



Votre référence - Your file

Notre référence - Our file

April 11, 2014

Ms. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director
Nunavut Planning Commission
P.O. Box 2101
Cambridge Bay NT X0B 0C0

Dear Ms. Ehaloak,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and provide input on the development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. Please find enclosed a table of comments that responds to requested clarifications on the Government of Canada's Technical Priorities and Comments submission of July 2013. My colleagues from various federal departments (Department of National Defence, Environment Canada, Parks Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) and I have also included additional information which we hope will assist your staff in developing the next iteration of the draft land use plan.

We recognize that this document is technical in nature and in some cases presents overlapping recommendations and interests which will have to be addressed as we move towards a final Land Use Plan. We therefore welcome the opportunity to work with you to address these issues and discuss our comments in more detail as required. Also, as raised in my March 13, 2014 letter to you, a discussion confirming the process, time lines and sequencing would assist in clarifying the critical next steps in your development of the next draft of the Nunavut Land Use Plan, particularly since we understand through informal comments from your staff that the next draft will be significantly different in terms of structure and types of land use zones relative to the current draft.

We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate a few key concerns raised in earlier Government of Canada submissions to the NPC. We feel these issues must be addressed in order to move the Plan towards successful acceptance by all parties:

- Permitted/Prohibited Uses: Land designation descriptions and identification of zones need to include permitted or prohibited uses and this information is required within the Plan document to allow users to determine conformity without needing to refer to other associated documents. The Plan document itself will be

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reviewed and approved by Ministers; therefore this document needs to stand alone as a complete land use plan which includes clear reference to minimum requirements that will enable a conformity determination decision. Secondary and background information can and should be located in associated documents but should not be required to understand the basic land zones and designations identified in the plan.

- Types of zones: The current approach to zoning (as proposed in the current Draft Land Use Plan) is simply too complex and/or unclear to meet the needs of users of the plan who should be able to quickly locate their area of interest and determine the zoning that applies to that land. Although it is recognized that Nunavut is a uniquely large land mass for which there are continuing data gaps which make zone identification challenging, the current approach presented in the Draft Land Use Plan is not addressing the need for clarity nor is it addressing overlapping interests in conservation and resource/economic development in some key areas. Specific attention should be paid to these areas in developing the next draft of the Plan.
- Geographic information: Although it is again recognized as challenging for such a large land mass as Nunavut, clear maps are required for users of the Plan to determine locations of interest and relative proximity of geographic information described in the land use plan. All maps - index map(s) with referenced sub-maps - should be within the Plan document itself, as should the descriptions of each area and its particular value components and permitted or prohibited uses. There should be a clear legend defining and numbering the zones so that they are easily understood and referenced.

My team and I, along with representatives of various federal departments, would be pleased to meet with you soon to discuss your planned approach to addressing the above concerns. Whether in Iqaluit or in Ottawa, I expect we could gather and host representatives from various departments with you and your staff in order to spend a day or two face-to-face to work through options and ideas or feedback on your latest thinking in these areas. Please contact me at catherine.conrad@aandc.gc.ca or (819) 997-2728 so that we might discuss the best way to action this collaborative work.

In addition, Transport Canada is anxious to convey information to the Commission on marine shipping and the regulatory regime. Desmond Raymond, Regional Director for Marine Safety and Security, Prairie and Northern Region would be more than willing to meet with Commission staff to provide an overview of both the international and domestic regimes that govern safe shipping in the Arctic, identify how it is applied via the service, compliance and enforcement regime and answer any questions you may have with respect to how Transport Canada regulates existing shipping activities within the Arctic. We feel this would aid the Commission with respect to the development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. You are encouraged to contact Transport Canada to arrange the meeting and, as required, Transport Canada could then follow up with a

focused written submission. Mr. Raymond can be reached at:
desmond.raymond@tc.gc.ca or (204) 984-1624.

We understand that there are numerous changes in the works and thank you again for your continued work in the development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. We welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with the Commission and other partners to move this Plan forward in the coming weeks and months.

With regards,



Catherine Conrad, P. Eng.
Senior Director, Environment and Renewable Resources
Northern Affairs Organization

c.c.: Paula Isaak, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Ian Gray, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Karen Costello, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Todd Frederickson, Transport Canada
Desmond Raymond, Transport Canada
Susan Chambers, Department of National Defence
Mary Preville, Natural Resources Canada
Maja Djukic, Natural Resources Canada
Sue Milburn-Hopwood, Canadian Wildlife Services, Environment Canada
Cheryl Baranieki, Environment Canada
Hilary Oakman, Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Nancy Anilniliak, Parks Canada Agency

Enclosures:

- Government of Canada table of comments
- Annex A: AANDC Comments on Chapter 5: Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development
- Annex B: DND Comments in tabled format
- Annex C: List of Contaminated Sites and Remediated Sites with Landfills
- Annex D: NRCAN Sources of Information Relevant to the Development of the NLUP

- AANDC, Mineral Resources, ESRI layer package containing the polygon feature classes for Mineral Development Leading to Mining Activity
- AANDC, Mineral Resources, ESRI layer package containing the polygon feature classes for Mining Related Transportation Corridors
- EC, Key Habitat Sites for Migratory Birds in the Nunavut Settlement Area