



NIRB File No.: 19RN046

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

NPC File No.: 149256

Related to NPC File No.: 148903

NWB: 2BE-FER1318

CIRNAC: N2013X0023

KivIA: KVCL305H27, KVCA08Q17, KVRW06F09

February 19, 2020

To: The Honourable Dan Vandal, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Northern Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: dan.vandal@parl.gc.ca

Re: Screening Decision for Canadian North Resources and Development Corp.'s "Ferguson Lake Project" Project Proposal, Kivalliq Region

Dear Honourable Minister:

On December 6, 2019 the NIRB received a referral to screen Canadian North Resources and Development Corp.'s "Ferguson Lake Project" proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (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 *Nunavut Agreement* and s. 87 of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal and assigned it file number 19RA046. The NIRB considers this project proposal to be sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file numbers 06EN008 and 07EN001 but assessed this proposal as a new project.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of Canadian North Resources and Development Corp.'s "Ferguson Lake Project" 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 February 19, 2020 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/125496.

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.: 19RN046 (February 19, 2020)

cc: Kono Tattuinee, President, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Lootie Toomasie, Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board