



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Qulliq Energy Corp's "Baker Lake Geothermal Project" Project Proposal



GCDOCS # 104264482



Canada

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

Your file - Votre référence
22YN042
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs# 104264482

July 14, 2022

Caitlin Pelletier
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 Qulliq Energy Corp's "Baker Lake Geothermal Project" Project Proposal

Dear Caitlin Pelletier,

On June 23, 2022 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on QEC's "Baker Lake Geothermal Project" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the response below as it pertains to NIRB's request:

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

CIRNAC 1: Geothermal Regulations

Geothermal technologies and geothermal resource development is a new and different clean energy interest for the Arctic. The Proponent indicated that if the results from this study are successful, then potential development of a geothermal facility for Baker Lake is the next phase. CIRNAC acknowledges that geothermal energy systems currently do not have regulations within Nunavut and such energy projects would have to be accommodated within the existing oil, gas and mineral resource regulatory regimes. Additionally, CIRNAC recommends that s Proponent adheres to current Canadian best practices for geothermal energy generation to minimize negative ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts.



CIRNAC 2: Potential for positive effects to Inuit through employment, training, and procurement opportunities.

CIRNAC recommends that wherever possible, the Proponent 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. As a result, Inuit and Inuit-owned businesses situated in Baker Lake should be prioritized in any project-related employment, training, and procurement opportunities that may be made available.

CIRNAC 3: Consultation with interested parties.

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent work with the Hamlet of Baker Lake and consult interested community members on the proposed undertaking. Issues that should be considered as part of any consultation activities may include:

- Incorporation of Inuit knowledge and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to the environment;
- 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 at (867) 222-1610 or email at david.abernethy@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa
Manager, Impact Assessment

