



**NIRB File No.: 24KN044**  
NPC File No.: 150400

August 30, 2024

Ryan Bernesky  
Stantec Consulting Ltd.  
Saskatoon, SK

Sent via email: [ryan.bernesky@stantec.com](mailto:ryan.bernesky@stantec.com)

**Re: Notice of Screening for Stantec Consulting Ltd's "McConnell (Kuugaarjuk) Migratory Bird Sanctuary – Site Cleanup and Waste Removal" project proposal**

Dear Ryan Bernesky:

On August 20, 2024 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Stantec Consulting Ltd's "McConnell (Kuugaarjuk) Migratory Bird Sanctuary – Site Cleanup and Waste Removal" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **24KN044** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

#### PROJECT OVERVIEW

***Project Scope:***

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125990](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125990).

|                           |  |                               |                    |                  |           |
|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|
| <b>Project:</b>           | McConnell (Kuugaarjuk) Migratory Bird Sanctuary – Site Cleanup and Waste Removal |                               |                    |                  |           |
| <b>Region:</b>            | Kivalliq Region  |                               |                    |                  |           |
| <b>Location:</b>          | McConnell (Kuugaarjuk) Migratory Bird Sanctuary                                  |                               |                    |                  |           |
| <b>Closest Community:</b> | Arviat   | <b>Distance (approximate)</b> | 40 kilometres (km) | <b>Direction</b> | Southwest |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Summary of Project Description:</b> | The Proponent intends to conduct remediation activities including demolition, site cleanup and waste removal following Environmental Site Assessment at the former wildlife research facility and surrounding area in the Migratory (Kuugaarjuk) Bird Sanctuary. |
| <b>Project Proposed Timeline:</b>      | August to September 2024   |

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Decommission derelict buildings and structures associated with the former bird research facility;
- Use of a helicopter for transport of waste materials and transport of personnel daily.
- Project activities will take place at six (6) locations within the McConnell Migratory Bird Sanctuary:
  1. Drum Cache 1
  2. Drum Cache 2
  3. Base Camp
  4. West Viewing Tower
  5. South Viewing Tower
  6. Third Viewing Tower
- Safely package waste materials and debris (including drum caches) for off-site transport and disposal;
- Transport and dispose of waste materials and debris to appropriate off-site waste disposal facilities in Quebec;

### ***Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List***

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry [www.nirb.ca/project/125990](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125990) and include:

- *Commission Application*
- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Questionnaire*
- *Commission Exempt from Screening*
- *ECCC Permit*
- *GN-CH Permit*
- *NIRB Application*
- *NWB Email Proponent Re License Not Required*
- *Proponent Email NPC Re Application*

- *Waste Inventory*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Stantec Consulting Ltd. project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **September 20, 2024**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- 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); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125990](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125990).

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983 4612 or [tkuliktana@nirb.ca](mailto:tkuliktana@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Tundra Kuliktana  
Screening Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English, and Inuktitut)  
Comment Forms (English, and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List  
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board  
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Ashley Aupaluktuq-Burton, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Caroline Whittle, Government of Nunavut  
Sylvie LeBlanc, Government of Nunavut  
Lisa Pirie, Canadian Wildlife Service  
Hamlet of Arviat  
Arviat Hunters and Trappers Organization