



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Qikiqtaaluk Corporation's "Qikiqtaaluk Inshore Fisheries Research" Project Proposal



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

Your file - Votre référence
20YN019
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs# 95897476

July 2, 2021

Mia Otokiak
Junior Technical Advisor I
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 Qikiqtaaluk Corporation's "Qikiqtaaluk Inshore Fisheries Research" Project Proposal

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On June 10, 2021 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Qikiqtaaluk Corporation's "Qikiqtaaluk Inshore Fisheries Research" 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 is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures);

CIRNAC #1: Waste Management and Nunavut Communities

The Proponent indicates that both combustible and domestic wastes from the vessel are to be disposed of in approved facilities in the study communities. It is unclear if the Proponent will be using no-contact methods when disposing of wastes to prevent potential transmission of COVID-19 to the communities.

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent ensure that any combustible wastes are removed and disposed of using the same no contact approach proposed for restocking in the study communities, and that proper disposal is arranged with the study community members prior to arriving in the study community(ies).



CIRNAC #2: Fuel and the Identification of Environmental Impacts Matrix

CIRNAC notes that the Proponent has not indicated any measures to mitigate potential spills that may occur during the proposed activities, and that the Identification of Environmental Impacts matrix does not indicate the potential of negative effects on water.

Given that there is a potential for fuel spills on the marine environments, CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent provide rationale for not identifying potential negative effects, of spills on the marine environment, in the Identification of Environmental Impacts matrix, and identify measures to mitigate potential effects of spills that may occur during project activities.

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

CIRNAC #3: Potential for Positive Effects to Inuit Through Employment, Training, and Procurement Opportunities

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent continue to prioritize the employment and training of local Inuit as well as procurement with Inuit owned businesses when implementing project activities. Such efforts will allow for positive effects to be realized by community members and the local Inuit population. Community members and businesses situated in Kinngait, Sanirajak, Igloodik, and Sanikiluaq should be prioritized in any project-related employment and procurement opportunities that may be made available.

CIRNAC #4: Consultation with Interested Parties

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent maintain open communication with the Hamlets of Kinngait, Sanirajak, Igloodik, and Sanikiluaq, their local Hunters and Trappers Organizations, as well as community members and other organizations which may have an interest in the project's activities. Issues that should be considered as part of any consultation activities include:

- Incorporation of Inuit knowledge and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional and non-traditional activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- Training and employment opportunities for community members;
- Procurement opportunities for local businesses, and
- Regular updates on the status of project activities.



CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Courtney White by e-mail at courtney.white@canada.ca, or David Abernethy by telephone at (867) 222-1610 or email at david.abernethy@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa
Manager, Impact Assessment

