



Nukik Corporation

2021 DNLUP Final Written Comments

Nunavut Planning Commission

Submitted by:

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**100% Inuit-owned**

Proud developers of the Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link

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Thank you to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for hosting public hearings in September 2022. Community engagement is vital to the success of any type of Land Use Plan.

Nukik Corporation (Nukik), an Inuit-owned corporation, is leading the Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link (KHFL), a nation building Inuit-led project that will be Nunavut's first infrastructure link to Southern Canada and will provide clean, renewable power and fibre-optic internet capacity for the Kivalliq region for generations to come.

The KHFL is essential and transformative for the Kivalliq region, the territory and Canada. It will allow Kivalliq communities to shift away from diesel power by bringing baseload reliable and renewable power as well as fibre-optic internet. It will reduce the amount of diesel shipped through Arctic waters. It will significantly reduce the amount of pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions emitted from diesel plants. It will provide good jobs and significant opportunities of Nunavummiut. The fibre-optic internet connection is very important for tele-health, education, and business opportunities.

The project will connect five communities of the Kivalliq region of Nunavut (Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake) and two existing mine sites (Meadowbank and Meliadine) to the Manitoba electric and fibre-optic grids.

The project is currently in the planning and development phase. The project's planning activities follow the speculative linear infrastructure corridor listed in the 2016 DNLUP. We are pleased the 2021 DNLUP recognizes the Kivalliq-Manitoba linear infrastructure corridor.

The project has some comments that we would like to outline:

1. We have attached the updated GIS file for the proposed KHFL corridor. Please note the adjustment from the current 2021 DNLUP map in that the corridor extends north of Baker Lake to the Meadow Bank mine location as opposed to west to potential new mining development. Potential mining operations may



develop over time and there is a risk that the DNLUP as proposed would limit the opportunity for the KHFL to serve these future mining operations outside the corridor.

2. While the 2021 DNLUP describes the infrastructure corridor for the KHFL as a Limited Use area, the new designation is unclear.
  - As the KHFL advances through the planning and development phases, any encumbrances or uncertainties placed on the project by an updated Land Use Plan could have significant implications to the project's development.
  - Specifically, Section 6.1.5.1 of the 2021 DNLUP outlines a possible requirement for a plan amendment to develop infrastructure within the Kivalliq-Manitoba linear infrastructure corridor in a Limited Use area.
  - We would like the NPC to confirm that KHFL construction, operation, and maintenance is deemed a compatible use within the Kivalliq-Manitoba linear infrastructure corridor recommended Limited Use designation.
  - Further, we would like NPC to confirm that no plan amendment would be required for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the KHFL.

The KHFL is being advanced to help provide a better sustainable future for Kivalliq region communities. When developed, it will reduce the substantial environmental footprint of existing diesel power supply, connect the region to reliable highspeed internet, and provide the infrastructure to support future economic development. This project is Inuit-led and will be developed and operated in an environmentally responsible manner.

As the project proceeds and moves towards the construction phase, we understand that the KHFL will be required to participate in a formal NPC review, followed by the more detailed Nunavut Impact Review Board review process.



We welcome the process the NPC has pursued to develop a land use plan that reflects these similar ideals and the meaningful steps that have been taken to ensure it is truly reflective of the contributions of the KHFL and those of other organizations.

We would like to thank the Commission for listening to our comments. The KHFL provides a once in a generation opportunity to link Nunavut to southern Canada. It represents an important opportunity to bring much needed infrastructure to communities.

Thank you/Qujannamiik

