



**NIRB File No.: 23YN010**  
NPC File No.: 149982

April 17, 2023

Heather Shilton  
Nunavut Nukkiqsautiit Corporation  
P.O. Box 1228  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: [hshilton@qcorp.ca](mailto:hshilton@qcorp.ca)

**Re: Notice of Screening for Nunavut Nukkiqsautiit Corporation's "Renewable Energy Microgrid Integration for Remote, Off-grid Cabins in Nunavut" project proposal**

Dear Heather Shilton:

On March 20, 2023 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Nunavut Nukkiqsautiit Corporation's "Renewable Energy Microgrid Integration for Remote, Off-grid Cabins in Nunavut" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin 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 **23YN010** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

#### INFORMATION REQUEST

On March 21, 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 April 12, 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/125783](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125783)

|  |   |                               |  |                  |  |
|--|---|-------------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| <b>Project:</b>                        | Renewable Energy Microgrid Integration for Remote, Off-grid Cabins in Nunavut   |                               |  |                  |  |
| <b>Region:</b>                         | Qikiqtani   |                               |  |                  |  |
| <b>Location:</b>                       | 1. Panarctic Communications Datacenter<br>2. Sylvia Grinell River<br>3. Niaqunguk (Apex) River<br>4. Resolute River   |                               |  |                  |  |
| <b>Closest Community:</b>              | 1. Iqaluit<br>2. Iqaluit<br>3. Iqaluit<br>4. Resolute   | <b>Distance (approximate)</b> | 1. 3.5 km<br>2. 5 km<br>3. 5 km<br>4. 2 km | <b>Direction</b> | 1. East<br>2. West<br>3. East<br>4. West |
| <b>Summary of Project Description:</b> | The Proponent intends to collect water flow data from three rivers and install solar panels at the Panarctic Communications Datacenter to assess the feasibility of using hydro and solar power in Nunavut. |                               |  |                  |  |
| <b>Project Proposed Timeline:</b>      | May 9, 2023 to March 24, 2025   |                               |  |                  |  |

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

- Use of a rental boat in Iqaluit to collect bathymetry, water level, and flow velocity data from the Sylvia Grinell River and Niagunguk (Apex) River;
- Use of rental boat in Resolute to collect bathymetry, water level, and flow velocity data from the Resolute River;
- Construction of a solar array and a one (1) kilowatt (kW) saltwater battery system on a cabin at the Panarctic Communications Datacenter;
  - Use of a locally rented forklift to install materials;
  - Use of four (4) water tanks to store saltwater electrolyte for use in the battery system;
  - Use of hazardous materials such as three (3) liters (L) sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), four (4) kilograms (kg) sodium hydroxide (NaOH), 150 kg sodium sulphate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and 300 L non-volatile alcohol-based solvent in the battery system;
  - Transportation of materials to the site using sealift and rental truck(s);
  - Operation and maintenance of the solar system for a period of one year;
  - Decommissioning and disposal of solar system via transportation of non-hazardous wastes to Iqaluit for municipal disposal and transportation of all hazardous wastes to Ontario;

- Use of locally rented trucks for transportation of personnel from river research sites and the solar installation site;
- Use of municipal fueling services to fuel all rental trucks and boats; and
- Use of local accommodations and municipal water and sewage services;

### ***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/125783](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125783) and include:

- *NPC Conformity Determination*
- *NPC Application and Questionnaire*
- *NIRB Application*

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 Nunavut Nukkiqsautiit Corporation's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **May 8, 2023**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

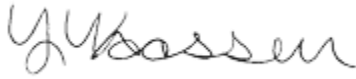
- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on 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/125783](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125783)

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at 867-983-4603 or [lklaassen@nirb.ca](mailto:lklaassen@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Leah Klaassen  
Technical Advisor II  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (5): Public Notice of Screening (English, and Inuktitut)  
Comment Forms (English, French and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List  
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board  
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute  
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  
Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Transport Canada  
City of Iqaluit  
Hamlet of Resolute Bay