



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 25YN061

Project Name: The “The Kivalliq-Baffin Connector Horizontal Directional Drilling Feasibility Study” project

Proponent Name: Government of Nunavut – Department of Transportation & Infrastructure (GN-TIN)

Project Type: Research Region: Kivalliq/Qikiqtani Region

Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 126222

Comment Deadline: **October 28, 2025**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “The Kivalliq-Baffin Connector Horizontal Directional Drilling Feasibility Study” project is located within the Kivalliq/Qikiqtani region. The Proponent intends to conduct an HDD Engineering Support Program to assess the technical feasibility and engineering design of potential landing sites. This includes geotechnical, geophysical, topographic, and biological investigations required to support the future construction of the fibre optic subsea cable connecting southern Nunavut communities with Nunavik. The program is proposed to take place from August 15, 2025 – October 26, 2026. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Borehole drilling (10–40 metre (m) depth at Beach Manhole and Punch-In sites) using CME45/55 mounted drill,
- Community participation: local field assistants, wildlife monitors, ATV /truck operators,
- Offshore borehole drilling (through open water or iced ocean) using marine-mounted drill rig, and
- Marine transport and support: use of vessels, barges, and ice platforms for offshore operations.

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **25YN061** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via www.nirb.ca. Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Amir Pourmahabadian, Senior Impact Assessment Officer at (867)983-4612 or apourmahabadian@nirb.ca.