Public Registry - Project Proposals

NPC 150445: The Ferguson Lake, Nunavut, Winter Road Route, All Weather Road Route, and SeaLink Facility Development Project

Close

Proposal Status: Conformity Determination Issued

Overview Documents Questionnaire

Project Overview

Type of application: New

Proponent name:

Ryan VanEngen

Proponent company:

Canadian North Resources Inc.

Project Description:

The Ferguson Lake, Nunavut, Winter Road Route, All Weather Road Route and SeaLink Facility Development Project (the Project) is located in the Kivalliq region. Canadian North Resources Inc. (CNRI) is beginning 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. A detailed 2024/ 2025 workplan is provided to NPC. The entire project will be guided by a multi-year engagement and consultation process with Inuit, as well as by scientific data and engineering assessments; this application is for initial baseline data collection, field reconnaissance and study design for future assessments. The field programs will require several licenses: a Wildlife Research Permit from the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment, scientific licenses from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and a workplan approval from the Kivalliq Inuit Association. These licenses will allow access to the land and enable limited field-based data collection studies. Generally, the 2024/2025 program involves workers accessing land and waters within the study area during the summer months to collect biophysical environmental data and install new scientific instruments needed for year round passive data collection. Workers will travel to the study locations by helicopter, ATV and carry out their work on foot or by boat. The instrumentation may remain in place until at least the end of the October 2025. During the field program, workers will reside in existing authorized facilities and use drummed fuel stored in these facilities. No water use or waste deposit is planned; any domestic water required or waste generated will be managed under Type B licenses at the Ferguson Lake Camp or at approved facilities in Baker Lake or Arviat. While the primary work is expected to occur over approximately 40 days in August and September 2024, the program is planned to extend from July 15, 2024 to October 2025 to allow for flexibility and accommodate any unplanned delays due to weather and logistical constraints. 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. - Possibly a Class 1 permit for a registered NU archaeologist to conduct a desktop analysis. If needed, in early 2025, we will apply for a class 2 permit to conduct field work as needed (based on the the findings of the desktop analysis).

Project Schedule

Start Date:

2024-07-01

End Date:

2025-10-31

Project Map

List of project geometries:

Id

Geometry

Location Name

12566

point

Ferguson Lake Project

NPC Planning regions:

Keewatin

Project Land Use and Authorizations

Project Land Use:

Scientific Research

Licensing Agencies:

Kivalliq Inuit Association

Government of Canada - Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

Nunavut Water Board

Government of Canada - Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Government of Nunavut - Department of Environment

Government of Nunavut - Department of Culture and Heritage

Government of Nunavut - Department of Culture and Heritage

Government of Nunavut - Department of Environment

Material Use

Equipment:

Type

Quantity

Type

Use

Bell 206 Long Range Helicopter

1

34x10x10

Transportation of personnel from camp to field sites

Boat

2

11 x 5 ft

For fisheries assessments in lakes or rivers

ATV

2

5 ft x 4 ft

Transportation to sites near camp

Fuel Use:

Type

Container

Capacity

Use

Aviation fuel

200

218

Fuel for Helicopter

Gasoline

2

218

For boat and ATV use

Hazardous Material and Chemical Use:

Type

Container

Capacity

Use

N/A

0

0

No hazardous materials are expected

Water Consumption:

Daily Amount (m^2)

Retrieval Method

Retrieval Location

2

0

0

Waste and Impacts

Environmental Impacts:

Researchers will be accommodated at existing authorized facilities. Waste generation will be limited to domestic solid waste, which will be backhauled and managed according to applicable facility authorizations. The impacts of the project are considered negligible and mitigable. Potential acoustic impacts to fish are expected to be minimal and will occur only for short durations during the 14-day survey on lakes. Fish and fish habitat assessments will adhere to Animal Use Protocol and license requirements. To reduce potential wildlife disturbance during ground surveys and helicopter overflights, field activities will be scheduled outside the breeding bird season and the migratory period for barren-ground caribou. Researchers will travel with a local Inuk who will be responsible for spotting wildlife and taking actions to avoid crew interactions with wildlife.

Helicopter overflights will be conducted at high altitudes, except in areas of takeoff and landing, where low-level flights are necessary for baseline work or safety reasons. Helicopter flights will follow guidelines designed to minimize effects on wildlife.

Waste Management:

Waste Type

Quantity Generated

Treatement Method

Disposal Method

Combustible wastes

640 kg

N/A

Incinerated at camp

Greywater

1.6 m3 / day

NA

Treatment according to Type B license

Sewage (human waste)

400 L / day

NA

Bagged and incinerated