



November 25, 2025

Albert Ehaloak  
Acting Chairperson  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
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Dear Albert Ehaloak:

Thank you for your correspondence of July 23, 2025, regarding the Screening Decision Report (the Report) for Canadian North Resources Inc.'s (the Proponent) Ferguson Lake, Nunavut Environmental Baselines Studies project proposal (the Project).

I am following-up on the response from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada sent to you and the Proponent on August 6, 2025, extending the Screening decision time limit per subsection 93(2) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (the Act).

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (the Board) has recommended, per paragraph 92(1)(a) of the Act, that a review of the Project is not required. The Board has also recommended Project-specific terms and conditions per paragraph 92(2)(a) of the Act. Subject to the Proponent's compliance with these terms and conditions, the Board is of the view that Project is not likely to cause significant public concerns, nor is it likely to result in significant adverse environmental and social impacts.

As noted in the August 6, 2025 correspondence, as there are no other responsible Ministers confirmed with certainty at this time, the Minister of Northern and Arctic Affairs has jurisdictional responsibility for issuing the Screening decision.

On behalf of the Minister of Northern and Arctic Affairs, I hereby agree per paragraph 93(1)(a) of the Act that a review of the Project is not required and that the assessment of the Project has been completed and the Proponent may carry out the Project, subject to paragraph 74(f) of the Act and to obtaining any licence, permit or other authorization required by law.

Following issuance of the Report, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada engaged with Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene as they had not been informed of the





public comment period for the Screening. On September 18, 2025, Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene sent the Minister of Northern and Arctic Affairs comments on the Report. These comments included a recommendation that the Proponent engage with Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene in a manner consistent with the Proponent's commitments for engagement with Inuit, to guide baseline study, as well as evaluation of routings and logistics for the possible winter road and/or all-weather road. I am supportive of this recommendation and encourage the Proponent to so engage with Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene.

I would like to thank the Board and its staff for its diligence in completing the Screening the Project.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at [spencer.dewar@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:spencer.dewar@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca) or (867) 222-8452.

Sincerely,

Spencer Dewar  
Regional Director General, Nunavut Region  
Northern Affairs Organization

c.c.: Ryan VanEngen  
Dionne Filiatrault

