **Monday, July 16, 2025**.

All information pertaining to the NIRB's Review of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's Public Registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125987.

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DRAFT SCOPE LIST

The requirements of the NIRB's Review process are defined by the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)*. As per ss. 99(1)(a) and (b) of the *NuPPAA*, the first step in the Review process requires that the Board determine the **scope of the project proposal**, as well as the **scope of the assessment**.

The **scope of the project** shall be defined in relation to the project proposal received by the NIRB from the proponent and must include any work or activity identified in the project proposal, as well as any other work or activity that the Board considers sufficiently related to the project. The Board may also exclude any work or activity from the scope that it considers insufficiently related to the project. If the NIRB determines that an inclusion or exclusion to scope of the project should be made, the Board may only do so following consultation with the proponent and after considering any comments the Proponent may provide. Should the Board make an inclusion to the scope of the project, it must not proceed with its review until the Nunavut Planning Commission and responsible Ministers have had opportunity to again exercise their powers and perform their duties or functions in relation to the entire project.

The **scope of the assessment** determines the expectations of the process based on significant issues related to the proposed project, defining the components of the biophysical and/or socio-economic environment that could be impacted by the Project and for which there is public concern. This scope confirms which valued ecosystemic and socio-economic components must be considered to determine the potential for impacts associated with the project proposal through all planned project stages of the development, and which the Proponent will be required to examine within its Impact Statement.

Based on the proposed Grays Bay Road and Port project description as referred to the NIRB for screening on August 6, 2024, the direction received from the responsible Ministers, and the requirements of the *Nunavut Agreement* and *NuPPAA*, the NIRB has developed the enclosed *Draft Scope List* translated into Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun (attached).

IMPACT STATEMENT GUIDELINES DEVELOPMENT AND SUBMISSION

Section 12.5.2 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and ss. 101(1) of the *NuPPAA* directs the NIRB to issue Guidelines to the Proponent in respect of the preparation of a statement of the ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of the project (*an Impact Statement*). An Impact Statement is a detailed document prepared by the Proponent in accordance with the Impact Statement Guidelines issued by the NIRB, which identifies, predicts, evaluates, and communicates information about the ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of a project proposal. An Impact Statement also provides for the identification and development of mitigation measures – those provisions or measures, which are designed to control, reduce, or eliminate potentially adverse impacts of an activity or the project.

The NIRB will draw on information obtained during the scoping of this Project in the development of the Impact Statement Guidelines and will also offer opportunity for public comment (*both* written and oral) into their development. At the completion of this iterative process, the NIRB will issue the Impact Statement Guidelines to the Proponent for its preparation of an Impact Statement for the Project.

Section 12.5.2 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and ss. 101(3) of the *NuPPAA* contain a list of information to be included within an Impact Statement and grants the NIRB authority to add, “any other type of information relating to a matter within the Board’s jurisdiction that the Board considers relevant in the circumstances.”

The NIRB has prepared the attached *Draft* Guidelines for the Preparation of an Impact Statement (*Draft* Impact Statement Guidelines) for the “Grays Bay Road and Port” project based on the requirements of the *Nunavut Agreement* and the *NuPPAA* (attached).²

Should you have any questions regarding the NIRB’s Review of the “Grays Bay Road and Port” project proposal, please contact the undersigned at kgillard@nirb.ca or Leila Cai, Impact Assessment Officer at lcai@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard
Manager, Impact Assessment
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Gavin Law, West Kitikmeot Resources Corp.
James Eetoolook, *Acting* President, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
Adrian Paradis, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Margaret Friesen, Northern Project Management Office
Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Marcus Bermann, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Environment and Climate Change Canada
José Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Peter Unger, Natural Resources Canada
Pierre-Olivier Emond, Natural Resources Canada
Transport Canada
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Attachments: *Draft* Scope List for the Grays Bay Road and Port (English, Inuktitut, and Inuinnaqtun)
Draft Impact Statement Guidelines for the Grays Bay Road and Port Project Proposal (English and Inuktitut only; Inuinnaqtun to follow)

² Available in English and Inuktitut, with Inuinnaqtun to follow.