



NIRB File No.: 25YN018
NPC File No.: 150660

April 14, 2025

Michelle Kamula
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
Canada

Sent via email: michelle.kamula@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Additional Information Required: Information Request # 1 for Fisheries and Oceans Canada's "Physiological Response of Soft-shell Clam *Mya Truncata* to Spring Microalgal Blooms" Project Proposal

Dear Michelle Kamula:

On March 13, 2025 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Fisheries and Oceans Canada's "Physiological Response of Soft-shell Clam *Mya Truncata* to Spring Microalgal Blooms" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), which noted that the project proposal is outside the area of an applicable 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 s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **25YN018** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

On March 24, 2025 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and to commence screening.

To date, the NIRB has not received your project proposal and request that the information be submitted in order for the NIRB to carry out its screening. According to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB is requesting submission of the information as outlined in Appendix A of this correspondence by **April 28, 2025**.

The documents and materials received to date by the NIRB in support of this project proposal include:

- *NPC Referral and Application*
- *Project Overview*
- *DFO Letter to Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Organization regarding Project Proposal*
- *Nattivak HTO Letter of Support*

Please be advised that pursuant to s. 92(3)(b) of the *NuPPAA*, the 45-day timeline for the Board to provide a screening decision stopped on March 24, 2025. This 45-day timeline will start again on the date the NIRB receives the requested additional information. If the Proponent fails to submit the requested additional information, the Board may suspend or terminate the assessment activities of the proposed project pursuant to the relevant provisions under s. 144 of the *NuPPAA*. Therefore, it is in Fisheries and Oceans Canada's best interest to cure the identified information deficiencies in a timely manner. If Fisheries and Oceans Canada determines that the time required to supply the required information is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please submit all forthcoming project proposal information through the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca. For additional instructions regarding the new project application portal, please contact NIRB administration at info@nirb.ca or at 1-866-233-3033.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4605 or info@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Cassel Kapolak
Manager, Public Registry
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachment: Appendix A: Information Request # 1

Appendix A: Information Request # 1
for Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s “Physiological Response of Soft-shell Clam *Mya Truncata* to Spring Microalgal Blooms”
pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*
NIRB File No. 25YN018

1. TOPIC/ISSUE: NIRB’s Online Application Form

REFERENCE: *Proponent’s Guide*¹: Appendix A: Online Application System – Proponent User’s Guide

RATIONALE: The NIRB requires the Proponent to complete the online application form in order to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and to ensure sufficient information has been provided to commence screening. The NIRB will no longer accept applications or supporting documents via e-mail or regular mail.

REQUEST: Complete the NIRB’s online application form at www.nirb.ca, pursuant to the NIRB’s project application requirements

The Proponent is recommended to review the Help Boxes associated with the NIRB’s online application form when completing the application.

2. TOPIC/ISSUE: Project Map

REFERENCE: *Proponent’s Guide*¹: Appendix A: Online Application System – Proponent User’s Guide

RATIONALE: The NIRB requires a map of the project proposal and related activities to assist in the assessment of the project.

REQUEST: Complete the NIRB’s online map in the application form at www.nirb.ca as well as provide the latitude and longitude of the locations as listed within the application form. The map should include where applicable the following items:

- Location(s) of all proposed activity(ies) including but not limited to:
 - a. Research sites (specific locations identified within the broader geometry)
 - b. Use of vessel equipment
- Project site in proximity to territorial and/or national parks; and
- Project site in proximity to sensitive wildlife and wildlife habitat (e.g., migratory bird sanctuary).

3. TOPIC/ISSUE: Non-technical Project Proposal Summary in English, and Inuktitut

REFERENCE: *Proponent’s Guide*¹: Appendix A: Online Application System – Proponent User’s Guide

RATIONALE: The NIRB requires that a non-technical summary be submitted by proponents in order to assist parties to understand and provide comments on project proposals. Translated copies of the non-technical summaries are required to be inserted into the text boxes provided in order to assist unilingual community organizations and members to provide comments on project proposals.

¹ <http://www.nirb.ca/guides>

REQUEST: Submit via the online application text boxes a non-technical description of the project proposal in English and in the regional languages, which include Inuktitut (Kivalliq, North/South Baffin, Eastern Kitikmeot).

The summary should use plain language only and address the following points in < 5,000 characters:

- **Who:** Company, individual or entity proposing the project.
- **What:** The type of undertaking being proposed and how it would be carried out. It may be helpful to describe the scale of the project, number of people involved, permanence of any facilities constructed, and methods of transport.
- **Why:** The objective of and need for the project, potential long term implications.
- **Where:** general location of proposed activities in relation to closest communities, protected areas.
- **When:** timeframe of proposed activities (fixed period, seasonal, multi-year).

Please keep in mind that the project summary is intended to provide members of the public with sufficient information to understand what is being proposed and determine whether they might wish to further review the full project application and supporting information.

4. **TOPIC/ISSUE: Supplemental supporting documentation**

REFERENCE: Requirement of documentation to complete screening assessment

RATIONALE: To properly scope and assess proposed projects, the NIRB requires proponents to provide specific information on proposed activities, associated components, and proposed mitigation and monitoring measures related to the proposal.

REQUEST: Provide supplemental information regarding the following:

- Research methodologies to be employed;
- Mitigation plans that include the identification of potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures;
- A discussion on waste management and spill contingency plans.