



NIRB File No.: 19XN034
NPC File No.: 149179 and 149225

September 19, 2019

Jim MacEachern
Hamlet of Cambridge Bay
23 Kamotik Road, PO Box 16
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
X0B 0C0

Sent via email: jmaceachern@cambridgebay.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay’s “Freshwater Creek Riverbed Restoration” project proposal

Dear Jim MacEachern:

On June 14, 2019 the NIRB received a referral to screen Hamlet of Cambridge Bay’s “Freshwater Creek Riverbed Restoration” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), which noted that the project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. On September 10, 2019 the NIRB issued a notice to the Commission that, following consultation with the Proponent, an inclusion has been made to the scope of the project under s. 86(1)(a) of the *NuPPAA*. On September 12, 2019, the NIRB received a second referral from the NPC for the inclusion activities noting that the previous conformity determination issued on June 14, 2019 continues to apply.

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 **19XN034**.

INFORMATION REQUEST

Following receipt of the project and referral for screening from the Commission, on June 19, 2019 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the Board’s online application form through the NIRB’s public registry system. The Proponent was asked to ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that the information provided is sufficient to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and facilitate the public screening process. On July 3, 2019 the NIRB released a formal letter requesting that the Proponent provide the Board with the information necessary in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. The NIRB followed up via email (July 18,

2019) requesting an update on when the information would be provided, including releasing a second formal letter on July 25, 2019 pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*. On August 14, 2019 the Proponent provided the requested information and the NIRB commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

On August 29, 2019 the Board notified the Proponent that additional works and activities had been identified to those specified within the scope of the project as submitted, and that these appeared to be sufficiently related so as to form part of the project under assessment. The NIRB requested that the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay provide comments to the NIRB by September 12, 2019 regarding the potential inclusions to the scope being contemplated. The Hamlet of Cambridge Bay provided correspondence in response on August 30, 2019 noting support of the inclusion of scope to the project.

On September 10, 2019 the NIRB provided notice to the Commission that, following consultation with the Proponent, an inclusion had been made to the scope of the project pursuant to s. 86(1)(a) of the *NuPPAA* and that the NIRB was unable to proceed with screening until the updated scope of the project had been considered by the Commission. The NIRB noted that an inclusion was warranted as the activities as listed below was sufficiently related to the original project to form part of it. On September 13, 2019 the Proponent submitted the revised online application and the NIRB commenced the screening.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

The proposed “Freshwater Creek Riverbed Restoration” project is located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 2.5 kilometres (km) northwest from Cambridge Bay. The Proponent intends to conduct restoration activities at the existing Freshwater Creek crossing with the removal of an old bridge between the local cemetery and the town of Cambridge Bay and upgrade a new bridge crossing. The program is proposed to take place in September 2019.

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

- Transportation of personnel via truck to site;
- Removal of an existing 30 metre Bailey Bridge;
- Excavation and removal of the causeway and adjacent upstream buffer berm;
- Use of heavy equipment to excavate, load, and remove excavated materials;
- Restoration of the riverbed and riverbanks after project completion;
- Use of fuel from the local community for refueling; and
- Use of local facilities and accommodations.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

In addition to the scope as described above and pursuant to paragraph 86(1)(a) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB has identified additional works to be sufficiently related to the project to form part of it. Following consultation with the Proponent and a referral by the Commission on September 12, 2019, the NIRB resumed the assessment of the project proposal and included the following within the scope of the project:

- Excavated materials to be used for upgrading the road to the new bridge; and

- Completion of the new bridge by installation of timber deck and railings.

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. However, the NIRB notes that any additional works not identified in the application that may be used by the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay would require a separate assessment by the NIRB under s. 86 of the *NuPPAA*.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry www.nirb.ca/project/125480.

The documents received include:

- *NPC Screening Referral*
- *NPC Application*
- *Council Letter to Regulatory Agencies Noting Support for Proposal*
- *Ekaluktutiak Hunters & Trappers Organization Letter to the Hamlet Noting Support for Proposal*
- *NIRB Online Application*
- *Maps noting project location*
- *General Layout Map of Proposed Bridge*

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 Hamlet of Cambridge Bay's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **September 30, 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.

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/125480.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 857-4829 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho, MSc., EP
Manager, Impact Assessment
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English and Inuinnaqtun)
Comment Forms (English and Inuinnaqtun)

cc: Distribution List
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Robert Chapple, Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services
Shane Slifka, Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services
Mark D'Aguiar, Fisheries and Oceans Canada