



NIRB File No.: 23YN017
NPC File No.: 149956

May 11, 2023

To: The Honourable Joanna Quassa
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic
College
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

The Honourable Dan Vandal, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Northern Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6

The Honourable Marc Miller, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
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Sent via email: jquassa6@gov.nu.ca; dan.vandal@parl.gc.ca; marc.miller@parl.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office's "Bedrock Mapping of Angikuni Lake" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Ministers:

On March 30, 2023, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office's "Bedrock Mapping of Angikuni Lake" 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. 23N017.**

On March 31, 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 3, 2023, the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On April 12, 2023, 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 May 3, 2023. Following a communication received on May 3, 2023, NIRB staff became aware that the Notice

of Screening and Comment Request letter was not available on the public registry. While the project application and associated information for the project was available in the online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125785, it was determined that some parties may not have been informed of the deadline for comment, therefore an additional opportunity to submit comments was appropriate. Therefore, a second comment period was opened on May 4, 2023, with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by May 15, 2023.

Due to the addition of an additional 10-day comment period, 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 **May 29, 2023**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Ministers 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/125785.

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

Sincerely,



Karen D. Costello
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Lottie Toomasie, Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
Moshia Cote, Nunavut Research Institute