



NIRB File No.: 26WN045

NIRB Public Registry link: [www.nirb.ca/project/126465](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126465)

NPC File Nos.: 150968 and 150883

September 8, 2026

Municipal Works Division  
Government of Nunavut  
Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut  
P.O Box 1000, Station 700  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: [municipalworksdivision@gov.nu.ca](mailto:municipalworksdivision@gov.nu.ca)

**Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Government of Nunavut's "Renewal and Amendment of Water Licence 3BM-GRI2636 to Type A" project proposal**

Dear Government of Nunavut:

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 September 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/126465](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126465) 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>  | Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region, within the municipal boundaries of the community of Grise Fiord                                                                                                  |
| <b>Objective</b> | Grise Fiord Water Licence must change from a Type B to a Type A Water Licence to support operation of a new municipal water treatment plant to meet the community's long-term water supply needs. |
| <b>Timeline</b>  | The term of license that is being sought is for renewal to 2047                                                                                                                                   |

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

- Increase daily water withdrawal from 299m<sup>3</sup> to up to 2,160m<sup>3</sup> per day during the seasonal water collection period;
- Use of a 106 L diesel tank to support operation of the centrifugal pump.
- Operation of the water treatment plant under either seasonal treatment or year-round treatment.
  - Under the seasonal treatment mode, only the amount needed for treatment is sent to the plant, and the remaining water is returned to Airport River through a recirculation system.
  - Pumping under seasonal treatment is expected to last up to 45 days, while year-round treatment the refill pumping period is expected to last up to 7 days.
- Discharge of recirculated untreated source water downstream of the intake location, with large stones placed at the outlet to reduce flow energy and limit localized erosion.

### *Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List*

The NIRB has identified that this activity links to the municipal waste management work previously assessed under NIRB file number:

- 23XN069 (conformity no. 150165), [www.nirb.ca/project/125969](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125969)
- 25XN006 (conformity no. 150230) [www.nirb.ca/project/126023](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126023)

The current assessment references but does not duplicate description of these works to consider the cumulative potential but the Board has already issued the terms and conditions to govern the other municipal works in the respective decisions.

### *Other Matters to consider*

For this assessment, the NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) are initiating a coordinated process<sup>2</sup> as the proposal would require a water licence, and the Proponent required a renewal of the municipal Water Licence this year. As a result, the Proponent must provide information during the assessment to satisfy both the impact assessment requirements as well as the water licensing process. At any time, the Proponent has the option to opt out of a coordinated process by providing the request in writing to both the NIRB and the NWB.

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

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<sup>2</sup> The NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) are required to coordinate their processes for projects that require a water licence as per Sections 13.5.2 and 13.6.1 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, s. 193 of *NuPPAA*, and s. 37 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*.

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  
William Patch, Government of Nunavut  
Randy Mercer, Government of Nunavut  
Ken Weslyshen, Government of Nunavut  
Olivier Forbes-Bouillon, Government of Nunavut  
Tracey McCaie, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
Marcus Bermann, Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada