



NIRB File No.: 23YN038
NIRB Public Registry link:
www.nirb.ca/project/126494
NPC File No.: 151295

October 16, 2026

Vincent Rheaume
Defence Construction Canada
Courcelette, Quebec

Sent via email: vincent.rheaume@dcc-cdc.gc.ca

Re: **Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Defence Construction Canada's "Environmental Behavior of Ammunition Constituents in Arctic Conditions" project proposal**

Dear: Vincent Rheaume

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 November 6, 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/126494 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 region, <i>Within Municipal Boundaries of Resolute Bay, including a firing range approximately 3 km east of Resolute Bay and other local research sites.</i>
Objective	The Proponent intends to conduct a field deployment to evaluate the environmental fate and ecological impact of munition constituents (MC) in permafrost-affected soil. The project addresses existing data gaps regarding how small-caliber ammunition transports, transforms, and impacts Arctic ecosystems under the specific environmental conditions of Northern Canada. Field operations would focus on a firing range located 3 km east of Resolute Bay, as well as additional local sites.
Timeline	September 2026 to September 2029 - seasonal

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

- Use of a portable x-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer for non-destructive direct soil analysis and elemental identification.
- Use of a YSI (digital sampling system) a portable water quality multiparameter instrument for the measurement of several parameters such as dissolved oxygen, total algae, turbidity, pH, temperature, and to record GPS coordinates.
- UV light meter to measure UVA and UVB light.
- Collection of soil samples from the research area, including up to three 45-gallon barrels of soil for laboratory analysis.
- Potential use of a small manual drill in future years to collect soil and permafrost samples.
- Installation of a monitoring station to help understand how contaminants may move through the environment.
- Use of a drone for aerial surveys and to support surveys of local vegetation at the research sites.
- Two ATVs for transportation of personnel and equipment to research sites.
- Approximately 50 litres of gasoline would be used for ATVs.
- One kilogram of alconox would be used for cleaning of instruments.
- Disposal of garbage generated would be transported to an approved facility
- 0.01m³ of surface water per day would be collected for research purposes.

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 570 or femingak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Francis Emingak
Screening Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut
Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut
William Patch, Government of Nunavut, (GN-CS)
Randy Mercer, Government of Nunavut, (GN-CS)
Ken Wasylyshen, Government of Nunavut, (GN-CS)
Olivier Forbes-Bouillon, Government of Nunavut, (GN-CS)
Nathaniel Joanasie, Government of Nunavut, (GN-CS)
Bradley Pirie, Government of Nunavut, (GN-DOE)
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute