



NIRB File No.: 15TN012

NPC File No.: 149387

Related to NPC File No.: 148478

August 5, 2020

Aziz Kheraj
Arctic Haven Wilderness Lodge
994458 Nunavut Limited
P.O. Box 300
Resolute Bay, NU X0A 0V0

Sent via email: azizkheraj@qiniq.com and nansen@arcticwatch.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for 994458 Nunavut Limited's "Arctic Haven Runway Overlay" Project Proposal

Dear Aziz Kheraj:

On June 25, 2020 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen 994458 Nunavut Limited's (NL's) "Arctic Haven Runway Overlay" 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 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 runway extension.

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. Due to the proposal containing activities that are sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number **15TN012**, 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 June 25, 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 to commence screening.

On July 21, 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 July 23, 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 24, 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 31, 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 www.nirb.ca/project/125546.

The following table provides a summary of the *original* project as previously screened by the NIRB (File No.15TN012):

Original Project:	Ennadai Lake Lodge				
Region:	Kivalliq				
Location:	Ennadai Lake				
Closest Community:	Arviat	Distance (approximate)	400 kilometres (km)	Direction	West
Summary of Project Description:	The Project as originally screened included use of land with regards to tourism, sport fishing, hunting lodge, including upgrade to an existing airstrip and quarrying activities. A complete description of the scope of activities previously approved has been included within Appendix A .				
Original Project Timeline:	Tourism activities to begin May 2015				

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

Amended Project:	Arctic Haven Runway Overlay
Region:	Kivalliq

Location:	Ennadai Lake				
Closest Community:	Arviat	Distance (approximate)	400 kilometres (km)	Direction	West
Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to amend the scope of previously approved activities to extend the existing airstrip.				
Project Proposed Timeline:	June 12, 2020 to October 9, 2025				

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

- Extension to the length of the existing airstrip using existing material currently on the airstrip during the operational season of June to September;
- Use of heavy machinery including a bulldozer, excavator, dump truck and compactor to extend the airstrip;
- Use and storage of approximately 5000 Litres (L) of diesel fuel within secondary containment;
- Continuing use of existing roads; and
- Use of existing lodge and facilities to house workers.

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 www.nirb.ca/project/125546 and include:

- *Commission Application*
- *Commission Conformity Determination & Questionnaire*
- *NIRB Application*
- *Project Description*
- *Proponent Eml NIRB Re Fuel Containment*

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 994458 Nunavut Limited's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **August 26, 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/15TN012.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983 4612 or ekoide@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Emily Koide
Technical Advisor I
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: Distribution List
Brian Aglukark, Nunavut Planning Commission
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Natalie O'Grady, Government of Nunavut
Amy Robinson, Government of Nunavut
Saba Qazi, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

APPENDIX A: PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSALS

The original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 15TN012), was received by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) from the Nunavut Planning Commission on March 10, 2015 with a positive conformity determination (Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan). On March 11, 2015 the NIRB received a screening referral from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). 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 June 16, 2015 the NIRB issued a screening decision pursuant to s. 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA* to the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Aziz Kheraj's (Proponent) original "Ennadai Lake Lodge" project was located in the Kivalliq region, approximately 400 kilometres (km) West from Arviat. The Proponent intended to conduct tourism, sport fishing, hunting lodge, and construction activities including an upgrade to an existing airstrip and quarrying activities with Tourism activities beginning in 2015.

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

- Lodging and Tourism Activities:
 - Guest accommodation based primarily out of the established Arctic Haven Lodge, with a capacity of 10-24 guests per week in April to June and August to September;
 - Transportation of guests around the area, on the lake by motor boat in the summer and snowmobile in the spring;
 - Tourism to include specific activities such as wildlife viewing, hiking, snowmobiling, skiing, sea kayaking, kite-skiing and fishing;
 - Retrieval of GPS coordinates of caribou collared by the Government of Nunavut and Federal Governments in order to locate suitable areas for viewing caribou;
 - Use of an aircraft for guest pickups and drop offs, including transportation of goods to and from the proposed site location.
- Infrastructure Upgrades and Mobilization:
 - General upgrade of existing airstrip, including water spraying onto the airstrip to facilitate compaction;
 - Utilization of an area of approximately 100 metres by 100 metres for quarrying activities, and crushing of extracted gravel materials; as well as stockpiling of crushed rock at the end of the airstrip in 2015 to be used in the following year;
 - Conduct pitting operations in a 50 metres by 20 metres footprint to allow for removal of sand and rock from a small hill;
 - Retrieval of up to 3 cubic metres of water from Ennadai Lake using electric pump;
 - Use of boats, snowmobile, and heavy equipment such as dump trucks, gravel crusher, vibratory drum compactor and compact track loaders for haulage of gravel and water airstrip prior to compacting including guest transportation.
- Fuel Storage and Waste Management:

- Utilize drum containment units (45 gallon drums) with secondary containment in the form of a lined berm for storage of up to 6000 litres of diesel, 3000 litres of gasoline, 4000 litres of aviation fuel, 500 litres of engine oil, with an additional storage of up to 20 containers of propane in 100 pounds tanks;
- Onsite incineration of combustible solid wastes, with non-combustible wastes, including bulky items/scrap and hazardous wastes or oil returned to Yellowknife for proper disposal;
- Use of septic tanks for disposal and treatment of grey water and sewage

An additional amendment request associated with the “Ennadai Lake Lodge” project has also been reviewed by the NIRB following screening of the original project proposal (File No. 15TN012). The NIRB confirmed that the application was exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the *Nunavut Agreement* because it is for a renewal of a component or activity that was part of the original proposal and continuation of the project is not a significant modification of the project.