



# CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for the University of Nevada's "Sampling treeline trees to develop a temperature reconstruction using quantitative wood anatomy" Project Proposal



Nunavut Regional Office  
918 Sivumugiaq Street  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 3H0

Your file - Votre référence  
23YN002  
Our file - Notre référence  
GCdocs# 124156508

April 3, 2024

Cory Barker  
Technical Advisor III  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0  
via NIRB public registry

**Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for the University of Nevada's "Sampling treeline trees to develop a temperature reconstruction using quantitative wood anatomy" Project Proposal**

Dear Cory Barker,

On March 21, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on the University of Nevada's "Sampling treeline trees to develop a temperature reconstruction using quantitative wood anatomy" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) has reviewed the project proposal and related documents, and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request.

**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);**

#### **CIRNAC #1: Potential Impacts from Fuel and the Environmental Impact Matrix**

CIRNAC notes that the environmental impact matrix indicates no-impact to water quality, wildlife, birds, and aquatic species. However, the proposed activities include fuel use, which can be harmful to ecosystemic components if spilled. CIRNAC also notes that the NIRB has proposed project specific terms and conditions which apply to this situation.

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent create plans to prevent the potential impacts of fuel, and follow guidelines as listed in the NIRB proposed project specific terms and conditions and other authorizations.

**Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.**

#### **CIRNAC #2: Consultation with Interest Parties**

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent consult with the community of Kugluktuk and relevant Inuit and wildlife management organizations, including the Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers



Organization, to seek their input on the proposed activities. Efforts should also be made to acknowledge and be considerate of any concerns that may be raised by individual community members.

As part of any consultation activities, several issues should be considered, including, but not limited to:

- Incorporation of Inuit Qauijimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional and non-traditional activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent disturbance to sites with cultural, archaeological, and/or environmental significance;
- Training and employment opportunities for Inuit and community members;
- Procurement opportunities for local and Inuit-owned businesses; and
- Regular updates on the status of project activities.

CIRNAC looks forward to working with the NIRB throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Courtney White by e-mail at [courtney.white@cirnac-rcaanc.gc.ca](mailto:courtney.white@cirnac-rcaanc.gc.ca), or David Abernethy at [david.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.ca](mailto:david.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.ca).

Sincerely,



Richard Bingley  
A/Manager, Impact Assessment

