



NIRB File No.: 21UN003

Associated NIRB File No.: 19YN031

NPC File No.: 149448

Associated NPC File No.: 149159

February 17, 2021

Eleanor McEwan
Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours
501 University Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N6

Sent via email: eleanor.mcewan@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours’ “Clyde River Small Craft Harbour – Clyde River Geotechnical and Sampling Program” Project Proposal

Dear Eleanor McEwan:

On January 22, 2021 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours’ (DFO-SCH) “Clyde River Small Craft Harbour – Clyde River Geotechnical and Sampling Program” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. The Commission noted that the current project proposal is a significant modification to the previous conformity determination issued for NIRB File 19YN031 on June 3, 2019 because of geotechnical drilling on the shore and on ice in the harbour area at Clyde River.

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 **21UN003** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On January 25, 2021 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 28, 2021 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/125577.

Project:	Clyde River Small Craft Harbour – Clyde River Geotechnical and Sampling Program
Region:	Qikiqtani (North Baffin)
Location:	Clyde River
Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to evaluate the ocean bottom sediments in the harbour area, obtain sediment samples for physical and chemical analysis, and obtain bedrock core (if encountered).
Project Proposed Timeline:	15 days in March/April 2021

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

- Use of a CCME 55 Drill Rig to conduct geotechnical coring/sampling for drilling up to 25 boreholes;
 - 7 on land and 18 in the harbour area through the sea-ice.
- Use of a portable, heated shack at each drilling location;
- Use of vehicles (pick-up truck and front-end loader) to transport personnel and equipment to each drill site;
- Use of two (2) diesel generators;
- Use of two (2) herman nelson heaters to heat the portable drill shack;
- Use of fuel (200 gallons of diesel and 250 gallons of gasoline) and hazardous material to operate drill rig and equipment;
- All hazardous waste to be packaged securely and transported south for proper disposal;
- Non-hazardous waste will be packaged and disposed of in the community;
- Hiring of local community members for support; and
- Accommodations within the community of Clyde River.

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 www.nirb.ca/project/125577 and include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application and Questionnaire*
- *NIRB Online Application*
- *Non-Technical Summary in English and Inuktitut*
- *Project Description*
- *Proponent Letter NPC Regarding Amendment Application*
- *NPC Additional Information*
- *Community Consultation Draft Summary Report*
- *Community Summary Report*
- *Regulatory Compliance and Environmental Management Plan*

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 DFO - SCH project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **March 10, 2021**.

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/125577.

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

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English and Inuktitut)
Comment Forms (English 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
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Tracey McCaie, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Veronique D'Amours-Gauthier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada