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May 10, 2019

Dr. Valeria Vergara
Ocean Wise Conservation Association
1768 William St.
Vancouver, BC V5L 2R4

Sent via email: valeria.vergara@ocean.org

Re: Additional Information Required: Information Request # 1 for Ocean Wise Conservation Association’s “Eyes Above and Ears Below: Combining Technologies to Understand Vocal Behaviour, Group Composition and Noise Disturbance in Narwhal and Killer Whale Arctic Habitats” Project Proposal

Dear Dr. Valeria Vergara:

On April 4, 2019 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Ocean Wise Conservation Association’s “Eyes Above and Ears Below: Combining Technologies to Understand Vocal Behaviour, Group Composition and Noise Disturbance in Narwhal and Killer Whale Arctic Habitats” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **19YN024** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

On April 4, 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 to commence screening.

The documents and materials received to date by the NIRB in support of this project proposal include:

- *NPC Conformity Determination/Referral;*
- *NPC Project Application and Questionnaire;*
- *Non-Technical Summaries in English and Inuktitut*

The NIRB has undertaken a completeness check of your project proposal as submitted and found that **additional** information is required for the NIRB to carry out its screening. According to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB is requesting submission of the information as outlined in Appendix A of this correspondence by **May 24, 2019**.

Please be advised that pursuant to s. 92(3)(b) of the *NuPPAA*, the 45-day timeline for the Board to provide a screening decision stopped on April 4, 2019. This 45-day timeline will start again on the date the NIRB receives the requested additional information. If the Proponent fails to submit the requested additional information, the Board may suspend or terminate the assessment activities of the proposed project pursuant to the relevant provisions under s. 144 of the *NuPPAA*. Therefore, it is in Ocean Wise Conservation Association's best interest to cure the identified information deficiencies in a timely manner.

If Ocean Wise Conservation Association determines that the time required to supply the required information is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please submit all forthcoming project proposal information through the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca. For additional instructions regarding the new project application portal, please contact NIRB administration at info@nirb.ca or at 1-866-233-3033.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4612 or nlear@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Natasha Lear
Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachment: Appendix A: Information Request # 1

Appendix A: Information Request # 1
for Ocean Wise Conservation Association's "Eyes Above and Ears Below: Combining Technologies to Understand Vocal Behaviour, Group Composition and Noise Disturbance in Narwhal and Killer Whale Arctic Habitats"
pursuant to s. 144(1) of the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act
NIRB File No. 19YN024

1. TOPIC/ISSUE: NIRB's Online Application Form

REFERENCE: *Proponent's Guide (2018)*¹: Guide to Filing of Project Proposals and Screening Process

RATIONALE: The NIRB requires the Proponent to complete the online application form in order to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and to ensure sufficient information has been provided to commence screening. The NIRB will no longer accept applications or supporting documents via e-mail or regular mail.

REQUEST: Complete the NIRB's online application form at www.nirb.ca, pursuant to the NIRB's project application requirements.

The Proponent is recommended to review the Help Boxes associated with the NIRB's online application form when completing the application.

2. TOPIC/ISSUE: Project Map

REFERENCE: *Proponent's Guide (2018)*¹: Guide to Filing of Project Proposals and Screening Process

RATIONALE: The NIRB requires a map of the project proposal and related activities to assist in the assessment of the project.

REQUEST: Complete the NIRB's online map in the application form at www.nirb.ca as well as provide the latitude and longitude of the locations as listed within the application form. The map should include where applicable the following items:

- Location(s) of any existing or proposed infrastructure(s) including but not limited to:
 - a. Camp location(s) (temporary and/or permanent) and camp facilities,
 - b. Road(s),
 - c. Bridges, etc.;
- Location(s) of all proposed activity(ies) including but not limited to:
 - a. Fuel storage sites,
 - b. Research sites (specific locations identified within the broader geometry), and/or
 - c. Drill locations;
- Project site in proximity to territorial and/or national parks; and
- Project site in proximity to sensitive wildlife and wildlife habitat (e.g., migratory bird sanctuary).

3. TOPIC/ISSUE: Non-technical Project Proposal Summary in English, and Inuktitut

REFERENCE: *Proponent's Guide (2018)*¹: Guide to Filing of Project Proposals and Screening Process

¹ <http://www.nirb.ca/guides>

RATIONALE: The NIRB requires that a non-technical summary be submitted by proponents in order to assist parties to understand and provide comments on project proposals. Translated copies of the non-technical summaries are required to be inserted into the text boxes provided in order to assist unilingual community organizations and members to provide comments on project proposals.

REQUEST: Submit via the online application text boxes a non-technical description of the project proposal in English and in the regional languages, which include Inuktitut (Kivalliq, North/South Baffin, Eastern Kitikmeot).

The summary should use plain language only and address the following points in < 5,000 characters:

- **Who:** Company, individual or entity proposing the project.
- **What:** The type of undertaking being proposed and how it would be carried out. It may be helpful to describe the scale of the project, number of people involved, permanence of any facilities constructed, and methods of transport.
- **Why:** The objective of and need for the project, potential long term implications.
- **Where:** general location of proposed activities in relation to closest communities, protected areas.
- **When:** timeframe of proposed activities (fixed period, seasonal, multi-year).

Please keep in mind that the project summary is intended to provide members of the public with sufficient information to understand what is being proposed and determine whether they might wish to further review the full project application and supporting information.

4. TOPIC/ISSUE: Supplemental supporting documentation

REFERENCE: Requirement of documentation to complete screening assessment

RATIONALE: To properly scope and assess proposed projects, the NIRB requires proponents to provide specific information on proposed activities, associated components, and proposed mitigation and monitoring measures related to the proposal.

REQUEST: Provide supplemental information regarding the following:

- Summary of current and future consultation plans;
- Flight plans (e.g., duration, location, and altitudes) including any planned aerial surveys, if appropriate;
- Research methodologies to be employed;
- Mitigation plans that include the identification of potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures;
- A discussion on waste management and spill contingency plans; and
- Images of your project location if available.