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Nunavutmi Parnaiyiit  
Nunavut Planning Commission  
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

May 31, 2017

Jaida Ohokannoak  
Manager, Technical Administration  
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)  
P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0  
By email: [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca)

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Boulder CO 80303-0450  
By email: [gmiller@colorado.edu](mailto:gmiller@colorado.edu)

Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Cote, Mr. Shoo and Mr. Miller:

**RE: NPC File # 148582- Ancient DNA in lake sediment**

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

1. Scientific Research: The primary goal of this research is to analyze ancient DNA contained in lake sediment in order to reconstruct past vegetation changes on Baffin Island over the last ~10,000 years and assess how plant communities responded to past climate change. Lake sediment will be sampled from three small lakes, one that is 18 km from Iqaluit, and two that are 10-20 km from Clyde River. With the use of local guides and non-motorized inflatable boats, 6-cm-diameter polycarbonate tubes will be pushed into the mud at the center of each lake, to capture a small sample of the sediment that will then be extracted and returned to Iqaluit/Clyde River.
2. Associated NPC File No: 148222 - Ancient DNA in lake sediment
3. Modifications to the original/amended project proposal: Addition of a site near Clyde River (North Baffin planning region) and also a change in the field work season (late summer as opposed to spring).
4. Location: Qikiqtani Region; one (1) site approx. 15km South East of Iqaluit and two(2) sites, on IOL, approx. 10-20 km North West of Clyde River.

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, including Sediment extractions in

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lakes (decision issued on February 24, 2016, NPC File # 148222 - Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment). In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 16YN010)

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because it now includes an area near Clyde River. 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.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148582&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 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, appearing to read 'Goump Djalogue'.

Goump Djalogue  
Senior Planner, MCIP, RPP  
Nunavut Planning Commission