



NIRB File No.: 19R 046

Related to NIRB File No.: 06EN008 and 07EN001

NPC File No.: 149256

Related to NPC File No.: 148903

NWB: 2BE-FER1318

CIRNAC: N2013X0023

KIV: KVCL305H27, KVCA08Q17, KVRW06F09

January 8, 2020

Trevor Boyd
Canadian North Resources and Development Corp.
148 Lascelles Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario M5P 2E6

Sent via email: boyd2@sympatico.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for Canadian North Resources and Development Corp.'s "Ferguson Lake" project proposal

Dear Trevor Boyd:

On December 6, 2019 the NIRB received a referral to screen Canadian North Resources and Development Corp.'s (CNRD) "Ferguson Lake" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (the Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. The Commission noted that the previous conformity determination issued on July 4, 2007, as well as renewal 148903 which was issued on June 29, 2018 for the activities associated with the current proposal continues to apply and has determined that the project proposal is a significant modification to the project because of the addition of a winter road from Baker Lake to Ferguson Lake camp, and then beyond to a location 100 km from Rankin Inlet.

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 section 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. Due to the proposal containing activities that are sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file numbers 06EN008 and 07EN001, the NIRB views this project proposal as an amendment to the previously screened project but has assigned this proposal with the file number **19RA026**. A summary of the previously screened project activities can be found in [Appendix A](#).

INFORMATION REQUEST

On December 9, 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 commence screening.

On December 19, 2019 the NIRB released a formal correspondence, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, requesting that the Proponent provide the Board with the information necessary in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On December 31, 2019 the NIRB received information from the Proponent, and following a preliminary completeness check of the proposal as submitted, the NIRB determined that the proposal did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening and on January 2, 2020 requested that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On January 7, 2020 the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

The “Ferguson Lake Camp” project activities as previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 06EN008 and 07EN001) included the establishment of the Ferguson Lake camp, mineral exploration, and winter trails from Rankin Inlet and Churchill to Ferguson Lake. A complete description of the scope of activities previously approved has been included within [Appendix A](#).

Canadian North Resources and Development Corp. is currently proposing the “Ferguson Lake” project which would be located in the same area as previously approved and would be located within the Kivalliq region, approximately 166 kilometres (km) from Baker Lake. The Proponent intends to amend the scope of previously approved activities to establish a winter supply road from Baker Lake to Ferguson Lake exploration camp and to haul a rock crusher located 100 km west of Rankin Inlet via a winter haul road to the Ferguson Lake exploration camp. The current program is proposed to take place from February 2020 to April 2020.

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

- establishment of a winter trail from Baker Lake to Ferguson Lake exploration camp;
- establishment of a winter trail from camp to a rock crusher located about 100 km west of Rankin Inlet
- use of snow-track vehicles to haul containers, fuel, and tow crusher along winter trails;
- waste material to be back-hauled to Baker Lake with hazardous materials shipped south to be treated and disposed of in an approved facility; and
- use of fuel to power heavy equipment.

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/125496.

The documents received include:

- *NPC Screening Referral*
- *NPC Application*
- *NIRB's Online Application*
- *Non-technical Project Proposals summary in English and Inuktitut*

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 Canadian North Resources and Development Corp.'s project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **January 29, 2020**.

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/125496.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at johokannoak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Jaida Ohokannoak
Technical Advisor II
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachments: Appendix A: Previously-Screened Project Proposals

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

cc: Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

APPENDIX A: PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSALS

The original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 06EN008), was received by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) from the Proponent on January 20, 2006. On January 23, 2006 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for this file. The project proposal was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)*. On March 27, 2006 the NIRB issued a *Nunavut Agreement* 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the President of the Kivalliq Inuit Association which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The Starfield Resources Inc.'s (Proponent) original "Ferguson Lake Camp" project was located in the Kivalliq region, approximately 166 km south of the community of Baker Lake. The Proponent intended to establish a new camp location at Ferguson Lake, continue to conduct a multi-year mineral exploration program and haul materials via Cat train from Churchill in the winter. The program was proposed to take place from 2005 to 2006.

According to the previously screened project proposal, the scope of the project included the following undertakings, works or activities:

- use of a Cat train in the winter to move portable camp units and equipment to new camp location on Ferguson Lake from Churchill;
- seasonal operation of 30 person camp at Ferguson Lake;
- use fixed winged aircraft to transport personnel from Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet;
- use of helicopters to move drilling equipment as required;
- use of all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles around camp;
- construction and use of a winter airstrip on lake ice;
- storage and use of diesel fuel and Jet B fuel in steel drums;
- combustible garbage will be incinerated daily;
- hazardous materials backhauled for disposal in approved sites in compliance with regulations;
- camp sewage and greywater to be processed in Rotating Biological Contractor; and
- use of local employment/contracting through Rankin Inlet or Baker Lake.

Additional authorization, extension and amendment requests associated with the "Ferguson Lake Camp" project have also been reviewed by the NIRB following screening of the original project proposal (File No. 06EN008).

On March 26, 2007, after receiving an application from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (January 11, 2007) for additional activities, the NIRB issued additional terms and conditions associated with the "Ferguson Lake Project" project under NIRB File No. 07EN001 as per 12.4.4(a) of the *Nunavut Agreement*. The following is a summary of the previously screened project activities as received by the NIRB:

- 1) The scope of the activities and components associated with the January 11, 2007 application included:
 - Construction of 138 m – 30 m airstrip runway;
 - Construction of 1.5 km – 6 m all weather access road
 - Movement of bulk fuel and storage
 - Winter trail right of way from Churchill, MB and Rankin Inlet, NU to Ferguson Lake

Additional authorization, extension and amendment requests associated with the “Ferguson Lake Camp” project have also been reviewed by the NIRB following screening of the original project proposals (File No. 06EN008 and 07EN001). In each instance the NIRB confirmed that the applications were exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and that the activities therein remained subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original March 27, 2006 and March 26, 2007 Screening Decision Reports.

- September 22, 2008
- May 04, 2009
- February 26, 2014