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Tuglia Ministam, Avatiliqiyikkut

Deputy Minister, Department of Environment

Sous-ministre, Ministère de l'Environnement

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Sharon Ehaloak  
Executive Director, Nunavut Planning Commission  
PO Box 2101  
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0

January 18, 2011

**RE: Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan**

Dear Sharon;

Thank you for your letters of December 20, 2010 regarding various aspects of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP), and providing the most recent version of the draft plan itself. As per our telephone conversation on December 21, 2010 we will not quite be able to meet your requested response deadline of January 31, 2011. Recognizing the scope of the work involved, I anticipate a GN response will be submitted to the NPC no later than February 11, 2011.

In addition, I would like to address the following issues that you have raised in recent correspondence:

- the GN-NPC Data Sharing Agreement,
- internal GN processes for gathering and providing input into the NLUP; and
- the invitation for a NPC workshop with the Sustainable Development Committee (SDC).

In regards to providing data to the NPC, we remain committed to the efficient, timely sharing of data under the terms of a mutually-serving agreement. We have reviewed the specific concerns you raised, and I believe that we can effectively respond to all of them. I will have our program staff contact your staff to discuss the specific details, and I anticipate being able to finalize an agreement very soon.

In the matter of your request for information about internal consultation record of the GN, we will not be in a position to provide this. As we have previously stated, DOE coordinates the land use planning file for the GN, using processes that were specifically designed to obtain and provide feedback from all departments and agencies. As such you may rest assured that the submissions made by DOE are representative of the entire government of Nunavut.

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The Government of Nunavut, including the Sustainable Development Committee, remains committed to proactively participating with the NPC throughout the planning process, and we are open to having a workshop. However, considering the current status of the NLUP, I do not feel it is the opportune time for such a forum. I suggest that a workshop would be more appropriate when the draft plan is closer to completion in terms of meeting the "*Nunavut Planning Commission Broad Policies Objectives and Goals*" document. As a way forward, I suggest that we have our staff discuss at what stage in the plan development process a workshop might be most effective, what the goals of such a workshop would be, and the level of participation needed from other agencies. Recommendations from those discussions can then be used to inform planning for the event.

Thank you again for your letters. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David Akeeagok  
Deputy Minister

C Ron Roach, Chairperson, Nunavut Planning Commission  
Paul Quassa, Vice Chairperson, Nunavut Planning Commission  
Robin Aitken, Regional Director General, INAC  
Annie Tattuinee, A/Chief Executive Officer, NTI