



NIRB File No.: 21EN013
NPC File No.: 149467

April 22, 2021

To: The Honourable Dan Vandal
Minister of Northern Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: dan.vandal@parl.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Leeward Capital Corp.'s "Pistol Lake Project" Proposal

Dear Honourable Minister:

On February 24, 2021 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Leeward Capital Corp.'s "Pistol Lake Project" proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). **Pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Ministers extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 21EN013.**

On February 24, 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 March 1, 2021, the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On March 18, 2021 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by April 8, 2021 with submissions continuing into April 9, 2021. On April 14, 2021 the Proponent responded to parties issues raised during commenting period, however the NIRB determined that specific mitigation and monitoring plans were still required and continues to work with them to secure the materials.

Due to the additional time required to confirm operational plans especially considering the caribou herd population numbers in the region, the NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA* and additional time is requested to complete the decision-making for this file. The NIRB anticipates screening of this project proposal will be completed by **May 10, 2021**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Ministers for consideration; should any additional time be required to conclude the screening process, the NIRB commits to providing further updates as deemed appropriate.

If this request is approved, the NIRB understands that the Ministers will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125588.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Karen D. Costello
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Lootie Toomasie, Chairperson of the Nunavut Water Board
Stanley Anablak, President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association