



NIRB File 26YN027

link: www.nirb.ca/project/126442

Nunavut Planning Commission File No.: 151129

June 30, 2026

To: The Honorable Joanne Thompson
Minister of Fisheries
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: joanne.thompson@parl.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for the Screening of Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) "Observations of polar bear habitat use and foraging behaviour in Navy Board Inlet/Eclipse Sound" Project Proposal

Dear Honorable Minister

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board), pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*¹, hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of the project proposal.

Due to staff requiring additional time, the NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA* and requires additional time to complete the process. The Board anticipates providing its decision to you on or around July 17, 2026.

The NIRB has completed the following steps to conduct the screening work:

1. April 23, 2026, received the referral to screen the project proposal² from the Nunavut Planning Commission.
2. May 22, 2026, received the complete application form and verified it complete to determine scope of project activities, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*.
3. June 5, 2026, and June 11, 2026, the NIRB sent a Clarification email to the Proponent to get more information and clarifications.
4. June 11, 2026, The Proponent responded to the emails regarding clarifications.
5. June 11, 2026, the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties requesting comments be submitted to the NIRB by July 2, 2026.

¹ *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*

² pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*)

Documents related to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at the link in the header, and questions regarding this notification can be sent to the NIRB office at info@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Dionne Filiatrault
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Evan Richardson, Environment and Climate Change Canada
The Honourable Brain Koonoo, Minister of Environment (GN-DOE)
Olayuk Akesuk, President Qikiqtani Inuit Association
José Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut (GN-DOE)
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