

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 6200 000 001/015
NIRB File: 25XN041



February 4, 2026

via email at: info@nirb.ca

Viren Nasit
Senior Impact Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board
29 Mitik Street
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Dear Viren Nasit:

RE: 25XN041 – City of Iqaluit – Long Term Water Project (LTWP) Proposal

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) by the City of Iqaluit (“the Proponent”) regarding the above-mentioned project proposal.

ECCC provides expert information and knowledge to project assessments on subjects within the department’s mandate, including climate change, air quality, water quality, biodiversity, environmental emergencies preparedness and responses. This work includes reviewing proponent characterization of environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures. We provide advice to decision-makers regarding a proponent’s characterization of environmental effects, the efficacy of their proposed mitigation activities, and may suggest additional mitigation measures. Any comments received from ECCC in this context does not relieve the proponent of its obligations to respect all applicable federal legislation.

The following comment is provided:

1. Quarry materials, metal leaching and acid rock drainage potential

Reference:

Long Term Water Project Environmental Screening Report (City of Iqaluit, September 2025)
-Section 1.4 – Project phases

Comment:

The environmental screening report identifies that a small quarry will be required for aggregate to construct the initial access road. In addition, once blasting and excavation begin in the



reservoir footprint, the produced materials from this area will also be used in construction. ECCC notes that there is no discussion provided on metal leaching (ML) and/or acid rock drainage (ARD) potential for the materials sourced from the quarry and within the reservoir footprint.

Recommendation:

ECCC recommends the Proponent characterize potential quarry areas and the reservoir footprint for ML/ARD potential to determine whether the rock is suitable for construction.

If you need more information, please contact Erik Allen at Erik.Allen@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Erik Allen
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer

cc: Eva Walker, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)