



**NIRB File No.: 11YA003**  
**NRI File No.: 02 028 12R-M**

May 18, 2012

The Honourable Dan Shewchuk  
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College  
Government of Nunavut  
c/o Mosha Cote, Manager Research Liaison  
Nunavut Research Institute  
P.O. Box 1720  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Via email: [Mosha.Cote@arcticcollege.ca](mailto:Mosha.Cote@arcticcollege.ca)

**Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Environment Canada - Terry Prowse's "Climate Change Effects on the Hydro-Ecology of Northern Lakes" project, Qikiqtaaluk and Kitikmeot Regions**

Dear Mosha Cote:

On May 14, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for an amendment to the Scientific Research License (No. 02 028 12R-M) for Environment Canada - Terry Prowse's "Climate Change Effects on the Hydro-Ecology of Northern Lakes" project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 11YA003) was received by the NIRB from the NRI on February 4, 2011 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On March 1, 2011 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Government of Nunavut which indicated that 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 (NIRB File No. 11YA003) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2011/11YA003-U%20of%20Vic%20-%20Terry%20Prowse/>.

#### PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 11YA003), the “Climate Change Effects on the Hydro-Ecology of Northern Lakes” project was located within the Qikiqtani region, north of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord on Ellesmere Island and Axel Heiberg Island, and in the Kitikmeot region, up to 120 kilometres (km) around of Cambridge Bay. The Proponent intended to begin long-term monitoring of lakes in Nunavut for effects of climate change.

The activities and components associated with the previously screened proposal included:

- Measuring lake ice thickness of North Baffin: Colour Lake, Lake Resolute, Lower Dumbell Lake, and Lake Hazen by drilling holes with an ice auger and using a measurement stick
- Field reconnaissance: collect basic bathymetric measurements of various lakes around the Queen Maud Gulf to determine the best placement of the permanent structure.
- Permanent structure placement: the Arctic Lake Monitoring System (ALMS) is a fully automated ice buoy and subsurface mooring which provides continuous, unattended monitoring of lake meteorology conditions, lake ice cover, light penetration in the water column, and water chemistry. This system would increase research infrastructure in the Kitikmeot region as part of the newly created research station at Cambridge Bay.
- On-site mechanized vehicles and instrumentation: 2 snowmobiles for transporting personnel between lakes; 1 Ground Penetrating Radar to measure ice thickness; 1 Bell 206L helicopter used for lake reconnaissance; and 1 AstarB for deployment of the ALMS and mooring.

#### CURRENT APPLICATION:

Environment Canada - Terry Prowse is proposing to amend the Scientific Research Licence (No. 02 028 12R-M) to include an additional monitoring site on Grenier Lake, located north of Cambridge Bay.

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 amendment 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 the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original March 1, 2011 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tara Arko, Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4611 or [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry  
Executive Director

cc: Terry Prowse, Environment Canada  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Stanley Anablak, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 11YA003 (March 1, 2011)