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Dear Mosha Cote, Richard Dwyer, Tracey McCaie, Daniel Haney, Carson Gillis, Jared Ottenhof, Francis Emingak, and Sarah Rahmer:

RE: NPC File # 149994 [Arctic Maritime Research Activities –Arctic Acoustic Recorders (AAR) Trial]

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

1. Scientific research to collect an underwater ambient noise record in the Eastern Arctic. This dataset will provide background information to support future plans for underwater navigation and communications for gliders, provide data for use in RCN marine mammal mitigation strategies, and provide input to ambient

noise databases and verification and validation for ambient noise modelling. This will involve the deployment of three (3) AARs into the ocean from a ship (1 on the ocean bottom, 2 in the water column) for a period of one year.

2. Related NPC FILE No.: 148552, 148823, 149525, and 149788.
3. Related NIRB FILE No.: 08DN056 and 22DA050.
4. Location: Qikiqtani Region [Lancaster Sound waters and Outer Land Fast Ice Zone]

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, last conformity determination issued on July 13, 2022, which still applies. In addition, the activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 08DN056 and 22DA050). The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that it 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 are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149994&sessionid=>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

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) 979-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue, MCIP, RPP
Manager Planning and Implementation
Nunavut Planning Commission