



**NIRB File No.: 22YN034**  
NPC File No.: 149421

November 22, 2022

Ik Icard  
Far North Digital  
200 W 34<sup>th</sup> #424 Anchorage  
Alaska, USA 99503

Sent via email: [iicard@fn-digital.com](mailto:iicard@fn-digital.com)

**Re: Opportunity to Address Comments Received Regarding Far North Digital's "Far North Fiber Marine Route Survey Project Proposal"**

Dear Ik Icard:

On August 3, 2022 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Far North Digital's "Far North Fiber Marine Route Survey" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). On October 19, 2022 the NIRB circulated a public notice of the screening for this project, inviting interested parties to provide comments directly to the NIRB by November 9, 2022.

On or before November 9, 2022 the NIRB received comments from the following interested parties:

- **Parks Canada (PC)**
- **Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)**
- **Transport Canada (TC)**

All comment submissions received by the NIRB relating to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125720](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125720).

A *summary* of the public concerns reflected in the comment submissions relate to the following:

#### **Parks Canada (PC)**

- Concern regarding potential disturbance of marine wildlife and Inuit activities due to cone penetrometer testing.
- Requests the survey route avoid the marine components of Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (Prince Leopold Migratory Bird Sanctuary (MBS) and Bylot Island MBS).

## Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)

- Suggestion to develop an impact tracker in order to track and mitigate all potential adverse environmental impacts associated with the project
- Emphasizes the importance of community consultation.

## Transport Canada (TC)

- Notes that significant consultations should occur prior to route planning to avoid conflict with community resupply operational requirements with relevant stakeholders

The NIRB would like to provide Far North Digital with an opportunity to address the comments noted above prior to the Board rendering its determination for this screening assessment and issuing its subsequent Screening Decision Report to the responsible Minister. The NIRB respectfully requests that a response be provided directly to the NIRB by **December 6, 2022**.

If Far North Digital determines that the time required to supply a written response is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please send any forthcoming submissions directly to the NIRB at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), or through the online public registry at [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca).

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4618 or [rquammaniq@nirb.ca](mailto:rquammaniq@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Robby Qammaniq, *B. Sc.*  
Technical Advisor II  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List  
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute  
Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Transport Canada General Inbox  
Jody Small, Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Jane Chisholm, Parks Canada  
Florence Lapierre-Poulin, Parks Canada