



NIRB File No.: 15XN051

NPC File No.: 149361

Related to NPC File No.: 148158 and 149195

NWB File No.: 1BR-THI2027

July 20, 2020

Raquel Labranche
Qikiqtaaluk Environmental
9935 Rue de Chateauneuf
Brossard QC J4Z 3V4

Sent via email: rlabranche@genv.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for Qikiqtaaluk Environmental Inc.'s "Installation of an Incinerator" Project Proposal

Dear Raquel Labranche:

On May 25, 2020, the NIRB received a referral to screen Qikiqtaaluk Environmental Inc.'s (QE) "Installation of an Incinerator" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), which noted that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The Commission noted that the previous conformity determination issued on November 24, 2015 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 installation and operation of a biomedical waste incinerator that was not part of the previously screened project proposal.

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 number **15XN051**, the NIRB views this project proposal as an amendment to the previously screened project and has assigned this proposal with this previous file number. Please reference this file number in all future related correspondence. A summary of the previously screened project activities can be found in [Appendix A](#).

INFORMATION REQUEST

On May 27, 2020 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 June 5, 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 June 19, 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 July 3, 2020 requested that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On July 13, 2020, the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at <https://www.nirb.ca/project/125540>.

The following table provides a summary of the *original* project as previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 15XN051):

<i>Original Project:</i>	Environmental Waste Processing Facility
Region:	The project as previously approved was located within the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region.
Location:	Within city limits of Iqaluit
Summary of Project Description:	The Project as originally screened included conducting remediation of hydrocarbon contaminated soils, management of contaminated water, contaminated soil and management of industrial and household hazardous and non-hazardous waste. A complete description of the scope of activities previously approved has been included within Appendix A .
Original Project Timeline:	Year-round operation commenced May 2016 and will continue as long as operations was commercially viable.

The following table provides a summary of the current *amended* project as proposed by QE:

Amended Project:	Installation of an Incinerator
Region:	The project would be located in the same area as previously approved and would be located within the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region.
Location:	Within the city limits of Iqaluit
Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to amend the scope of previously approved activities by installing and operating a biomedical waste incinerator.
Project Proposed Timeline:	Installation June 2020 to May 2021

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

- Installation and operation of biomedical waste incinerator;
- Use of vehicles (airplane, trucks, barge) to transport equipment to incinerator site;
- Installation of container to store diesel fuel in order to operate facilities;
- Production of hazardous and non-hazardous waste that will be processed as appropriate (disposed at landfill or sent to southern facilities for proper disposal); and
- Use of accommodations and facilities within the city of Iqaluit.

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 can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at <https://www.nirb.ca/project/125540> and include:

- *Commission Screening Referral and Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application*
- *NIRB's Online Application Form*
- *Incinerator Emissions Data*
- *Summary Regarding Stack Emissions Testing on Incinerator*
- *Incinerator Information Brochure*
- *Nunavut Water Board Type B Renewal Licence*

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 QE project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **August 10, 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 <https://www.nirb.ca/project/125540>.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4622 or motokiak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Mia Otokiak
Junior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachments: Appendix A: Previously-Screened Project Proposals

Enclosures (6): Public Notice of Screening (English, French and Inuktitut)
Comment Forms (English, French and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Amy Robinson, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment
Natalie O'Grady, Government of Nunavut – Department of Economic Development and Transportation
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

APPENDIX A: PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSALS

The original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 15XN051), was received by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) from the Nunavut Planning Commission on November 24, 2015, noting that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. 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)* and Section 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (NuPPAA)*. On April 15, 2016 the NIRB issued a screening decision pursuant to s. 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA* to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The Qikiqtaaluk Environmental Inc.'s (Proponent) original "Environmental Waste Processing Facility" project was located in the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region, within the city limits of Iqaluit. The Proponent intended to conduct remediation of hydrocarbon contaminated soils, in addition to management of contaminated water. Year-round operations were to commence May 2016 and to continue as long as operations are commercially viable.

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

Continuation of activities

- Contaminated Water Management
 - Relocation of Water Treatment Unit, which consists of one (1) marine container 40 feet (ft) long and four (4) storage tanks in volumes varying from 25,000 litres (L) to 30,000 L;
 - Ongoing storage of contaminated water in tanks until sufficient levels are obtained for processing, and then released once achieved release criteria. Untreated water that would not add additional contaminants to the soil would be used in on-site soil management;
 - Treatment of potential site contact water; and
 - Additional types of contaminants to be removed from impacted water.

Establishment of additional waste management facilities

- Contaminated Soil Management
 - Temporary storage and treatment of hydrocarbon contaminated soils using physical (screening and washing), chemical (oxidation), and biological (biopile and/or landfarm) techniques in a lined and bermed treatment area;
- Management of industrial and household hazardous and non-hazardous waste
 - Collection, transportation, sorting, and storage of hazardous and non-hazardous waste;
 - Hazardous Waste Management facility to consist of six (6) 20-foot marine containers.
 - Hazardous waste management activities to be conducted at a waste transfer station:

- Annual shipping of hazardous and non-hazardous waste (including, but not limited to, hydrocarbon contaminated sludge and solids and industrial and household wastes) to an authorized facility for final disposal;
- Equipment
 - Use of two (2) vacuum units mounted on a trailer to transport contaminated bulk liquids to the Environmental Waste Processing Facility;
 - Heavy equipment to be used as needed, including use of:
 - Forklifts, flatbed trucks, and loaders to transport waste;
 - Excavators to be used in management of contaminated soils, including mixing soils for aeration;
 - Screening unit to separate and remove non-contaminated materials from contaminated soils; and
- Eventual reclamation and decommissioning of site.