



NIRB File No.:26YN032  
NIRB Public Registry link:  
[www.nirb.ca/project/126444](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126444)  
NPC File No.: 151118

May 8, 2026

Ysaline Bacon  
Institut Nation de Recherche Scientifique  
490 Rue de la Couronne  
Québec City, Québec G1K 9A9

Sent via email: [ysaline.bacon@inrs.ca](mailto:ysaline.bacon@inrs.ca)

Re: **Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Institut Nation de Recherche Scientifique's "Evaluation of the Deep Geothermal Potential of Iqaluit" project proposal**

Dear Ysaline Bacon:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has commenced screening<sup>1</sup> the project proposal.

**By copy of this letter, NIRB invites regulators, interested parties, and community members or groups potentially affected by the proposal to view the application and comment directly to the NIRB by May 29, 2026.**

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- 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); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal

**The application can be viewed on NIRB's online registry [www.nirb.ca/project/126444](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126444) where a comment form is available, or comments can be also submitted to [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), or by fax.**

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<sup>1</sup> 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 *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (NuPPAA)

## *Scope of proposal*

<b>Location</b>	South Qikiqtani region, spanning up to 10km radius from the City of Iqaluit
<b>Objective</b>	The Proponent intends to conduct a scientific research program to collect and analyze surface rock samples, complete geological mapping of fracture systems to evaluate the geothermal potential in the Iqaluit area.
<b>Timeline</b>	July 23, 2026, to August 8, 2026, (approximately 2 weeks within this period)

The scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- **Undertakings, Works and Activities**
  - Field activities include minor surface rock sampling (approximately 20–30 samples);and
  - Geological mapping of exposed rock outcrops, including systematic fracture surveys.
  - Carry out all activities using non-invasive, surface-based methods with no drilling or excavation proposed.
- **Equipment and Fuel Use**
  - Rental car to access sampling areas; and
  - Use of three (3) geological hammers to collect small hand-sized rock samples.

### *Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List*

The NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal; as a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

Questions about the NIRB's work should be directed to the undersigned at 1 (866) 233-3033 Ext. 575 or [dsim@nirb.ca](mailto:dsim@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Dustin Sim  
Screening Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Mosha Cote, Government Of Nunavut  
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut  
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut  
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut