



NIRB File No.: 09YN010

January 21, 2011

Honourable Daniel Shewchuk
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Government of Nunavut
c/o Mosha Cote, Manager, Research Liaison
Nunavut Research Institute
Iqaluit, NU

Via email: Mosha.Cote@arcticcollege.ca

Re: Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Walter Strapp's "Pan-Arctic Measurements & Arctic Regional Climate Model Simulations" project

Dear Mosha Cote:

On December 30, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application for a renewal from Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for Walter Strapp's "Pan-Arctic Measurements and Arctic Regional Climate Model Simulations (PANARCMIP)" project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 09YN010) was received by the NIRB from NRI on January 27, 2009 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On April 6, 2009 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of Education indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current NRI application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (09YN010) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2009/09YN010-Walter%20Strapp/>.

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 09YN010), the "PANARCMIP" project was located within the Qikiqtaaluk region, flying out of Resolute, Eureka and Alert. The Proponent indicated that it intended to collect ice thickness imagery and conduct air quality sampling data for more accurate climate change models and ground truth satellite imagery concerning the northern sea ice inventory.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Basler DC-3 aircraft “POLAR-5” using airports in Alert, Eureka, and Resolute
- Stored aviation fuel: 101 drums (20,200 liters)
- Air Surveys between 300ft to 10,000ft
- Low level flights performed offshore over sea ice only and will avoid areas of protected wildlife and people
- Study meteorology, air quality and sea ice thickness in the Arctic
- Take scientific readings to accurately measure sea ice thickness, ozone depletion, and mercury and bromine oxide in the Arctic surface boundary layer specifically over the frozen Arctic Ocean
- The study will result in scientific publications which will be available for information for individuals and communities in Nunavut

CURRENT APPLICATION:

Walter Strapp is currently proposing to renew his research license to collect more data from these same regions.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:

(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or

(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project.”

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current application, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed renewal does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original April 6, 2009 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tara Arko, Assistant Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Autut
Executive Director

cc: Walter Strapp at walter.strapp@ec.gc.ca

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 09YN010 (April 6, 2009)