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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

March 25, 2019

Natasha Lear

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

Veronique D'Amours-Gauthier

Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
5204 50th Ave, suite 301, Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2
By email: veronique.damours-gauthier@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; fisheriesprotection@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Lisa Pirie-Dominix

A/Head
Canadian Wildlife Services (CWS)
P.O. Box 1714, Iqaluit NU, X0A0H0
By email: lisa.pirie-dominix@canada.ca;
ec.nupermisscf-cwspermitnunavut.ec@canada.ca

Mosha Cote

Manager Research Liaison
Nunavut Research Institute (NRI)
Box 1720, Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
By Email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca

Amy Robinson

A/Manager, Land Use Planning;
Department of Environment (GN-DOE)
P.O. Box 2410 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
By email: arobinson@gov.nu.ca;
wildlife_research@gov.nu.ca

Alexander Stubbing

Director of Culture and Heritage
Department of Culture and Heritage (GN-CH)
P.O. Box 1000, Stn. 800, Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
By email: astubbing@gov.nu.ca;
sleblanc1@gov.nu.ca

Christopher Knowlton

University of Rhode Island
218 South Ferry Road
Narragansett RI 02879 USA
By email: cknowlton@uri.edu

Dear Ms. Lear, Ms. Pirie-Dominix, Ms. Robinson, Ms. D'Amours-Gauthier, Mr. Cote, Mr. Stubbing and Mr. Knowlton:

RE: NPC File # 149083 - URI Northwest Passage Project 2019

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

1. Marine Based Scientific Research: The goal of this marine based research expedition is to understand how waters of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA) have changed as a consequence of the secular warming trend over the Arctic Circle.

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P.O. Box 2101
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
867-983-4625
867-983-4626

P.O. Box 2101
Ikaluktutiak, NU X0B 0C0
867-983-4625
867-983-4626

2. Related NPC File No.: 148421, 148442, and 148813; Related NIRB File No.: 16AN072, 17YN016, and 18YN029.
3. Location: Qikiqtani and Kitikmeot Regions; [various locations in Nunavut waters through the Northwest passage]

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 marine-based research activities along the Northwest Passage near the communities of Resolute Bay, Arctic Bay, and Pond Inlet, and conformity determinations were issued on January 27, 2017, February 10, 2017, and April 24, 2018. These conformity determinations still apply. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB File No.: 16AN072 and 18YN029).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because of the additions of new locations around Austin Channel, Viscount Melville Sound (near Resolute Bay) and Lady Ann Strait (near Grise Fiord). 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 or previously amended 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://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149083&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,



Goump Djalogue
Senior Planner, MCIP, RPP
Nunavut Planning Commission