



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 19YN036

Project Name: The “Coastal Environmental Baseline Program: Baseline Mercury Levels in Frobisher Bay Fish and Invertebrates” project

Proponent Name: University of Waterloo

Project Type: Research Region: Qikiqtani (South) Baffin Region

Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 125460

Comment Deadline: **August 19, 2019**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Coastal Environmental Baseline Program: Baseline Mercury Levels in Frobisher Bay Fish and Invertebrates” project is located within the Qikiqtani (South) Baffin region, within municipal boundaries of the city of Iqaluit. The Proponent intends to understand fisheries baseline conditions in the local coastal ecosystem of Frobisher Bay by measuring mercury concentrations in different fish species and benthic invertebrates. The program is proposed to take place from September 2019 to 2020. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Use of a boat to access different research sampling locations around Frobisher Bay;
- Collection of fish (such as Arctic cod, Arctic char, and other forage fish species), bivalves (e.g., clams) and benthic invertebrates (e.g., starfish, decapod crustaceans, barnacles)
- samples in near-shore and intertidal zones of Frobisher Bay;
- Storage and use of gasoline (sources from the community) for refueling boat during proposed research activities; and
- Disposal of non-combustible wastes in the municipal landfill.

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: 19YN036 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 Solomon Amuno, Technical Advisor II toll-free at 1-866-233-3033 or samuno@nirb.ca.