



Environmental Protection Operations Directorate  
Prairie & Northern Region  
933 Mivvik Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 1870  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

ECCC File: 6420 000 007/001  
NIRB File: 19XN011

March 20, 2019

Via email at: [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca)

Cassel Kapolak  
Environmental Administrator  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Dear Cassel Kapolak:

**RE: 19XN011 – Qulliq Energy Corp. – Kugluktuk Power Plant and Solar Energy Project Proposal – NIRB Screening**

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) regarding the above-mentioned screening and is submitting comments via email. ECCC's specialist advice is provided based on our mandate, in the context of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

The following comments are provided:

**1. Environment Canada Contact Telephone Number**

Reference(s)

- 505 Kugluktuk Nunavut, Spill Contingency Plan, Site Specific Information, EC00000172, Updated Sept 2016

Comment

Section 7.2 Important Phone Numbers lists the contact number "Environment Canada (Emergency) Yellowknife 867-669-4725" (Page 3).

In the case of a spill or emergency, the 24 Hour NWT/NU Spill Report Line should be contacted first by the Proponent. The NWT/NU Spill Report Line will then involve ECCC Emergencies when appropriate.

For information relating to the environmental enforcement and reporting requirements in the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the *Fisheries Act* the Proponent can contact ECCC Environmental Enforcement at (867) 669-4730.

#### ECCC Recommendation(s)

ECCC recommends that the Proponent remove the Environment Canada (Emergency) Yellowknife phone number from the Spill Contingency Plan.

## **2. Species at Risk**

#### Reference(s)

- Qulliq Energy Corporation, NIRB Application for Screening #125442, Kugluktuk Power Plant Solar Project, Section on Additional Information, Screening for the Description of the Existing Biological Environment, January 28, 2019
- Qulliq Energy Corporation, NIRB Application for Screening #125442, Kugluktuk Power Plant Solar Project, Section on Additional Information, Screening for the Description of the Existing Biological Environment, January 28, 2019
- Qulliq Energy Corporation, Construction of New Diesel Power Plant at Kugluktuk, Nunavut, Chapter 01, Scope of work

#### Comment

The Proponent has not identified species at risk which could be encountered at, or affected by the Project.

Subsection 79(2) of the *Species at Risk Act* states that during an assessment of a project, the adverse effects of the project on listed wildlife species and their critical habitat must be identified, that measures are taken to avoid or lessen those effects, and that the effects need to be monitored.

The location of the Project falls within the range of several Species at Risk which could be encountered. Table 1, provided below, lists Species at Risk that may be encountered in the Project area that have been designated as at risk by COSEWIC as well as their current listing on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (and designation if different from that of COSEWIC).

If species at risk are encountered or affected by the Project, the primary mitigation measure should be avoidance. The Proponent should avoid contact with or disturbance to each species, its habitat and/or its residence.

**Table 1. Terrestrial Species at Risk Potentially Encountered in the Project Area**

Terrestrial Species at Risk <sup>1</sup>	COSEWIC Designation	SARA Status	Government Organization with Primary Management Responsibility <sup>2</sup>	Recovery Strategy, Action Plan or Management Plan posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry
Dolphin and Union Caribou	Endangered	Schedule 1, Special Concern	GN	Management Plan - Proposed
Peregrine Falcon ( <i>anatum-tundrius</i> complex)	Not at Risk	Schedule 1, Special Concern	GN	Management Plan – Final
Polar Bear	Special Concern	Schedule 1, Special Concern	GN	
Short-eared Owl	Special Concern	Schedule 1, Special Concern	GN	Management Plan - Proposed
Caribou (Barren-ground population)	Threatened	No Status	GN	
Harris’s Sparrow	Special Concern	No Status	ECCC	
Red-necked Phalarope	Special Concern	No Status	ECCC	
Transverse Lady Beetle	Special Concern	No Status	GN	
Wolverine	Special Concern	Schedule 1, Special Concern	GN	
<p>Notes:</p> <p><sup>1</sup> Fisheries and Oceans Canada has responsibility for aquatic species.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has a national role to play in the conservation and recovery of Species at Risk in Canada, as well as responsibility for management of birds described in the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i> (MBCA). Day-to-day management of terrestrial species not covered in the MBCA is the responsibility of the Government of Nunavut (GN). Populations that exist in National Parks are managed under the authority of the Parks Canada Agency.</p>				

ECCC Recommendation(s)

ECCC recommends that the Proponent identify any potential Project effects and provide mitigation for any species at risk that could be encountered and affected by the Project.

ECCC recommends that the Proponent undertake monitoring of Species at Risk mitigation. This should include recording the locations and dates of any observations of Species at Risk, behaviour or actions taken by the animals when Project activities were encountered, and any actions taken by the Proponent to avoid contact or disturbance to the species and its habitat.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 975-4981 or [Richard.Bingley@canada.ca](mailto:Richard.Bingley@canada.ca).

Sincerely,

*[original signed by]*

Richard Bingley  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Bradley Summerfield, A/Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)