



May 24, 2019

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Dear Ms. Lear, Mr. Cote, Ms. D'Amours-Gauthier, Ms. Chisholm, Ms. Pirie-Dominix, and Ms. Vergara:

RE: NPC File # 149163 [Eyes Above and Ears Below: Combining Technologies to Understand Killer Whale Vocal Behaviour, Group Composition and Distribution in the Arctic]

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

1. **Scientific Research:** Through this project researchers would like to use IQ and science to learn about killer whales. The objective is to learn about the killer whales that use Eclipse sound and surrounding inlets area. In particular, the researchers would like to understand the links between killer whales' communication, behaviour and social relationships because this information may help understand their distribution and presence in different areas. The methodology of study would consist of taking pictures of the killer whale's natural markings to identify the groups of individuals, flying a small drone to film behaviour and verify group composition and group size, and record the groups with hydrophones.
2. **Associated NPC FILE No:** 149066

3. **Summary of modification:** *This proposal is a revision of the project No 149066. Following the issuance of the conformity determination of project No 149066 on April 4, 2019, the proponent, after additional consultation with local communities, has decided to reduce the scope of the proposed project. The project will now focus exclusively on killer whales.*
4. **Location:** Qikiqtani Region [Eclipse sound and surrounding inlets; near Pond Inlet]

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. 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 project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

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=149163&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