



NIRB File No.: 19WN050
NPC File No.: 149220

February 26, 2020

Bhabesh Roy
Community and Government Services
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 379
Pond Inlet, NU X0A 0S0

Sent via email: broy@gov.nu.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services’ “Renewal and Amendment of the Resolute Bay Utilidor System Water Licence #3 BM-RUT 1520 Type A for Ten (10) yrs. term” Project Proposal

Dear Bhabesh Roy:

On December 19, 2019 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen the Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services’ (GN-CGS or the Proponent) “Renewal and Amendment of the Resolute Bay Utilidor System Water Licence #3 BM-RUT 1520 Type A for Ten (10) yrs. term” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (the Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

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 **19WN050**.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On December 19, 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 January 10, 2020 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 January 21, 2020 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 February 3, 2020 released a second formal letter requesting that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On February 18, 2020 the NIRB received the additional information from the Proponent and after a completeness check determined that the proposal did not contain all the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening and requested the required information from the Proponent in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On February 20, 2020 the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

The proposed “Renewal and Amendment of the Resolute Bay Utilidor System Water Licence #3 BM-RUT 1520 Type A for Ten (10) yrs. term” project is located within the Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region, within the community of Resolute Bay. The proponent intends to continue the licenced operations and upgrading of the municipal utilidor and to permit water use in excess of 300 cubic metres (m³) per day, the Proponent is proposing to upgrade its existing Nunavut Water Board (NWB) Type “B” Water Licence (Licence No. 3BM-RUT 1520, *expires* March 29, 2020) to a NWB Type “A” Water Licence. The municipal services under the proposed upgraded Type “A” Water Licence would be permitted to continue operations from March 2020 through March 2030.

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

- Increase of the total amount of water drawn to 160,000 cubic metres (m³) annually to meet community needs for water and proper functioning of the utilidor system;
- Construction and operation of a wastewater treatment plant to treat municipal wastewater and sewage before discharge;
- Continuation of activities to treat, store and transport water for municipal use, and transport and discharge wastewater and sewage, as previously approved by the Nunavut Water Board under a Type “B” Water Licence:
 - Use of pump station at Char Lake and Signal Hill, and the Signal Hill Water Treatment Plant;
 - Use of utilidor system which includes a water line, sewer line, access vaults, fire hydrants and macerator system;
 - Construction activities to replace the Char Lake pump station, upgrades to the intake from Char Lake to Signal Hill and Signal Hill Water Treatment Plant;
 - Use of municipal roads for operational maintenance and construction activities on the utilidor facilities;
 - Use of heavy equipment and local fuel supplies for operational maintenance and construction activities on the utilidor facilities; and
 - Discharge of diluted sewage effluent into the ocean.

- Decommissioning of the airport facilities' sewage lagoon when the wastewater treatment facility is operational as sewage will be treated through this facility.

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 www.nirb.ca/project/125499.

The documents received include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application*
- *Commission Questionnaire*
- *NIRB Online Application*
- *NIRB Executive Summary in Inuktitut and French*
- *Proponent Correspondences*

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 GN-CGS' project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **March 18, 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.

Additionally, please be aware that the NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) are required to coordinate their processes¹ for projects that require a water licence, especially municipal undertakings in order ensure the timely review and processing of the application. In undertaking a coordinated NIRB-NWB process, the Proponent must provide information through the

¹ as per sections 13.5.2 and 13.6.1 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, section 193 of *NuPPAA*, and section 37 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*

assessment to satisfy both the impact assessment requirements as well as the water licensing process; furthermore, where information to satisfy each process is similar, coordination of the timing or contents of applications may be considered when information is being submitted to both organizations. However, the Proponent has the option to request or opt out of a coordinated process; should you wish to discontinue the coordinated process at any time, you may do so in writing to both the NIRB and the NWB.

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/125499.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact Emily Koide, Technical Advisor I at (867) 983-4612 or ekoide@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Emily Koide
Technical Advisor I
Nunavut Impact Review Board

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

cc: Distribution List
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Sergey Kuflevskiy, Nunavut Water Board
Robert Chapple, Government of Nunavut, Community and Government Services
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada