



NIRB File No.: 19YN036
NPC File No.: 149182

October 8, 2019

To: The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C.
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: min@df-mpo.gc.ca and jonathan.wilkinson@parl.gc.ca

Re: Screening Decision for University of Waterloo’s “Coastal Environmental Baseline Program: Baseline Mercury Levels in Frobisher Bay Fish and Invertebrates” Project Proposal, Qikiqtani (South Baffin) Region

Dear Honourable Minister:

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review University of Waterloo’s (U Waterloo) “Coastal Environmental Baseline Program: Baseline Mercury Levels in Frobisher Bay Fish and Invertebrates” project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *NuPPAA*.

Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated October 8, 2019 to the responsible Minister. The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB’s assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the project proposal will not be enclosed due to the size of the electronic document and the limited bandwidth. However, an electronic copy of the project proposal is accessible online from the NIRB’s online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125460

Please note that, the Board only directly addresses these notice letters to those individuals considered to be a “responsible Minister with decision-making authority” for the project as set out under the *NuPPAA*. However, regulatory authorities and other authorizing agencies associated

with a proposed project (e.g. Regional Inuit Associations, Nunavut Water Board) will continue to be copied on the Notice of Release of the Screening Decision Report. The NIRB is providing these parties with notice and access to the Board's Screening Decision Report as required under s. 200(2) and in support of these parties in the fulfillment of their responsibilities under the *NuPPAA* and the *Nunavut Agreement* to address, and as appropriate, implement, to the fullest extent possible, any relevant NIRB recommendations contained in the Screening Decision Report.

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister and the NIRB remains available for consultation with the Minister regarding this report as necessary. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kaviq Kaluraq
A/Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 19YN036 (October 8, 2019)

cc: The Honourable Patterk Netser, Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College