



NIRB File No.: 25UN029
NIRB Public Registry link: www.nirb.ca/project/126476
NPC File No.: 151218
Related to NPC File No.: 150699

July 20, 2026

Owen Wade
Environment and Climate Change Canada
351 Boulevard Saint-Joseph
Gatineau, Quebec J8Y 3Z5

Sent via email: owen.wade@ec.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Environment and Climate Change Canada's "Remediation of the Former Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS)" project proposal

Dear Owen Wade:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has commenced screening¹ 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 August 10, 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/126476 where a comment form is available, or comments can be also submitted to info@nirb.ca, or by fax.

¹ 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

Location	Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region, approximately 500 kilometres northwest of the communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord
Objective	The Proponent intends to conduct a full-scale remediation of the former Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS).
Timeline	March 2027 to May 2030

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

- Mobilization of heavy equipment, camp, and supplies to site by sealift to Resolute Bay, followed by aircraft mobilization from Resolute Bay to Isachsen HAWS.
- Use of heavy equipment for remediation, demolition activities, aggregate production, waste handling, hauling, grading, and site-restoration activities;
- Abatement and demolition of twenty-two (22) buildings and structures containing Asbestos, Mercury and Ozone-Depleting Substances. Non-hazardous waste would be disposed of in the new on-site landfill; hazardous waste would be transported to an approved off-site licensed facility.
- Decommissioning of fifty (50) Above-Ground Storage Tanks by a qualified petroleum technician, followed by processing and disposal in the new on-site landfill.
- Decommissioning of fourteen (14) pieces of non-operational heavy equipment and six (6) pieces of operational equipment prior to disposal. Approximately 760m³ of non-hazardous waste associated with the heavy equipment would be disposed of in new on-site landfill.
- Cleaning, crushing, and consolidation of approximately 3,800 waste-fuel drums, generating approximately 950 m³ of crushed material for disposal in the new on-site landfill; Collection and consolidation of approximately 100m³ of miscellaneous non-hazardous waste debris, including metal and wood, for disposal in the new on-site landfill.
- Removal of approximately 13,000 L of remaining waste fuel and oily-water mixture for transportation to an approved off-site disposal facility;
- Construction and operation of a borrow pit to produce up to an estimated 100,000m³ of aggregate for airstrip upgrades and road upgrades, construction of a new engineered on-site landfill, capping of the existing Waste Disposal Areas (WDAs), construction of a camp pad and temporary waste storage area and general site grading.
- Placement of approximately 36,000 m² of coarse aggregate cover over the existing Waste Disposal Areas, including contouring to promote drainage and reduce erosion and installation of natural or geosynthetic liner material where required; Construction and use of a new engineered landfill consisting of an approximately 50 m x 50 m lined cell with an aggregate cover, designed to accommodate approximately 4,500 m³ to 6,200 m³ of consolidated non-hazardous inert waste; Establishment and operation of temporary camp facilities and associated water, sewage, greywater, power-generation, and waste-management activities;
- Use and storage of up to 10,000L of aviation fuel, 12,000L of gasoline fuel, 5,000L of propane and 630,000L of diesel to support aircraft, camp and equipment operations; and
- Demobilization of temporary equipment and infrastructure, final grading and stabilization of disturbed areas, and post-remediation monitoring.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

The NIRB has identified that waste-fuel incineration activities associated with the previously screened “Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station Waste Fuel Reduction Program” project proposal

(25UN029), for which a Screening Decision Report was issued on June 19, 2025, were previously assessed. These incineration activities will not be reconsidered in detail as part of the current assessment, except where relevant to cumulative effects, changed circumstances, or ongoing project activities. The current screening will otherwise proceed based on the amended project scope identified above.

Questions about the NIRB's work should be directed to the undersigned at 1-866-233-3033 ext. 555 or mbeattie@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Mia Beattie
Impact Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
 Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
 Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
 Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
 Assol Kubesinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
 Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut, Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs
 Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut, Department of Community Services
 Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment
 Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut, Department of Community Services
 Tracey McCaie, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
 Marcus Bermann, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada