



NIRB File No.: 18YN016

NPC File No.: 148653

May 24, 2018

To: The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of the University of Manitoba's "Churchill Marine Observatory – Environmental Observing (CMO-EO) System" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Minister:

On March 13, 2018 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received the University of Manitoba's "Churchill Marine Observatory – Environmental Observing (CMO-EO) System" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). **Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 18YN016.**

On March 13, 2018 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to subsection 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that the information provided be sufficient to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and to commence screening. Following a preliminary completeness check of the proposal as submitted, the NIRB determined that the proposal did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening and on March 21, 2018 requested that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information. On April 9, 2018 the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On April 11, 2018 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by April 23, 2018.

Having since received and considered comments for this file, the project proposal has been remitted to the Board for its decision-making; however due to the high volume of screenings currently before the Board and continued vacancies in board member appointments challenging NIRB quorum requirement, additional time is required to complete the decision-making for this file.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry (www.nirb.ca) by using any of the following search criteria:


- Project Name: Churchill Marine Observatory – Environmental Observing (CMO-EO) System
- NIRB File No.: 18YN016
- Application No.: 125299

The NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA*. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this project proposal will be completed by **June 1, 2018**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister for consideration; should any additional time be required to conclude the screening process, the NIRB commits to providing further updates as deemed appropriate.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the Minister will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: C.J. Mundy, University of Manitoba
David Joanase, Minister Responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Mark D'Aguiar, Fisheries and Oceans Canada