



April 13, 2021
NPC FILE No. 149520

Mosha Cote

Manager-Research Liaison
Nunavut Research Institute
P.O. Box 1720
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
By email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.com

Talia Maksagak

Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
By email: tmaksagak@nirb.ca, info@nirb.ca

Dr. Jochen Halfar

University of Toronto
3359 Mississauga Road
Mississauga ON L5L1C6 Canada
By email: jochen.halfar@utoronto.ca

Dear Mr. Cote, Ms. Maksagak, Mr. Halfar:

RE: NPC File # 149520 [Past climate reconstruction using annually layered carbonate buildups on the Nunavut shallow seafloor]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Marine-Based Activities: collection of up to 150 mounds using SCUBA at water-depth of 15-20 meters at various locations near and around Arctic Bay and along South East Ellesmere Island. Mounds are generally 3-8 centimeters in diameter, up to 3 centimetres high, and can be removed from rocky seafloor using a small hammer and chisel. Up to 20 mounds will be collected at each site and be taken to laboratory to be analyzed.
2. Associated NPC FILE No: 148292, 149175, 149389; Associated NIRB FILE No: 16YN043
3. Summary of modification: Inclusion of additional sampling sites along the southeast coast of Ellesmere Island from Cone Island to Talbot Inlet and Cadogan Inlet/Baird Inlet/Pim Island/Alexandra Fiord.
4. Location: Qikiqtani [Arctic Bay and southeast coast of Ellesmere Island]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The activities associated with this proposal were previously reviewed by NPC, and a conformity determination was issued on June 8, 2016, and July 2, 2019, which still applies. In addition, the activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 16YN043). It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the inclusion of additional sampling sites along the southeast coast of Ellesmere Island does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3 (a) and (b) of the Nunavut Agreement do not apply.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149520&sessionid=>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 983-4625.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SA' with a stylized flourish.

Solomon Amuno, PhD
Senior Planner
Nunavut Planning Commission