



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 19YN020

Project Name: The “Impacts of Melting Tidewater Glaciers on Marine Biogeochemical Cycles” project
Proponent Name: University of Alberta (U of A)
Project Type: Research Region: Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region
Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 125462
Comment Deadline: May 24, 2019

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Impacts of Melting Tidewater Glaciers on Marine Biogeochemical Cycles” project is located within the Qikiqtani (North Baffin) region, approximately 250 kilometres (km) from Grise Fiord. The Proponent intends to monitor the glacier dynamics and hydrology of the Sverdrup, Belcher, Sydkap and Jakeman Glaciers over the course of five (5) years to determine the quantity, timing, and routing of meltwater delivery to the ocean, characterize the chemistry and microbiology of these meltwaters, and evaluate their impact on the downstream marine environment. The program is proposed to take place from July 2019 to July 2024. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Use of Twin Otter or helicopter to transport equipment and personnel to field sites, temporary camp, and to conduct land reconnaissance surveys;
- Use of either a sailboat or small motor boat to transport equipment and personnel to travel from Grise Fiord to the termini of glaciers on Devon and Ellesmere Islands;
- Installation, data collection, and retrieval of the cameras, tripods and pressure transducers annually; and
- All waste generated either by boat or camp would be brought back to appropriate locations (e.g., Resolute Bay, Grise Fiord or other locations) for proper disposal.

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **19YN020** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via www.nirb.ca. Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Talia Maksagak, Junior Technical Advisor toll-free at 1-866-233-3033 or tmaksagak@nirb.ca.