



NIRB File No.: 22YN034

NPC File No.: 149421

November 18, 2022

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment Canada and Climate Change
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: ministre-minister@ec.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Far North Digital's "Far North Fiber Marine Route Survey" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Ministers:

On August 3, 2022, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Far North Digital's "Far North Fiber Marine Route Survey" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). **Pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Ministers extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 22YN034.**

On October 3, 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. Following a preliminary completeness check of the proposal as submitted, the NIRB determined that the proposal did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening and on September 26, 2022, requested that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On September 26, 2022, the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On October 19, 2022, the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by November 9, 2022.

Due to provide an opportunity for the Proponent to respond to comments, the NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA* and additional time is requested to complete the decision-making for this file. The NIRB anticipates screening of this project proposal will be completed by **December 2, 2022**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister for

consideration; should any additional time be required to conclude the screening process, the NIRB commits to providing further updates as deemed appropriate.

If this request is approved, the NIRB understands that the Ministers will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125720.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Karen Costello
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc:

Pamela Gross, Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Government of Nunavut
Ik Icard, Far North Digital