



NIRB File No.: 25EN077

NIRB Public Registry link: [www.nirb.ca/project/126241](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126241)

NPC File No.: 150931

January 13, 2026

Thomas Ullrich  
Aston Bay Holdings  
80 Richmond Street West, Suite 204  
Toronto, ON M5H 2A4

Sent via email: [Thomas.ullrich@astonbayholdings.com](mailto:Thomas.ullrich@astonbayholdings.com)

**Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Aston Bay Holdings' "Aston Bay Property or Storm Project" proposal**

Dear Thomas Ullrich:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has commenced screening the project proposal.

**By copy of this letter, NIRB invites regulators, interested parties, and community members or groups potentially affected by the proposal to view the application and comment directly to the NIRB by February 3, 2026.**

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

**The application can be viewed on NIRB's online registry ([link](http://www.nirb.ca)) where a comment form is available, or comments can be also submitted to [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), or by fax (867) 983-2594.**

## SCOPE OF PROPOSED PROJECT

<b>Location</b>	Qikiqtani (North Baffin) region, 112 kilometres (km) south of Resolute Bay
<b>Objective</b>	The Proponent intends to renew and amend the associated water licence and land use permit to support increased activities at the site
<b>Timeline</b>	90 days over period: July 2026 to September 2031

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

- General exploration activities:
  - Geological mapping
  - Prospecting
  - Geochemical sampling
  - Airborne and ground geophysical surveys
  - Diamond drilling and reverse circulation drilling
- Equipment required to support drilling, camp operations, and exploration activities, including:
  - Dual chamber-controlled air incinerator
  - Diamond drills
  - Drill water pump
  - Reverse circulation drill
  - Drill generator
  - All-terrain vehicles
  - Snowmobiles
  - Skid steer
  - Diesel generators
  - Gas generator
  - Water pump
- Use of fixed wing aircraft and helicopters to transport equipment and personnel to and from camp;
- Helicopter-supported drill moves and daily personnel transport
- Expansion of existing Storm Camp to support up to 65 personnel (additional structures within existing footprint);
- Increase of the main fuel cache from 80,000 litres (L) to 148,625 L;
- Use and development of a temporary marine landing / staging area for sealift operations;
- Water sourced from Aston River during summer operations;
- Water sourced from a lake north of camp during spring when the river is frozen
- Disposal of grey water from camp and drilling activities into excavated sumps or natural depressions;
- Hazardous waste to be properly stored, sealed, labeled, documented and backhauled from site for proper disposal in a licensed disposal facility; and
- Non-combustible wastes will be backhauled on an ongoing basis throughout the program and upon seasonal shutdown.

### ***Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List***

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.

#### OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED IN THE ASSESSMENT

For this assessment, the NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) are initiating a coordinated process<sup>1</sup> as the proposal would require a water licence, and the Proponent has indicated they wish to start the Water Licence application process at this time. As a result, the Proponent must provide information during the assessment to satisfy both the impact assessment requirements as well as the water licensing process. At any time, the Proponent has the option to opt out of a coordinated process by providing the request in writing to both the NIRB and the NWB.

Questions about the NIRB's work should be directed to the undersigned at 867-983-4622 or [mbeattie@nirb.ca](mailto:mbeattie@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Mia Beattie  
Impact Assessment Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

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

cc: Distribution List

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<sup>1</sup> The NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) are required to coordinate their processes for projects that require a water licence as per Sections 13.5.2 and 13.6.1 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, s. 193 of *NuPPAA*, and s. 37 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*.

Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board  
Nidhi Singh, Nunavut Water Board  
Abid Jan, Nunavut Water Board  
Dustin Fredlund, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
Jorgan Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut  
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut  
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut  
Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut  
Caroline Whittle, Government of Nunavut  
Adam Pollock, Government of Nunavut  
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut  
Bradley Pirie, Government of Nunavut  
Tracey McCaie, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
Marcus Bermann, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada