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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavut liuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

May 10, 2017

Kelli Gillard, B.Sc., P.Ag
Manager, Project Manager
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Sent VIA Email: info@nirb.ca

RE: Comment Request for the Refining of the NIRB's Project Specific Monitoring Framework

Dear Ms. Gillard,

On behalf of the Government of Nunavut (GN), I would like to thank the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for the opportunity to attend and provide comments on the NIRB's Project Specific Monitoring Workshop held at the 2017 Nunavut Mining Symposium.

The GN has compiled several follow-up comments to the discussion had at the workshop for consideration by the NIRB.

Should you have any concerns with our comments, please contact me by phone at 867-975-7765 or by email at arobinson@gov.nu.ca.

Qujannamiik,

[Original Signed By]

Amy Robinson
Project Manager, Land Use and Planning

APPENDIX (2 Comments)

April 6, 2017 Workshop Comment # 01	
Department	Environment
Organization	Government of Nunavut
Subject/Topic	Geographical Information Systems use in Environmental Assessment
References	Nunavut Impact Review Board Refining Project Specific Monitoring established under Project Certificates Workshop April 6, 2017
IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUE	
<p>Currently Geographical information systems (GIS) are used to spatially map project attributes and valued environmental components (VEC's) in Nunavut. GIS software uses base maps, and allows users to overlay and/or manipulate spatial data of interest. With the use of GIS, technical staff are able to map out project attributes and VECs, highlighting potential areas of concern and effects the project could have on the environment (i.e. migration routes, calving grounds, watersheds).</p> <p>Currently there is no set format for how a Proponent submits the geographical attributes of a project to the NIRB (i.e. surficial extent, infrastructure, etc.). This has therefore led to difficulties when creating spatial representation for projects.</p>	
REVIEWER'S RECOMMENDATIONS	
<p>The GN recommends that the NIRB standardize the means by which Proponents report the spatial attributes of their projects. The GN also recommends that Proponents be required to provide detailed geographical references and attributes (i.e. UTM coordinates, spatial boundaries) of their project(s) to the NIRB. For larger projects, the GN recommends Proponents submit project-specific shape files to streamline the review of a project's spatial attributes.</p>	
ADDITIONAL NOTES	
NA	

April 6, 2017 Workshop Comment # 02	
Department	Economic Development and Transportation
Organization	Government of Nunavut
Subject/Topic	Socio-Economic Monitoring Committees
References	Nunavut Impact Review Board Refining Project Specific Monitoring established under Project Certificates Workshop April 6, 2017
IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUE	
<p>The regional Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee's (SEMC's), led by the Government of Nunavut's Department of Economic Development and Transportation, are often identified in Project Certificate Terms and Conditions as responsible bodies. While Proponents are given the primary direction, the SEMC's end up playing a supporting role in the development and implementation of most socio-economic related Terms and Conditions.</p> <p>Despite the significant proportion of socio-economic related Terms and Conditions in a given Project Certificate, it does not appear there is a commensurate share of this content in the NIRB's annual community information sessions. Further, the NIRB's annual monitoring reports do not acknowledge the work of the SEMC's and their role in Project Certificate compliance.</p>	
REVIEWER'S RECOMMENDATIONS	
<p>The Government of Nunavut recommends the NIRB engage the Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee Chairs and/or coordinating staff in advance of their annual community information sessions on the content of their presentation materials. Further, the NIRB should continue to accommodate the inclusion of other parties with responsibilities under Project Certificates on site tours, including representatives of the SEMC's. These site tours should give appropriate weighting to relevant socio-economic terms and conditions in their investigations.</p>	
ADDITIONAL NOTES	
NA	