



NIRB File: 26YN041

link: www.nirb.ca/project/126460

Nunavut Planning Commission File No.: 151201

September 14, 2026

To: The Honourable Brian Koonoo
Minister of Environment
Pond Inlet, NU

The Honourable David Akeeagok
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Iqaluit, NU

Sent via email: bkoonoo7@gov.nu.ca and dakeeagok7@gov.nu.ca

Re: Extension Request for the Screening of University of Guelph's "Arctic Water Solutions: Harnessing Native Northern Plants for Nature-Based Wastewater Treatment in Canada's Arctic" Project Proposal

Dear Honorable Ministers:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board), pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*¹, hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of the project proposal.

Due to the time required for the Proponent to fulfill their response to comments the NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the *NuPPAA* and requires additional time to complete the process. The Board anticipates providing its decision to you on or around **October 16, 2026**.

The NIRB has completed the following steps to conduct the screening work:

1. May 7, 2026, received the referral to screen the project proposal² from the Nunavut Planning Commission.
2. July 31, 2026, received the complete application form and verified it complete to determine scope of project activities, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*.
3. August 4, 2026, the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties requesting comments be submitted to the NIRB.
4. August 26, 2026, the NIRB provided the Proponent the opportunity to respond to comments by September 9, 2026.
5. September 11, 2025, the Proponent requested an extension to respond to comments by October 1, 2026.

¹ *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*

² pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*)

Documents related to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at the link in the header, and questions regarding this notification can be sent to the NIRB office at info@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Dionne Filiatrault
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Honourable Rebecca Chartrand, Minister of Northern and Arctic Affairs
Natalie D'Souza, Department of Environment
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Department of Environment
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Marcus Bermann, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Wenxi Liao, University of Guelph