



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Dalhousie University's
"Port Settlement Fog and Air Quality Study in
Iqaluit" Project Proposal



Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
20YN024
Our file - Notre référence
1292517

February 4, 2021

Mia Otokiak
Junior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0

Via NIRB public registry

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment request for Dalhousie University's "Port Settlement Fog and Air Quality Study in Iqaluit" Project Proposal

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On January 25, 2021, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on the Dalhousie University's "Port Settlement Fog and Air Quality Study in Iqaluit" Project Proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;

Consultation with interested parties

CIRNAC recommends the Proponent engage and maintain open communication with potentially interested groups and individuals of the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region's community on project activities planned to take place from July to August 2021. Efforts should be made to engage with organizations that may have a particular interest in the proposed study program that will be carried out, such as the Nunavut Arctic College. In particular, the following considerations should be explored to promote the participation of local Inuit beneficiaries:

- Engaging with local residents regarding project planned activities in the study program area;



- Incorporating Inuit knowledge or Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and information regarding current recreational and traditional usage of the project area in the project design and delivery;
- Briefing community members on project area and planned activities;
- Briefing community members on project results; and
- Hiring, training and employment opportunities for community members, and accessing local services where possible.

Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal

Communication with airport authorities

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent engage and maintain open communication with the airport authorities to ensure they are aware of project planned activities around the run way.

Travel restrictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Nunavut

CIRNAC recommends the Proponent be reminded that to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Nunavut, the Government of Nunavut’s Minister of Health has declared a Public Health Emergency pursuant to the Public Health Act and imposed travel restrictions. The Proponent must comply with orders from the Chief Public Health Officer of Nunavut when planning and implementing the project undertakings, works and activities, including accommodations within the city of Iqaluit.

Consultation activities report

Included in the proposal documentation is a report entitled, “Pond Inlet Marine Infrastructure – Consultation Activities,” dated February 16, 2017 (NIRB Document No. 332520). This report appears to be in relation to a different project, namely the construction of a small craft harbour in the community of Pond Inlet. The NIRB should confirm whether this report was mistakenly associated with this proposal and have it removed from the proposal documentation if it is not relevant.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Vincent Okonkwo at (867)975-4552 or by e-mail at vincent.okonkwo@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa
Manager, Impact Assessment

