

From: [Stoimenova, Yordanka \(IAAC/AEIC\)](#)
To: [Ryan Barry](#); [Traynor2, Janice \(AADNC/AANDC\)](#); [Binda, Gilles \(AADNC/AANDC\)](#)
Cc: [Gold, Maya](#); [McCormack, Andrea](#); [Neary, James \(AADNC/AANDC\)](#); [Frezza, Tara \(IAAC/AEIC\)](#); [Hynes, Aaron \(IAAC/AEIC\)](#)
Subject: Mary River Phase 2 Development - Letter from the Government of Denmark regarding transboundary environmental impact on Greenland
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2020 7:47:47 AM
Attachments: [Memo Mary River.pdf](#)
[Information to Canada about the potential transboundary impact of the proposed mining project Mary River project.pdf](#)

Colleagues,

Canada received a letter from the Government of Denmark (attached here for your consideration) regarding potential significant adverse transboundary impacts on Greenland of increased shipping related to the Mary River project on Baffin Island and requesting to participate in the environmental impact assessment of the project, pursuant to the *Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context* (Espoo Convention).

As you may know, under the Espoo Convention, Parties are required to notify and consult each other on projects under consideration that are likely to have significant adverse transboundary environmental effects. Here is the [link](#) to the Espoo Convention website, where you can find the text of the Convention and additional information regarding its purpose, should you be interested.

Canada ratified the Convention with a reservation that limits its application in Canada to projects that are subject to a federal environmental assessment. The reservation states:

"Inasmuch as under the Canadian constitutional system legislative jurisdiction in respect of environmental assessment is divided between the provinces and the federal government, the government of Canada in ratifying this Convention, makes a reservation in respect of proposed activities (as defined in this Convention) that fall outside of federal legislative jurisdiction exercised in respect of environmental assessment"

The federal environmental impact assessment requirements referred to in the reservation include the requirements under IAA, YESAA and MVRMA and NUPPA.

At this point, we have sent an interim letter to the Danish officials to acknowledge the receipt of their letter. However, to properly respond to their request, we would like to get your views **by April 3rd**, particularly on the application of the Espoo Convention to the Phase 2 Development Proposal and potential transboundary environmental impact of the increased marine traffic in Baffin Bay.

Should it be easier, we could connect via teleconference to discuss this further.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
Yordanka

Yordanka Stoimenova
Policy Analyst, External Relations and Strategic Policy Sector, Intergovernmental Affairs

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada / Government of Canada
yordanka.stoimenova@canada.ca / Tel: 613-793-7086

*Analyste des politiques, Secteur des relations externes et politique stratégique, Affaires
intergouvernementales*
Agence d'évaluation d'impact du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
yordanka.stoimenova@canada.ca / Tél. : 613-793-7086