



NIRB File No.: 22YN033
NPC File No.: 149765

June 22, 2022

Eleanor McEwan
Fisheries and Oceans Canada-Small Craft Harbours
501 University Crescent
Winnipeg Manitoba R3T 2N6

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

Re: Notice of Screening for Fisheries and Oceans Canada-Small Craft Harbour's "Nunavut Feasibility Study" project proposal

Dear Eleanor McEwan:

On May 24, 2022, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbour's (DFO) "Nunavut Feasibility Study" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan.

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 **22YN033** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On May 24, 2022, 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 June 10, 2022 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/125698.

Project:	Nunavut Feasibility Study	
Region:	Kivalliq and Qikiqtani	
Location:	Coral Harbour, Chesterfield Inlet, Naujaat, Sanikiluaq	
Closest Community:	Coral Harbour, Chesterfield Inlet, Naujaat, Sanikiluaq	Within Municipal Boundaries
Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to conduct an engineering feasibility study for the construction of Small Craft Harbours (SCH) in four (4) communities in Nunavut: Sanikiluaq, Coral Harbour, Naujaat and Chesterfield Inlet. The goal is to inform the engineering and environmental deliverables for the Project. A field program will be required which is planned for the open-water season of 2022 focusing on environmental, geoscience, geophysics and archaeological baseline studies in each location. A future drilling program will be undertaken in each of the communities at the detailed design phase of the Project.	
Project Proposed Timeline:	July 2022 to August 2023	

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

- Use of a charter (plane) to fly the crew in and out of each of the communities;
- Use of community boats and operators to conduct marine surveys as well as collecting samples from the marine environment;
- Use of trucks or ATVs to access various sites around the communities;
- Scientific Collection (Marine)
 - Transect line, iPad, clinometer, ROV, depth sounder, fishing equipment, plankton net, CTD, Niskin sampler, Petite ponar, drogue;
- Scientific Collection (Terrestrial)
 - GPS, iPad, binoculars, kestrel pocket weather meter, camera, quadrat, measuring tape, pins, flags, plant press, hand lens;
- Scientific Collection (Geotechnical/topographic)
 - Geotechnical hammer, tape measure, hand lens, seismograph, hydrophones, submersible hydro cable, drone, GPS control stations;
- During the design phase of the Project, information on the rock quality (quarry) and bedrock depth (SCH) will be informed through a drilling program using a portable rotary drill mounted onto skids, front end loaders, or other heavy equipment.

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/125698 and include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application and Questionnaire*
- *Project Description*
- *Project Summary*
- *Non-Technical Summaries in English and Inuktitut*
- *NIRB Applications in English and Inuktitut*

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 Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbour project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **July 13, 2022**.

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/125698.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867)983-4616 or femingak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Francis Emingak
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
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Agnes Simonfalvy, Government of Nunavut
Robert Chapple, Government of Nunavut-Community and Government Services
Randy Mercer, Government of Nunavut-Community and Government Services
Alexander Stubbing, Government of Nunavut-Department Culture and Heritage
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Veronique D'Amours-Gauthier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada