



August 1, 2024
NPC File No. 150445

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Dear Cassel Kapolak, Richard Dwyer, Tracey McCaie, Natalie D'Souza, Brenda Pilakapsi, José Audet-Lecouffe, Caroline Whittle and Ryan VanEngen:

RE: NPC File # 150445 [The Ferguson Lake, Nunavut, Winter Road Route, All Weather Road Route, and SeaLink Facility Development Project]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. The Proponent is proposing to undertake initial baseline data collection, field reconnaissance and study design to assess the feasibility of transportation and logistics infrastructure to connect the Ferguson Lake Project to

a transportation hub, potentially either in Baker Lake or Arviat, NU. This includes considering winter road routes, All-Weather Road (AWR) routes, and SeaLink facility locations.

2. The 2024 planned program involves basic field reconnaissance and non-invasive monitoring, including:
 - Placement of wildlife observation cameras, automated recording units, and related support structures for wildlife and bird observation along the potential routes and near the Ferguson Lake Camp.
 - Assessment of freshwater fish habitat, fish species, and bathymetric data collection at watercourses and lakes along the route and near the Ferguson Lake Camp. This may include electrofishing and DFO-permitted scientific data collection for reconnaissance.
 - Undertake archaeological work in the project area.
3. NPC File Nos: 148903, 149256, 149618, and 149885; Associated NIRB File Nos.: 19RA046, 06EN006, 07EN001
4. Location: Kivalliq Region; [near the community of Baker Lake].

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above-noted project proposal. The activities associated with this proposal were previously reviewed by NPC, and a conformity determination was issued on July 4, 2007, June 29, 2018, December 6, 2019, November 17, 2021, and October 17, 2022 respectively. This conformity determination still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB File Nos.: 06EN008; 07EN001; 19RA046).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because it includes the assessment of freshwater fish habitats and scientific data collection. It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original or previously amended proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:
<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150445>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above-noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 447-4563.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the letters 'S' and 'A' connected by a horizontal line that extends to the right.

Solomon Amuno, PhD
Senior Planner
Nunavut Planning Commission