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By Licensing Administrative Assistant at 10:11 am, Sep 13, 2011

**NIRB File No. 09DN018**

September 12, 2011

Rodney Watson, Project Manager  
Nanisivik Naval Facility  
Directorate Construction Project Delivery  
Department of National Defence  
101 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa,  
ON, K1A 0K2

*Sent via email: [Rodney.Watson@forces.gc.ca](mailto:Rodney.Watson@forces.gc.ca)*

**Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for the Department of National Defence's "Nanisivik Naval Facility" project proposal**

Dear Rodney Watson:

On November 14, 2008 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received the Department of National Defence's (DND or the Proponent) "Nanisivik Naval Facility" project proposal. On November 17, 2008 the NIRB indicated to the Proponent that this project proposal appeared to be located in an area with an approved land use plan (the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) and would consequently require a conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) prior to initiating the screening process. In addition, the NIRB requested authorizing agencies with jurisdiction to authorize works or activities associated with this project to forward copies of any such applications to the NIRB. On March 12, 2009 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination from the NPC for this file. The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **09DN018** – please reference this file number in future related correspondence.

Following receipt of the initial application materials, the NIRB undertook a preliminary completeness check and found that the proposal as submitted did not contain sufficient information for the NIRB to permit proper screening. On March 23, 2009 the NIRB requested that additional information from the Proponent be provided to the Board by April 6, 2009. By May 20, 2009, the Board had not received the necessary information and again requested that the Proponent submit the outstanding information by June 2, 2009.

On May 27, 2009 the Proponent provided the Board with written notification that the requested additional information would not be provided by June 2, 2009 as DND was in the process of hiring a design consultant and an environmental consultant. On April 29, 2011 the NIRB received additional information in support of this project proposal, but upon review of the submission, found that it was still insufficiently developed to permit proper screening and

distribution for public comment. On May 11, 2011 the NIRB requested that the additional outstanding information be provided to the Board by June 1, 2011.

On June 2, 2011 the Proponent provided the Board with written notification requesting additional time to address the outstanding items required by the Board, and on September 6, 2011 the NIRB received the required information in support of this project proposal.

The proposed project is located in the North Baffin region approximately 33 kilometres (km) northeast of the hamlet of Arctic Bay. The objective of the proposed project is to serve primarily as a deep-water refuelling and resupply station for the Arctic Offshore Patrol Ships (AOPS), Canadian Coast Guard and other government ships during the navigable season through the Northwest Passage. The facility as proposed may also be used to receive, marshal, hold and distribute cargo and goods from commercial sea vessels, and to provide appropriate shelter, work areas and amenities for personnel during the navigable season with the ability to accommodate up to seven people during the non-navigable season. The construction program is proposed to commence in June 2012 with the facility becoming fully operational by 2015. The proposed facility has been designed for an anticipated life of at least 40 years with the facility being manned and operated from June through October, and normally remaining unmanned from November to June each year.

The project activities include:

- Establishment of construction camp between 2012 and 2015:
  - Pioneer construction camp (20 to 30 personnel) to develop quarry, upgrade roads and establish the construction camp
  - Construction camp (100 personnel) to construct the facility
- Use of existing dock during construction and operation to transport equipment and bulk material on cargo ships or barges;
- Upgrade berthing/wharf infrastructure;
- Construction of helicopter landing area;
- Construction of Shore Support Building, and a Cargo Storage and Marshalling Area;
- Construction of bulk fuel storage facilities:
  - Naval distillate fuel – five 3.75 million litre (L) single wall vertical tanks (22 meter diameter) with up to 15.0 million L stored at the facility
  - Diesel – three 500,000 L single wall vertical tanks (10 meter diameter) with up to 1.0 million L stored at the facility
  - Gasoline – 16 drums with total capacity of 3,200 L
  - Aviation Fuel – 60 drums with total capacity of 7,000 L at the facility and a horizontal storage tank at the proposed helicopter pad with a total capacity of 5,000 L
- Upgrade existing roads and development of new roads to provide access to components of the facility;
- Use of airport at Arctic Bay during construction period to transport personnel to and from the facility;
- Use of existing all-weather road between Arctic Bay and the facility during construction and operation to transport personnel and materials to the project site, and to potentially access medical services, police and other community services;

- Potential use of borrow sites for rock and aggregate (no areas have been identified yet);
- Water withdrawal from East Twin Lake to provide water for facility;
- Generation of waste:
  - Domestic waste to be treated using mechanical package plant system or facultative lagoon
  - Discharge of treated effluent into receiving environment if using lagoon
  - Incineration of suitable solid waste, recycling of other wastes
  - Separation of oily wastewater
- Chemical and hazardous material storage; and
- Potential use of a Project Management Office in Arctic Bay.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/09DN018-DND-Nanisivik%20Naval%20Facility/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English and Inuktitut (revised)*
- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in Inuktitut*
- *Figures*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in Inuktitut*
- *NPC Conformity Determination*
- *NIRB Project Specific Information Requirements, Part 2 form*
- *NIRB Project Specific Information Requirements, Part 2 form additional information*
- *Design Plans Worley Parson – Appendix B*
- *Waste Management Plan – Appendix C*
- *Spill Contingency Plan – Appendix D*
- *Emergency Response Plan – Appendix E*
- *Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan – Appendix F*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB shall proceed to screen this project proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by DND's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **October 3, 2011**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and

- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

In addition, the Board requests that authorizing agencies with jurisdiction to authorize works or activities associated with this project please forward copies of any such applications to the NIRB for review.

Please send your comment submissions to the NIRB at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me directly at (867) 793-4633 or [sgranchinho@nirb.ca](mailto:sgranchinho@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho  
Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List  
Brian Aglukark, Nunavut Planning Commission  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Robert St. Eloi, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Derrick Moggy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Mark Dahl, Environment Canada  
Greg Black, Transport Canada, NWPP  
Allen Cadenhead, Transport Canada, NWPP  
Tamara Van Dyck, Department Construction Canada  
Louis Lemay, Department Construction Canada

Enclosures (2): Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)