



# CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Nunavut Nukkiksautiit Corporation's "Hydrology Modelling for McKeand River South" Project Proposal



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

Your file - Votre référence  
24YN048  
Our file - Notre référence  
GCdocs#130304883

October 28, 2024

Tundra Kuliktana  
Screening 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 Nunavut Nukkiksautiit Corporation's "Hydrology Modelling for McKeand River South" Project Proposal**

Dear Tundra Kuliktana,

On October 16, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Nunavut Nukkiksautiit Corporation's "Hydrology Modelling for McKeand River South" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) 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 is of the view that potential adverse effects resulting from the project (e.g., camp and fuel-based activities) are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology. CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent consider implementing best management practices to mitigate potential adverse effects from the project, including, but not limited to:

- Refuelling of all equipment, as well as the storage of fuel, a minimum of thirty-one (31) meters away from the high water mark of any waterbody;
- Using a secondary containment or a surface liner when storing barreled fuel and chemicals at all locations;
- Using drip pans or other equivalent devices when refuelling equipment on the site to aid in the prevention of fuel spills; and
- Using of sumps to aid in the management of any wastewater (i.e., sewage and greywater) on the site.

**Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.**

**Consultation with Interest Parties**



CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent continue to consult relevant organizations and individuals regarding its project proposal, including representatives from the Amaruq Hunters and Trappers Association, the City of Iqaluit, and Iqaluit community members. As part of any consultation activities, several issues should be considered, including, but not limited to:


- Incorporation of Inuit Qauijimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional harvesting 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.

### **Management Practices Designed to Prevent any Disturbance to Wildlife**

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent adhere to applicable regulatory requirements and accepted practices as it carries out its project activities so as to prevent and/or mitigate potential disturbances to wildlife. In particular, attention must be exercised when operating helicopters to prevent negative impacts to wildlife through sensory disturbance (e.g., visual and sound). The Proponent should work with interested stakeholders, including the Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment and the Amaruq Hunters and Trappers Association to ensure acceptable management practices are applied.

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 John MacInnis or David Abernethy by e-mail at [john.macinnis@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:john.macinnis@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca) or [david.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:david.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



Courtney White  
A/Manager, Impact Assessment

