



**NIRB File No.: 23YN004**  
NPC File No.: 149904

February 24, 2023

Mary Sanborn-Barrie  
Geological Survey of Canada, Natural Resources Canada  
490-601 Booth Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E8

Sent via email: [mary.sanborn-barrie@canada.ca](mailto:mary.sanborn-barrie@canada.ca)

**Re: Notice of Screening for the Geological Survey of Canada’s “Community Geological Mapping of the Kivalliq Corridor” project proposal**

Dear Mary Sanborn-Barrie:

On February 7, 2023, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen the Geological Survey of Canada’s (GSC) “Community Geological Mapping of the Kivalliq Corridor” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **23YN004**.

#### INFORMATION REQUEST

On February 7, 2023, 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.

On February 17, 2023, the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### **Project Scope:**

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125771](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125771).

<b>Project:</b>	Community Geological Mapping of the Kivalliq Corridor				
<b>Region:</b>	Kivalliq Region				
<b>Location:</b>	Kivalliq Corridor				
<b>Closest Community:</b>	Whale Cove and Arviat	<b>Distance (approximate)</b>	152 and 107 kilometres (km)	<b>Direction</b>	West and southwest
<b>Summary of Project Description:</b>	The Proponent intends to refine, update, and produce new geological knowledge of bedrock, provide a meaningful way to engage Northern youth, and strengthen the capacity of communities within the Kivalliq corridor to address geoscience opportunities.				
<b>Project Proposed Timeline:</b>	July 2023				

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Training and employment of local community members for the life of the project;
- Use of a helicopter for transportation of personnel to research sites from communities, and return to communities each evening;
- Use of research equipment to collect, view, record and photograph rock samples;
- Storage of fuel outside of communities, to ensure safety; and
- Use of accommodations and services within communities.

### ***Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List***

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry [www.nirb.ca/project/125771](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125771) and include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application & Questionnaire*
- *NIRB Application*
- *Mapping Description*
- *Mapping Presentation*
- *Field Map*
- *Summary of Consultation*

- *Waste and Spill Plan Mitigation Measures*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by GSC's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **March 17, 2023**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125771](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125771).

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4622 or [motokiak@nirb.ca](mailto:motokiak@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Mia Otokiak  
Technical Advisor I  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English, and Inuktitut)  
Comment Forms (English, and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List  
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Brenda Osmond, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Craig Beardsall, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute  
Tracey McCaie, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada