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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

March 9, 2017

Jaida Ohokannoak
Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
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By email: info@nirb.ca

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Michael Westlake
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By email: Michael.westlake@aandc.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Kharatyan, Ms. McCaie, and Mr. Westlake:

RE: NPC File # 148489- Bathurst/ High Arctic Remediation and Risk Management Project

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Sites Clean-up/Remediation: The Bathurst/High Arctic Remediation and Risk Management Project will take place over a number of sites in the North Baffin Planning Region, with the nearest community being Resolute Bay, Nunavut. Contamination at both the High Arctic and Bathurst sites are largely a result of oil and gas exploration activities. Based on the findings of Phase III Environmental Site Assessments (NIRB file # 13XN019 and 15UN034) , Remedial and Risk Management Plans were developed for both the High Arctic and Bathurst sites. For efficiency and cost effectiveness, these two projects have been combined into one. The key activities that will take place as part of this project are as follows:
    - temporary camp set-up and operation at Ile Vanier. The airstrip at this location will be repaired in order to support mobilization/demobilization for this project using heavy lift aircraft. Access to the other Bathurst/High Arctic sites to complete minor remediation/risk management work will be done using helicopters, and smaller aircraft from the main camp at Ile Vanier.
    - posting of warning signs at 6 High Arctic and 9 Bathurst sites
    - asbestos abatement
    - off-site hazmat disposal
    - small engineered cap of metals and PHC impacted soils
    - collection and off-site disposal of PCB, metals and PHC soils
    - incineration of organic liquids

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal, including soil sampling and geotechnical work as part of Phase III Environmental Site Assessment work (conformity determination issued May 24, 2013 and June 15, 2015). This conformity determination still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 13XN019 and 15UN034).
The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because include reasons in application. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:
http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148489&sessionid=

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,

Goump Djalogue
Senior Planner, RPP, MCIP
Nunavut Planning Commission