



**NIRB File No.: 23YN008**  
NPC File No.: 149935

June 8, 2023

To: The Honourable Joanna Quassa  
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College  
P.O. Box 2410  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0  
Sent via email: [jquassa6@gov.nu.ca](mailto:jquassa6@gov.nu.ca) and [mtaukie6@gov.nu.ca](mailto:mtaukie6@gov.nu.ca)

**Re: Screening Decision for Woodwell Climate's "Permafrost Pathways Monitoring Network" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region**

Dear Honourable Minister:

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) is recommending that a review of Woodwell Climate's "Permafrost Pathways Monitoring Network" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (*NuPPAA*). Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online Public Registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125782](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125782).

On March 17, 2023, the NIRB received a referral to screen this 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 *NuPPAA*, the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal and assigned it file number **23YN008**.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated June 8, 2023, to the responsible Minister(s). The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB's assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts, and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The Board only directly addresses these notice letters to those individuals considered to be a “responsible Minister with decision-making authority” for the project as set out under the *NuPPAA*. However, Regulatory Authorities and other Authorizing Agencies associated with a proposed project (e.g., Regional Inuit Associations or Nunavut Water Board) will continue to be copied on the Notice of Release of the Screening Decision Report as required under s. 200(2) and in support of these parties in the fulfillment of their responsibilities under the *NuPPAA* and the *Nunavut Agreement* to address, and as appropriate, implement to the fullest extent possible, any relevant NIRB recommendations contained in the Screening Decision Report.

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister and the NIRB remains available for consultation with the Minister regarding this report as necessary. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB’s Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Kaviq Kaluraq  
Chairperson  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 23YN008 (June 8, 2023)

cc: The Honourable David Akeeagok, Minister Economic Development and Transportation  
The Honourable David Joanasie, Minister of Community & Government Services  
The Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of Northern Affairs