



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 25YN066**

NPC File No.: 150867

October 7, 2025

To: José Audet-Lecouffe
Acting Team Lead
301-5204 50th Ave (Franklin)
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2

Sent via email: jose.audet-lecouffe@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Fisheries and Oceans Canada's "Coastal Baseline Inventory: Benthic community and food web structure in water adjacent to Qikiqtarjuaq, NU 2025" Project Proposal, Baffin Region

Dear José Audet-Lecouffe:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Minister Joanne Thompson, Minister of Fisheries for Fisheries and Oceans Canada's "Coastal Baseline Inventory: Benthic community composition and food web structure in water adjacent to Qikiqtarjuaq, NU 2025" in the Baffin Region, dated October 7, 2025.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister that **a review of the project is not required** in accordance with s. 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of s. 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of s. 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-5627 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Brittany Hogaluk
Public Registry Coordinator

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 25YN066 (October 7, 2025)

cc: Tracey Loewen