



November 4, 2022
NPC File No. 149897

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Dear Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Kapolak, Ms. McCaie, Ms. Osmond, Ms. Rahmer:

RE: NPC File # 149790 [OP NUNAKPUT 2022]

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

- 1) Department of National Defence/Joint Task Force North (JTFN) is proposing to conduct military training activities. The operations will consist of overland patrols and ice diving operations near the communities of Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake and Chesterfield Inlet starting from February to March 2023. The overall aim of the operations is to enhance the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) ability to operate in the harsh arctic environment. The activities proposed by JTFN includes the following:
 - **Land Operations**
 - Mobilization of up to 40 military personnel for overland patrol using skidoos);
 - Setup of up to 10-person temporary bell style arctic tents to accommodate personnel each night;
 - Conduct a small arms range enroute which will consist of soldiers firing their service weapons, to better understand the effects of cold weather on the weapon and soldiers ability to fire it effectively; and

- Use of helicopters or a Twin Otter for re-supply of fuel and to return garbage and empty fuel cans to the JTFSC base in Rankin Inlet and receive rations, water, and other supplies.
- **Dive Operations**
 - The Royal Canadian Navy divers will execute ice diving activities in the vicinity of Rankin Inlet and will assist research personnel in testing of equipment; and
 - Drilling holes through ice. In addition, the holes created for the divers will be covered by military tents and the dive site will be manned daily for the duration of the operation. At the end of the operations, the holes will be marked so that they are clearly visible to anyone using the area.
 - A small team of 3-5 scientists will study frost injuries in soldiers;
 - Field testing of search and rescue reflectors including field testing of ice drilling equipment; and
 - International participation including a small contingent of international divers.
- 2) Associated NPC File No: 149253; Related NIRB File No.: 16DN031.
- 3) Location: Kivalliq Region [Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake, and Chesterfield Inlet].

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. The activities associated with this proposal were previously reviewed by NPC, and conformity determination was issued on December 13, 2019 which still applies. In addition, the activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB File No.: 16DN031). It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the currently proposed activities does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3 (a) and (b) of the Nunavut Agreement do not apply.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address: <https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149897&sessionid=>

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) 447-4563.

Sincerely,



Solomon Amuno, PhD
Senior Planner
Nunavut Planning Commission