

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/126154.

The following table provides a summary of the *original* project as previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 16YN040):

Original Project:	Western Hudson Bay Geoscience for Infrastructure				
Region:	The project as previously approved was located within the Kivalliq region.				
Location:	Western Hudson Bay coast				
Closest Community:	Rankin Inlet	Distance (approximate)	300 kilometres (km)	Direction	North and west
Summary of Project Description:	The Project as originally screened included the collection of baseline terrain and permafrost data along the western Hudson Bay coast. A complete description of the scope of activities previously approved is included within Appendix A .				
Original Project Timeline:	August and September 2016 through 2018.				

The following table provides a summary of the current *amended* project as proposed by NRCan:

Amended Project:	Western Hudson Bay Geoscience for Infrastructure Project				
Region:	The project would be located in the same area as previously approved and would be located within the Kivalliq region.				
Location:	Western coast of Hudson Bay				
Closest Community:	Arviat	Distance (approximate)	30 kilometres (km)	Direction	North and East
Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to amend the scope of previously approved activities to expand the work more south, in the vicinity of Arviat to allow for a South-North transect of representative and various conditions. All proposed methods in the new field area would be the same as the methods documented for the existing project.				
Project Proposed Timeline:	June 2025 to December 2027				

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

- Use of a truck and/or all-terrain vehicle within Arviat and Rankin Inlet municipal limits to access trails for sampling purposes;
- Use of drone to conduct study site overview, digital elevation model, and thermal imagery;
- Continue collection of geological and geomorphological observations and ground-based geophysical data to support analysis and use of remote sensing products;
- Continue the use of a light duty drill to temporarily install shallow temperature boreholes less than three (3) metres (m) for thermistor cables and data loggers;
- Continue to use an air track drill to temporarily install deep ground temperature boreholes at 15 m depth for thermistor cables and dataloggers;
- Continue to use a light duty drill to install temporary up to four (4) thaw tubes (PVC filled with water); and
- Use of accommodations and facilities in Arviat and Rankin Inlet.

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 at www.nirb.ca/project/126154 and include:

- *NPC Conformity Determination and Application*
- *NIRB Application in English and Inuktitut*
- *Non-technical Summary in English, French and Inuktitut*
- *Project Description in English and Inuktitut*
- *Photographs of drill equipment used*

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 NRCan project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **April 21, 2025**.

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, 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/126154.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard PAg, CTAJ
Manager, Impact Assessment
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachments: Appendix A: Previously-Screened Project Proposal

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

cc: Distribution List
Dustin Fredlund, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Jorgan Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Ashley Aupaluktuq-Burton, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut
Jonas Azonaha, Government of Nunavut
Caroline Whittle, Government of Nunavut-Culture and Heritage
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Moshia Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Margaret Friesen, Northern Project Management Office
Tracy McCaie, Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Marcus Bermann, Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Jose Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Peter Unger, Natural Resources Canada
Pierre-Olivier Emond, Natural Resources Canada
Transport Canada

APPENDIX A: PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL

The original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 16YN040), was received by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) from the Commission on June 9, 2016, 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 section 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (NuPPAA), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal on July 13, 2016.

The NRCan's (Proponent) original "Western Hudson Bay Geoscience for Infrastructure" project was located in the Kivalliq region, approximately 300 kilometres (km) north and west from Rankin Inlet. The Proponent intended to collect baseline terrain and permafrost data along the western Hudson Bay coast. The program was proposed to take place from August and September 2016 through 2018.

According to the previously screened project proposal, the scope of the project included the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Collection of geological and geomorphological observations and ground-based geophysical data to support analysis and use of remote sensing products;
- Use of a truck and/or all-terrain vehicle within Rankin Inlet municipal limits to access trails for sampling purposes;
- Transportation of up to three (3) personnel by aircraft between Rankin Inlet, sampling sites, and pre-established tourist and outpost camps for sampling purposes;
- Use of 40 litres (L) of gasoline for all-terrain vehicle, truck, and drills;
- Use of light duty drill to temporarily install four (4) shallow temperature boreholes less than three (3) metres (m) for thermistor cables and data loggers;
- Use of an air track drill to temporarily install three (3) deep ground temperature boreholes at 15 m depth for thermistor cables and dataloggers;
- Use of light duty drill to install temporary up to four (4) thaw tubes (PVC filled with water);
- Thermistor cable and dataloggers to be removed at the end of the project with PVC casings cut at ground level and will stay buried in the ground;
- Visits to six (6) remote camps and
- Use of accommodations and facilities in Rankin Inlet.

At the time, the NIRB did not identify additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB proceeded with screening the project based on the scope as described above.