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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

October 11, 2013

Government of Nunavut
Economic Development and Transportation
P.O. Box 10000, Stn. 1500
Iqaluit, Nunavut

Attn: Pauloosie Suvega, Associate Deputy Minister

Dear Paulo,

Delivered By Electronic Mail

Re: Economic Development and Transportation Submission on Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Dear Pauloosie,

Thank you for your September 24, 2013 submission on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

The current draft Nunavut Land Use Plan under section 1.3.2.1 outlines some of the challenges limitations in data and knowledge can have on land use plan decision making processes.

I can assure you that the Commission is aware of the concerns associated with limited data and knowledge, especially as it relates to geosciences in Nunavut. We are also aware of concerns with access restrictions to areas where there is little geological research. As such the NPC's own Broad Planning Policies. Objectives and Goals, Goal 5 Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development reads that:

Broad Land Use Planning Objectives

It is an objective of the Nunavut Planning Commission that land use planning:

Objective:

F. ensures that the goals of any proposed restrictions on land use are achieved with the least possible impact on undiscovered mineral resources, while taking into account environmental and social objectives.

Broad Land Use Planning Policies

It is a policy of the Nunavut Planning Commission that Land use Planning:

Policy:

F.1 will, before any restriction on land use is created, review and assess the available data and research, broad planning goals and objectives, legislation, policies, priorities and values of residents and other planning partners, and programs relating to conservation, land use planning, wildlife management and parks to determine whether the restriction is warranted.

F.2 provides clear direction and guidance regarding the conservation, development, management and use of land to provide certainty to land users, encourage investment, minimize risk and costs, and streamline the regulatory process to ensure Nunavut resources can compete in a global market place.

These objectives and policies, in conjunction with other policies, objectives and goals do guide the decision making of the Commission. It is important to recognize that the NPC is not funded to undertake mineral assessments for areas which may have access restrictions applied to manage land use.

As part of the Independent Third Party Review we are advancing a process where parties that approve the land use plan will be scoping out their expectations for completion of the draft plan. This may be a good venue to explore your Department's concern.

The timeline for development of the 1st Generation Nunavut Land Use Plan is attached for your information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'SEhloak', written in a cursive style.

Sharon Ehloak
Executive Director