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Dear Caroline Whittle, Natalie D'Souza, Lisa Pirie, Richard Dwyer, Luis Manzo, Carson Gillis, Cassel Kapolak, and Adam Borowiecki:

**RE: NPC File No: 150431 [Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link]**

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

1. Terrestrial infrastructure baseline studies: Geotechnical investigation is required to adequately characterize the subsurface conditions that will inform design, constructability, and preliminary cost estimation of the project. A helicopter-supported geotech program using a lightweight "ShockAuger" drilling system from late summer of 2024 to subsequent field seasons. A lightweight ShockAuger will be used as it is less invasive than typical drilling equipment. The ShockAuger program includes a fully assembled drill slung from site to site via helicopter, along with the ground team members, to test sites along the proposed corridor. These sites will have been pre-screened for heritage potential, leaving a 'safe zone' flagged. The planned drillhole sites have been located to maximize coverage of the most common surficial materials and associated permafrost conditions along the proposed KHFL route.
2. Associated NPC File No: 149542, and 149928; Associated NIRB File No: 21YN027.

3. Location: Kivalliq Region; [Various location]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) can be accessed online using the link below.

The NPC has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal and conformity determinations issued on May 7, 2021, and March 21, 2023, which still apply. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, including the use of a lightweight drill to penetrate depths of up to several meters at select locations for permafrost study (NIRB File No.: 21YN027). It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the continuation of the geotechnical investigations by deeper drilling programs to characterize the subsurface conditions of the corridor does not change the general scope of the original 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, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150431>.

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 of Planning and Implementation  
Nunavut Planning Commission