

SCREENING DECISION



June 30, 2004

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk
Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youths
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Dear Minister:

**RE: Screening Decision of the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) on Application:
NIRB: #04YN076 NRI
The Polar DARN Radar for Rankin Inlet – Dr. George Sofko**

Authority:

Section 12.4.4 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement states:

Upon receipt of a project proposal, NIRB shall screen the proposal and indicate to the Minister in writing that:

- a) the proposal may be processed without a review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB may recommend specific terms and conditions to be attached to any approval, reflecting the primary objectives set out in Section 12.2.5;
- b) the proposal requires review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB shall identify particular issues or concerns which should be considered in such a review;
- c) the proposal is insufficiently developed to permit proper screening, and should be returned to the proponent for clarification; or
- d) the potential adverse impacts of the proposal are so unacceptable that it should be modified or abandoned.

Primary Objectives:

The primary objectives of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement is referenced in the screening section 12.4.4 (a) are set out in section 12.2.5 of the Land Claims Agreement. This section reads:

In carrying out its functions, the primary objectives of NIRB shall be at all times to protect and promote the existing and future well-being of the residents and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area, and to protect the ecosystemic integrity of the Nunavut Settlement Area. NIRB shall take into account the well-being of the residents of Canada outside the Nunavut Settlement Area.

The decision of the Board in this case is 12.4.4(a) the proposal may be processed without a review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB may recommend specific terms and conditions to be attached to any approval, reflecting the primary objectives set out in Section 12.2.5;

Reasons for Decision:

NIRB's decision is based on specific considerations that reflect the primary objectives of the Land Claims Agreement. Our considerations in making this decision included:

- impact and disturbance to wildlife;
- community concerns

Terms and Conditions:

- That the terms and conditions attached to this screening report will apply.

Waste:

1. The Permittee is to follow a "pack it in, pack it out" policy and ensure that all wastes generated through the course of the operation are adequately disposed of in an approved dumpsite.
2. The Permittee shall ensure that no substances, including any chemicals, fuels or wastes associated with the project are deposited into any other water body.

Wildlife:

3. The Permittee shall ensure that there is minimal disturbance to wildlife in the area
4. The Permittee shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this research.

Environmental:

5. The Permittee shall use the existing Rankin Inlet facilities.
6. The Permittee shall remove all equipment, including garbage upon abandonment.
7. The Permittee shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all time.

Other Recommendations:

1. NIRB would like to encourage the proponent to hire local people and services, to the extent possible.
2. NIRB strongly advises proponents to consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region. That the results of the research be presented to the community in the community's preferred language, as well as, a written report submitted to NIRB.
3. Any amendment requests deemed by NIRB to be outside the original scope of the project will be considered a new project.

Validity of Land Claims Agreement

Section 2.12.2

Where there is any inconsistency or conflict between any federal, territorial and local government laws, and the Agreement, the Agreement shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

Dated _____ at Cambridge Bay, NU

Albert Ehaloak, A/Chairperson

c.c. NRI, Iqaluit NU