



NIRB File No.: 09YN017
NRI File No.: 0202309N-M

December 2, 2010

Honourable Daniel Shewchuk
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
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: University of Toronto's (James Drummond) "Canadian Network for the Detection of Atmospheric Change" project

Dear Mosha Cote:

On October 14, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an extension request from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for a Scientific Research Licence in support of the University of Toronto's (James Drummond) "Canadian Network for the Detection of Atmospheric Change (CANDAC)" project.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 09YN017) was received by the NIRB from NRI on January 7, 2009, with a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) for the proposal also being received from the Nunavut Planning Commission on March 16, 2009. The project proposal was then screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On April 28, 2009 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister Responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current NRI application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (Original NIRB File No. 09YN017) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2009/09YN017-James%20Drummond/>

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 09YN017), the “CANDAC” project was located within the Qikiqtaaluk region, approximately 450 kilometres (km) southeast from Grise Fiord. The Proponent indicated that it intended to conduct research for the purpose of (1) understanding atmospheric change over Canada; (2) integrating measurements taken from space, aircraft, balloons and the ground; (3) providing quality-controlled research datasets to researchers; (4) linking with international networks for data exchange; (5) maintaining research-critical resources; (6) training skilled personnel; and (7) public education. These objectives were to be met at the Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory (PEARL) complex located near Eureka, with the laboratory complex being operated year round.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

1. Operation of instruments to improve observational atmosphere research in Canada
2. Operation of instruments located at three laboratories (Ridge laboratory, OPAL and SAFIRE) year round.
3. Collection of data and measurements to understand atmospheric change over Canada and the Arctic
4. Use of vehicles at the sites.
5. Storage of fuel at the PEARL laboratory for the backup generator.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

University of Toronto (James Drummond) is proposing to extend its Scientific Research Licence for the CANDAC project for one additional year.

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, including additional clarification requested by the Board¹, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed extension 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 28, 2009 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

¹ Requests for clarification sent by the NIRB to the Proponent via email on October 14 and 18, 2010 followed by telephone calls on October 21 and 26, with response received. On October 28, 2010 a response was given indicating information was forthcoming. All information was received December, 1, 2010.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long horizontal line that tapers to a point on the right.

Ryan Barry
Director, Technical Services

For:

Stephanie Autut
Executive Director

cc: James Drummond, University of Toronto
Dr. Pierre Fogal, University of Toronto
Lisa LaBlanc, University of Toronto
Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 09YN017 (April 28, 2009)