



June 18, 2018

Natasha Lear

Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
By email: nlear@nirb.ca; info@nirb.ca

Mosha Cote

Manager-Research Liaison
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Robbie Bennett

NRCAN
1 Challenger Drive
Dartmouth Nova Scotia B2Y4A2 Canada
By email: robbie.bennett@canada.ca

Dear Ms. Lear, Mr. Cote and Mr. Bennett:

RE: NPC File # 148842- Geology Research in Baffin Bay

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

1. Marine Based and Research Activities: The sailing expedition proposed to take place in August 15-September 11, 2018, is a collaborative venture, including research activities from the Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office (CNGO), and the Geological Survey of Canada's programs Geomapping for Energy and Minerals (GEM), and Public Safety Geoscience (PSG). Information collected during this project will help support community and government decisions on use of offshore areas and provide communities with better knowledge for improving public safety.
2. Modifications to the original/amended project proposal:
 - Addition of Southwing Fiord (near Cape Dyer) to the proposed work areas; removal of Frobisher Bay from the proposed work areas; enlargement of Home Bay and Davis Strait proposed working areas, and addition of ADCP to proposed equipment list.
3. Related NPC File No: 148488-Geology Research in Baffin Bay; NIRB File No: 13YN021 and 14YN032.
4. Locations: Qikiqtani Region [Various off-shore sites from the entrance to Hudson Strait area, Outer Cumberland Sound, Baffin Bay, Home Bay, Southwing Fiord and Scot Inlet area.]

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. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal and a conformity determination was issued on May 31, 2013, on July 21, 2014, on June 11, 2015 and most recently on February 28, 2017, which still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, including; piston sediment coring, seabed video recording, CTD and Niskin water sampling, echosounder-seabed imaging and multibeam echosounding bathymetry data collection. (NIRB FILE No.: 13YN021 and 14YN032). 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.

This project proposal is exempt from the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) under section 235 of that Act. The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the inclusion of the new equipment and the proposed expansion and addition of the research area does not change the general area and scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3 (a) and (b) of the Nunavut Agreement do not apply.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<http://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148842&sessionid=>

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Agreement to implement any of the applicable conformity requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

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, appearing to read 'Goump Djalogue', written in a cursive style.

Goump Djalogue
Senior Planner, RPP, MCIP
Nunavut Planning Commission