



NIRB File No.: 19AN008
NPC File No.: 148982

March 15, 2019

To: The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A0A6

The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C.
Minister of Transport
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A0A6

Sent via email: ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca, catherine.mckenna@parl.gc.ca,
questions@tc.gc.ca, and marc.garneau@parl.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Silverback Films Ltd.’s “BBC Perfect Planet – Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Karrak Lake) – Arctic Foxes” Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Ministers:

On January 16, 2019 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Silverback Films Ltd.’s “BBC Perfect Planet – Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary (Karrak Lake) – Arctic Foxes” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). **Pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Ministers extend the period for the submission of the Board’s written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 19AN008.**

On January 16, 2019 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB’s public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and commence screening. On February 12, 2019 the NIRB followed up with the Proponent again to request completion of an online application and later that day received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On February 15, 2019 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 March 8, 2019.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB’s screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB’s online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125436.

Due to the limited availability of the Board March 18-22, 2019,¹ 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 **April 5, 2019**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Ministers 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, the NIRB understands that the Ministers 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a horizontal line that extends to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Sarah Walsh, Silverback Films Ltd.
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Lisa Pirie-Dominix, Canadian Wildlife Service

¹ The members of the Nunavut Impact Review Board will be facilitating the Final Public Meeting for the Strategic Environmental Assessment in Baffin Bay/Davis Strait March 18-22, 2019 and, as a result, will be unavailable to participate in screening assessments during this time period.