



**NIRB File No.: 17XN030**  
NPC File No.: 148432

August 16, 2017

Margaret Scott  
Advisian, WorleyParsons Group  
Suite 500, 4321 Still Creek Dr.  
Burnaby, BC V5C 6S7

Sent via email: [margaret.e.scott@advisian.com](mailto:margaret.e.scott@advisian.com)

**Re: Opportunity to address comments received regarding the Government of Nunavut's "Pond Inlet Marine Infrastructure" Project Proposal**

Dear Margaret Scott:

On February 22, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen the Government of Nunavut (GN or Proponent) "Pond Inlet Marine Infrastructure" Project Proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). On July 18, 2017 the NIRB circulated a public notice of the screening for this project, inviting interested parties to provide comments directly to the NIRB by August 8, 2017.

On or before August 8, 2017 the NIRB received comments from the following interested parties:

- Government of Nunavut
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Parks Canada
- Transport Canada

All comment submissions received by the NIRB relating to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca) by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Pond Inlet Marine Infrastructure
- NIRB File No.: 17XN030
- Application No.: 125101

A *summary* of the public concerns reflected in the comment submissions relate to the following:

- The project would be located within the proposed national marine conservation area of Lancaster Sound. Shipping and cruise ship tourism would be allowed through this area if it were established, however development of the port would be ongoing during shipping and cruise ship operations; recommend clarification be provided on methods to inform vessels and safety procedures during construction.
- Potential for increased activity in Eclipse Sound; recommend the Proponent discuss any considerations made during project design and proposed operations to address possible increases to local vessel activity as a result of the project and provide additional detail on any residual or significant adverse effects that may result from the project.
- Effects of climate change on local use of the port and adjacent waters should be considered for both construction and operations of the small craft harbour; recommend the Proponent outline any considerations made during project design and proposed operations to address impacts from climate change.
- Reference to emergency response plan but no detail provided on what types of emergencies would be considered during response planning for either construction or operations which leads to uncertainties in understanding possible impacts of the project; recommend the Proponent provide an overview of the types of emergencies that may arise from the project and the types of mitigation or plans that may be employed to address the impacts.
- Concerns regarding impacts to the marine environment as a result of onshore erosion, sediment control, and water management during construction and lack of clarity on the monitoring programs to be implemented; recommend the Proponent clarify mitigation measures to address these potential impacts and provide additional detail on its monitoring programs.
- Concerns regarding 4 possible archaeological sites in the proposed project area and the sites would be protected by law; recommend that the Proponent hire a professional to conduct an archaeological and palaeontological assessment of the project area to ensure sites are identified and appropriate mitigation applied; recommend the Proponent undertake an assessment and provide information on its mitigation measures to preserve these sites.

The NIRB would like to provide the Government of Nunavut with an opportunity to address the comments noted above prior to the Board rendering its determination for this screening assessment and issuing its subsequent Screening Decision Report to the responsible Ministers. The NIRB respectfully requests that a response be provided directly to the NIRB by **August 30, 2017**.

If the GN determines that the time required to supply a written response is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please send any forthcoming submissions directly to the NIRB at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), or through the online public registry at [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca).

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4619 or [kgillard@nirb.ca](mailto:kgillard@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelli Gillard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing initial "K".

Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag.  
Manager, Project Monitoring  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc:      Distribution List  
         Paul Mulak, Government of Nunavut  
         Charlotte Mougeot, SRM Consultants Ltd.  
         Veronique D'Amours-Gauthier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
         Mark D'Aguiar, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
         Jenie Cooper, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
         Mark Dahl, Environment and Climate Change Canada  
         Georgina Williston, Environment and Climate Change Canada  
         Transport Canada  
         Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada  
         Rob Johnstone, Natural Resources Canada  
         Rachelle Besner, Natural Resources Canada