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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

January 26, 2017

Jaida Ohokannoak
Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
By email: info@nirb.ca

Wayne McPhee
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation
2275 Upper Middle Road East – Suite 300
Oakville Ontario L6H 0C3 Canada
By email: wayne.mcphee@baffinland.com

Salamonie Shoo, Lands Administrator,
Joel Fortier, Environmental Assessment
Coordinator,
Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Box 1340 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
sshoo@gia.ca
jfortier@gia.ca

Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Shoo, Mr. McPhee:

RE: NPC File # 148423 Mary River 2017 Winter Sealift

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Ice-breaking, Marine-based activities: To support the Mary River project, Baffinland proposes to complete a Winter Sealift in late March 2017 using an icebreaking bulk carrier to bring trucks as well as seacans of spare parts and tires to the site. If possible, the MV Nunavik will also carry several sea containers of supplies for Pond Inlet. To allow the safe passage of local travelers across the broken ice left by the vessel, an ice bridge will be installed along the broken ice near Pond Inlet.
2. Scientific Research: Baffinland will work with SmartICE and Ikaarvik: Barriers to Bridges, both community research organizations based in Pond Inlet, to develop and deliver the community-based monitoring program, including a seal den survey to be completed prior to the freighter entering the ice in Eclipse Sound.

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP. The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

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By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148423&sessionid=>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 983-4632.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Savoy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jonathan Savoy
Manager of Implementation,
Nunavut Planning Commission