



March 25, 2022

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**Myriam Lemelin**

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Dear Talia Maksagak, Richard Dwyer, Mosha Cote, Carson Gillis, Amy Robinson, Jared Ottenhof and Myriam Lemelin:

**RE: NPC File # 149716 [Geological study and mapping of hydrothermal deposits and gossans at Expedition Fiord, Axel Heiberg Island, Nunavut, as analogues for Mars]**

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

1. Scientific research to investigate the origin of gossans on Earth. Activities include:
  - a. Survey and take samples of the gossans in Axel Heiberg Island.
  - b. Samples collected in the field will be measured using portable instruments.
2. Location: Qikiqtani Region; [Axel Heiberg 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. 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 project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149716&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 (867 979-3444)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Goump Djalogue', written in a cursive style.

Goump Djalogue  
Manager Planning and Implementation  
Nunavut Planning Commission