

RE: NPC File No: 151161 [Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link]

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

1. **Primary Land Use:** Marine baseline Research
2. **Project summary description:** Additional baseline field research program for the Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link (KHFL) environmental assessment.
3. **Summary of modifications:** Program focuses on marine acoustic monitoring and involves:
 - the Deployment of up to three seabed acoustic recorders (AMARs) for ~3 months (mid-June to mid-September 2026) near Marble Island (~100 m depth), between Arviat and Whale Cove (~50 m), and between Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet (50–100 m). The purpose is to understand potential impacts of shipping activity on marine mammals and Inuit communities. The data will support environmental assessment, impact prediction, and mitigation planning. The program is a continuation of baseline work and does not include new infrastructure.
4. **Associated NPC File Nos.** 149542, 149928, and 150431; **Associated NIRB File No.:** 21YN027
5. **Location:** Kivalliq Region, and transboundary area; [Transboundary (Manitoba) and multiple Kivalliq Communities]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (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 determination was most recently issued on June 4, 2024, which still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, including baseline studies, migratory birds survey, terrestrial wildlife survey and Fish and fish habitat survey (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 inclusion of marine acoustic studies does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended 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=151161>

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

Jurisdictional Note:

This conformity determination applies only to the components of the proposed project located within the Nunavut Settlement Area and under the Nunavut Planning Commission's statutory jurisdiction as defined in the Nunavut Agreement and the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA). Activities outside the NPC's jurisdiction remain subject to the review and regulatory processes of the relevant authorities. Proponents are responsible for identifying, contacting, and obtaining all required approvals from the appropriate regulators in every applicable jurisdiction to ensure compliance with all legislation, policies, and licensing requirements.