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Tuglia Ministam, Avatiliqiyikkut

Deputy Minister, Department of Environment

Sous-ministre, Ministère de l'Environnement

Sharon Ehaloak
Nunavut Planning Commission
P.O. Box 2101
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 1J0

February 14, 2014

Dear Ms. Ehaloak,

Re: Government of Nunavut Comments on NPC's Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Thank you for a further opportunity to provide comments on the Nunavut Planning Commission's (NPC) Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP).

The NPC's *A Guide for Engagement*, the NPC encourages parties to make written submissions on the DNLUP on or before February 14th, 2014. The *Guide* goes on to state that April 11th, 2014 will be the final date for NPC staff to receive and consider written comments on the DNLUP. At the September, 2013 workshop held in Cambridge Bay it was further clarified that the NPC would use the February 14th deadline for new comments on the DNLUP and the April 11th deadline for comments relating to the companion Options & Recommendations (O&R) document, which is NPC's guiding document for the DNLUP.

The Government of Nunavut has provided comments on the DNLUP throughout development of the Draft. Following the distribution of a June 2010 Draft, the GN provided the NPC with detailed comments on October 29th, 2010. The NPC revised the draft and provided it to the GN on December 21st, 2010. The GN again compiled a detailed report, which was submitted to the NPC on February 11th, 2011. After the release of the August 2nd, 2011 Draft, the GN was heavily involved in the Independent Third Party Review, which resulted in the release of the September 7th, 2012 Draft. On May 15th, 2013 the GN submitted its *Priorities for Land Use Planning* to the Commission, and met with NPC staff September 16th, 2013 just prior to the 'Filling the Gaps' workshop to discuss how to incorporate the *Priorities* into the DNLUP.

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P.O. Box 1000, Stn.1320
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

☎(867) 975-7700
䷷(867) 975-7740
www.gov.nu.ca

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Since the most recent revision of the Draft in September of 2012, the DNLUP has not yet been revised to consider new information or community input. The GN acknowledges that the NPC is in the process of revising the DNLUP and looks forward to reviewing the updated Draft. However, the GN considers its previous submissions on the existing DNLUP sufficient at this time. We will however, be providing a broader GN submission which will include a substantial review of the O&R document and updated geospatial data on or before the April 11th, 2014 deadline.

The GN remains committed to working with NPC on the development of a land use plan for the territory, and to providing information, expertise, and assistance to the NPC throughout this process. Thank you again for the further opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

Jo-Anne Falkiner
A/Deputy Minister

C Ian Grey, RDG, AANDC
James T Arreak, CEO, NTI

P.O. Box 1000, Stn.1320
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

(867) 975-7700
(867) 975-7740
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