



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 24YN013

Project Name: The “**Biogeochemical characterization of saline and glacial systems on Axel Heiberg Island**” project

Proponent Name: Montana State University’s (MSU)

Project Type: Research Region: Qikiqtani (North Baffin)

Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 125895

Comment Deadline: **April 14, 2024**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Biogeochemical characterization of saline and glacial systems on Axel Heiberg Island” project is located within the Qikiqtani region, approximately 300 kilometres (km) from Grise Fiord. The Proponent intends to conduct research on Axel Heiberg Island would involve taking samples of water, ice, snow, brine, salt and sediments from the Stolz Diapir in Whitsunday Bay and from a glacier that feeds into Skaare Fiord. The program is proposed to take place from March to June 2024. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Sampling of snow, water, sediments;
- Use of propane (120 lbs) and gasoline (100 liters); and
- Use of Twin Otter for transport and movement between camp locations;
- Removal of non-combustible and sewage.

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **24YN013** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via www.nirb.ca. Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Keith Morrison, Manager, Impact Assessment at (867) 983-4617 or kmorrison@nirb.ca.