



NIRB File No.: 14YN001
NPC File No.: 148392

February 27, 2017

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Honourable Paul Quassa
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca, Carolyn.bennett@canada.ca, pquassa@gov.nu.ca
and gellsworth@gov.nu.ca

**Re: Screening Decision for Fisheries and Oceans Canada-Institute of Ocean Sciences’
“CROW-Canadian Rangers Ocean Watch” Project Proposal, Kitikmeot Region**

Dear Ms. Bennett and Mr. Quassa:

On December 2, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Fisheries and Oceans Canada-Institute of Ocean Sciences’ (DFO) “CROW – Canadian Ranger Ocean Watch” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). The NPC noted that the project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan and has determined that the project proposal is a significant modification to the previously screened works and activities associated with NIRB File 14YN001 because of the project study area boundary and additional activities.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada* (Nunavut Agreement) and section 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal. Due to the proposal containing activities that were sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number 14YN001, the NIRB viewed this project proposal as an amendment to the previously screened project and assigned this proposal with this previous file number.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of DFO's "CROW-Canadian Ranger Ocean Watch" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the NuPPAA.

Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated February 27, 2017 to the responsible Minister(s). The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB's assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the project proposal will not be enclosed due to the size of the electronic document and the limited bandwidth. However, an electronic copy of the project proposal is accessible online from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: CROW – Canadian Ranger Ocean Watch
- NIRB File No.: 14YN001
- Application No.: 125034

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Copland, Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure: Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 14YN001 (February 27, 2017)