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Société Makivik
Makivik Corporation

169B

June 17, 2015

Sharon Rhaloak
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Nunavut Planning Commission
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Re: Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP) - Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy

Ms. Rhaloak:

It is our understanding that from the community consultations held by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) in Iqviq on May 2-3, 2013 and in Salluit on June 4-5, 2013, that participants in both communities identified the areas of Equal Use and Occupancy (Article 40 of the NLCA, Article 27 of the NILCA) as areas of "importance for protecting and sustaining the environment". For both communities it was identified that they would like the Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP) to encourage activities that support environmental protection and management needs, including wildlife, conservation, protection and management. As a result, the Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy have been designated as Protected Areas in the DNLUP.

As you are aware, the Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy are significant areas used by both the Nunavut and Nunavik Inuit, and are also valuable habitat for various species. They have, both currently and historically, been used extensively by Nunavik Inuit for hunting, fishing and trapping. With this in mind, as the joint land owners along with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) of the Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy, we equally feel the importance of some level of protection of the areas for current and future subsistence needs of Nunavik and Nunavut, Inuit.

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However, it is our position, one which NTI may well share, that the current designation of Protected Area may prejudice the rights of Nunavik Inuit to these overlap areas in that it could diminish the value of the land by severely limiting potential future alternate uses including economic development. Furthermore, we feel that there may have been a misunderstanding in the definition and limitations of Protected Areas during the community consultations in 2013.

Makivik will be consulting with NTI and the Qikiktani Inuit Association in regards to this matter and will be refining its position based on the outcomes of these discussions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adamie Delisle Alaku', written in a cursive style.

Adamie Delisle Alaku
Executive Vice President, Makivik Corporation