



NIRB File No.: 19TN032
NPC File No.: 149064

June 13, 2019

Karin Strand
Hurtigruten AS
Postboks 6144
Tromsø N9291 Norway

Sent via email: karin.strand@hurtigruten.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Hurtigruten's "MS ROALD AMUNDSEN: Northwest Passage – In the Footsteps of Roald Amundsen" Project Proposal

Dear Karin Strand:

On May 23, 2019 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Hurtigruten AS's (Hurtigruten) "MS ROALD AMUNDSEN: Northwest Passage – In the Footsteps of Roald Amundsen" 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 **19TN032** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On May 23, 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 the information provided be sufficient to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and that sufficient information has been provided to commence screening. On May 30, 2019 the NIRB followed up with the Proponent requesting an online application and on June 7, 2019 the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

Project Scope:

The proposed “MS *ROALD AMUNDSEN*: Northwest Passage – In the Footsteps of Roald Amundsen” project is a cruise ship which proposes a voyage within the Qikiqtani and Kitikmeot Regions with visits to wildlife and historic areas as well as visits to the communities of Pond Inlet, Gjoa Haven and Cambridge Bay. The Proponent intends to conduct vessel-based tourism activities that would provide passengers opportunities to engage in sightseeing, zodiac cruising, kayak excursions, wildlife watching, shore landings for guided interpretive walks, and organized community visits. The program is proposed to take place from August to September 2019.

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Use of cruise vessel, the MS *ROALD AMUNDSEN*, for transportation and accommodation of up to 480 passengers/tourists, 170 crew members and one (1) contracted ice pilot;
- Use of a fleet of seven (7) zodiacs (small boats) fitted with outboard engines to facilitate shore landings and sightseeing excursions;
 - All visits to shore to be brief day trips, on foot with no camping, structures built, or motorized transport;
- Use of 18 kayaks for guests and instructors;
- Tourism expedition visits to include:
 - Dundas Harbour/Crocker Bay, Beechey Island, Prince Leopold Island, Conningham Bay, and James Ross Strait to visit historic sites and conduct wildlife viewing;
 - Pre-organized visits to the communities of Pond Inlet, Gjoa Haven and Cambridge Bay; and
 - Scenic cruising, shore landings and shore-based interpretive activities along the route;
- Storage and use of diesel for vessel operations and for zodiac operations;
- Use of onboard reverse osmosis to supply domestic water needs;
- Generation of combustible wastes, and non-combustible wastes with disposal/recycling at a certified reception port; and
- Generation of sewage and grey water with treatment on board with disposal as per Canadian legislation.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125470.

The documents received include:

- *NPC Screening Referral and Conformity Determination*
- *NPC Application and Conformity Questionnaire*
- *NIRB's Online Application Form*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English, French, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun*
- *Maps noting itinerary and route*
- *Detailed Project Description*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by the Hurtigruten project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **July 4, 2019**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal including whether any cumulative ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts could result from the impacts of the proposed project combined with those of any other project that has been carried out, is being carried out or is likely to be carried out inside the designated area, or wholly or partly outside the designated area.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca, via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125470.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4609 or at johokannoak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Jaida Ohokannoak
Technical Advisor II
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (6): Public Notice of Screening (English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)
Comment Forms (English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)

cc: Distribution List
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tanis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Stephen William-Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Natalie O'Grady, Government of Nunavut – Department of Economic Development and Transportation
Alexander Stubbing, Government of Nunavut–Culture and Heritage
Sylvie LeBlanc, Government of Nunavut–Culture and Heritage
Drikus Gissing, Government of Nunavut–Department of Environment
Jody Kusugak, Government of Nunavut–Department of Economic Development and Transportation
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Lisa Pirie-Dominix, Canadian Wildlife Services
Jane Chisholm, Parks Canada