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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

June 4, 2018

Natasha Lear

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Dear: Ms. Lear, Transport Canada, Mr. Stubbing, Mr. Charge, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Williamson Bathory, Mr. Clark and Mr. Henriksen :

RE: NPC File #148834 [MS FRAM-The Northwest Passage - In the Wake of Great Explorers]

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

1. Marine based tourism activities: The MS FRAM is a Norwegian based passenger vessel employed to make two trips this year through the Northwest Passage. Westbound 29 August - 10 September 2018 Voyage CENFRNWP1801 and Eastbound 10 - 22 September 2018 Voyage CENFRNWP1802. Community visits are

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planned for Pond Inlet, Gjøa Haven and Cambridge Bay. There will be up to 240 passengers and 80 crew members.

2. Related NPC file: 148537- Crossing Baffin Bay from Canada to Greenland, MS SPITSBERGEN, 24 July to 06 August 2017, Voyage CENSPGRE1701
3. Location: Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani Regions [Through Northwest Passage; visits of the communities of Pond Inlet, Gjøa Haven and Cambridge Bay; Sighting at various locations along the way].

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.

Although the project proposal belongs to a class of works or activities that are exempt from screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) under Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement, the NPC has concerns regarding the cumulative impacts of this project proposal combined with those of other projects because of:

- a) Nearby projects that have been carried out, are being carried out, or have been proposed, including projects associated with Marine based Tourism, scientific research, and Minerals and Mining freight shipping¹.
- b) Lancaster sounds and other areas surrounding the project itinerary have been identified as having value and priority for local communities for the following reasons²:
 - i. Narwhal calving, Whale, fish and seal habitats, bird nesting and char spawning; Caribou sea ice crossing
 - ii. Traditional harvesting of whales, seals, fish, caribou and birds.
 - iii. Access by boats to summer camps and travel to other communities.
 - iv. Historic sites, including sod houses
 - v. General concerns about the negative impact of cruise ships and mineral shipping on marine mammals.

Because of these concerns, by way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening under subsection 80(1) of the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA). Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:
<http://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148834&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

¹ Some nearby active and proposed projects/project proposals: 148855- One Ocean Expeditions (NIRB File No 12AN025) ; 148830- Adventure Canada (NIRB File No 06AN041); 148699 - Students On Ice 2018 Arctic Expedition (NIRB File No 13AN014); 148744 - Complete Expeditions Tourist Operations - Private Yacht Northwest Passage interpretive trip (NIRB File No 17TN054) ; 148808 Lindbald Expeditions (NIRB File No 13AN020; 148813 (URI Northwest passage project (NIRB File No 17YN016) ; 14884& 148420 – Mary river Production Increase & Phase II Expansion (NIRB File No 08MN053 & 17UN012) ; 148838 - Croker Bay Study and NW Passage Transit to Gjøa Haven; 148764 - ATKA expedition (NIRB File No 18TN017);

² Nunavut Planning Commission. Summary of Community Meetings on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (e.i. Pond inlet, Gjøa Heaven, Chesterfield Inlet). 2012-2014.

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) 979-3444.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Goump Djalogue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Goump" and last name "Djalogue" clearly distinguishable.

Goump Djalogue
Senior Planner, MCIP | RPP
Nunavut Planning Commission