



March 27, 2020

Talia Maksagak

Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
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Matthew Dyas

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Dear Ms. Maksagak, Mr. Cote, Mr. Charge and Mr. Dyas:

RE: NPC File # 149321 [Arctic driftwood as a proxy record of environmental change]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Scientific research: The objectives of the proposed research are to collect and analyze driftwood from Arctic coastlines to reconstruct ocean current dynamics, changes in sea-ice extent and relative sea level over the last centuries to millennia as well as gain information on past climate during the life cycle of the tree itself through the analysis of growth-ring characteristics. Activities also include filming sample collection in order to develop an observational documentary film. For this project, the MV Balto, a small ship sleeping 12 passengers, will be used as the research vessel. Researchers will be travelling through the Northwest Passage and use zodiacs from the ship to various coastal beaches for samples collection.
2. Associated NPC FILE No: 148754; Associated NIRB FILE No: 18YN015
3. Summary of modification: New locations at beaches the North Baffin and the Kitikmeot regions.
4. Location: Qikiqtani and Kitikmeot Regions [Northwest Passage; Various locations].

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal, including the collect of driftwood from

Arctic coastlines, and a conformity determination issued on March 13, 2020. This conformity determination still applies. In addition, the Nunavut Impact Review Board previously screened associated activities (NIRB FILE NO.: 18YN015).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because it includes new data collections sites. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of KRLUP Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149321&sessionid=>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue
Senior Planner, MCIP | RPP
Nunavut Planning Commission