

**Legal Name of Applicant:** Northern Energy Capital Inc.  
**Project Title:** Wind Resource Assessment Project, Baker Lake, Nunavut  
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## **RE: Predicted environmental impacts of the undertaking and proposed mitigation measures (NEC-20220629)**

Waste, impact mitigation, and environmental impacts from SODAR feasibility projects are typically very low and limited to land use displacement and construction if necessary. Nevertheless, the project team has endeavoured to identify and prevent any unacceptable environmental impacts or impacts on traditional land use. Potential risks identified that could be caused by the project are listed below, along with planned mitigation measures:

### **1. Risk: Disturbance of land resulting in habitat destruction Mitigation Measure:**

Prior to construction, a review of the site for sensitive plant and animal species will be undertaken. First, this review will be undertaken via desktop by consulting available databases to identify species of concern within the vicinity of the project (eg. Species at Risk Registry, NPC Interactive Maps). At the time of writing, no important biological or ecological protection areas for wildlife were noted to overlap with the project site (i.e. polar bear denning areas, bird nesting, marine mammal calving, or caribou calving or migration corridors). The desktop review will be followed up with a site visit to identify if any species of concern are present in the site area. If threatened species are identified within the site area, a plan will be prepared to preserve them. This could look like a slight adjustment to the site location or layout, a plant relocation plan, or a protection plan to ensure disturbance does not occur during SODAR deployment, as appropriate. Care will be taken during equipment assembly to disturb only the land required of 3.0m by 3.0m. Once installation is complete, the site will be cleaned up and areas of disturbed vegetation will be re-vegetated during operations. Baker Lake is one of three communities we will be conducting our feasibility study, therefore the proponent will ensure the land is returned to its previously undisturbed state following project completion. However, in the event that the SODAR does not continue to operate before the proposed project end date at this location and removal is required, a decommissioning plan will be prepared for the demobilization of the SODAR unit, and rehabilitation of the site area to return it to its previously undisturbed state.

2. Risk: Impact to caribou migratory corridors and habitat range. Mitigation measure:

A desktop review of the Caribou Protection Measures outlined in the Keewatin Land Use Plan was conducted, as well as a review of the most current (2016) Caribou Ranges Valued Ecosystem Component Map available on the NPC's website. The project site is not located within any caribou protection areas, including ranges or migration corridors, the nearest caribou rutting area is approx. 8.30km from the proposed site. Additionally, because the project is located within 2km of the community of Baker Lake and 500m from the nearest road, it is not expected that the project will have any additional adverse impacts to caribou movement or land use than what is already presented by the existence of the community and the road. The greatest potential for impact to caribou is if they damage the fuel connection within the 3.0m x 3.0m x 3.0m fenced enclosure and the sound released by the instrument. Once operational, the SODAR does not have any moving parts, it is contained within a tented area, the equipment operates by emitting low volume pings (between 40-65 dB km<sup>-1</sup>) directed upwards, and do not often require the presence of human personnel to operate. As a result, the volume is not expected to cause any disturbance to caribou that may stray close to the project area during operations.

3. Risk: Leak or spillage of fuel, leading to ground contamination: Mitigation Measure:

Minimal fuel will be kept on site during the operation phase, one (1) 100lb propane tank is connected to the SODAR unit at all times. Arrangements will be made to store unused propane with Peter's Expediting Limited in Baker Lake. A total of six (6) 100lb propane tanks are estimated to be consumed between Summer 2022 to Summer 2023. The site safety plan will include detailed spill mitigation procedures, including protocol for the safe storage of fuel on and off site, and prevention and containment measures in the event of a spill or leak. All personnel will be briefed on safety and fuel handling.

4. Risk: Interference with the local, traditional use of the land. Mitigation Measure:

The project team has initiated consultation with both the Hamlet, and the Kivalliq Inuit Association to share the proposed project location and understand if there are any potential impacts to traditional land use. At this early stage, no impacts to traditional land use have been identified at the site location. The project team will continue to work with the Hamlet and KIA as project planning progresses, to ensure there are no anticipated impacts to traditional use of the land.

5. Risk: Presence of archaeological sites or artifacts within the project area. Mitigation Measure:

Prior to construction, the project team will undertake any required heritage assessments of the site area in cooperation with the Government of Nunavut Department of Culture and Heritage, to screen for possible archaeological sites or artifacts. The project team has completed a desktop review of known heritage site locations near the project area, and did not find any



overlapping areas of note. During installation, the project will put in place procedures to cease activities in the event that an archaeological site is discovered, and will notify the appropriate entities for direction before any activities are resumed.

6. Risk: Generation of construction waste during construction. Mitigation Measures:

The project team will take all appropriate measures to ensure that waste generated during assembly is contained and disposed of properly. The project will not generate any hazardous waste, and no waste is expected to result after equipment assembly and installation. Should there be waste material, all will be properly stored during construction and will be disposed of at the local landfill following the completion of installation.