



NIRB File No.: 08DN081
INAC File No.: N2008X0037

July 8, 2011

The Honourable John Duncan
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
c/o Jeff Mercer, Manager Land Administration
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Iqaluit, NU
Via email: jeff.mercer@inac-ainc.gc.ca and landsmining@inac-ainc.gc.ca

Re: Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Defense Construction Canada's "PIN-2, Cape Young DEW Line Site Clean-up and Remediation" project

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On July 6, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) for an extension to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Land Use Permit N2008X0037 as well as a new Quarry Permit Application for Defence Construction Canada's "PIN-2, Cape Young DEW Line Site Clean-up and Remediation" project.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 08DN081) was received by the NIRB from INAC on November 8, 2008 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On December 18, 2008 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On January 11, 2011 the NIRB received a land use permit extension request from INAC for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the extension request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from further screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on January 13, 2011.

On January 17, 2011 the NIRB received a Quarry Permit application from INAC in support of the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the Quarry Permit application, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from further screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on January 20, 2011.

The current AANDC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (08DN081) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2008/08DN081-DCC%20-%20PIN-2/>.

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 08DN081), the "PIN-2, Cape Young DEW Line Site Clean-up and Remediation" project was located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 150 kilometres (km) from Kugluktuk. The Proponent indicated that it intended to clean-up and remediate the former Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line site.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Demolition of existing facilities;
- Remediation of existing landfills;
- Construction of two new landfills;
- Excavation of contaminated soils;
- Removal of surface debris;
- Grading and restoration of land surfaces;
- Installation of a construction camp to accommodate up to 60 people
 - Average of 50 people on site at one time
 - Peak number of people on site from mid-July to late August
- Use of existing airstrip and roads for equipment transport, movement and access to work areas;
- Quarrying;
- Use of heavy machinery (excavators, tractors, loaders, etc.);
- Storage and offsite disposal of hazardous contaminated soils and hazardous waste;
- Construction of Tier II soil disposal facility; and
- Site monitoring following remediation.

Activities/components associated with the January 11, 2011 extension request and January 17, 2011 Quarry Application:

- Final closure;
- Capping of the Non-Hazardous Waste Landfill and Tier II Soil Disposal Facility;
- Reshape borrow areas;
- Complete closure of the sewage lagoon;
- Excavate last area of contaminated soil.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

DCC is requesting authorization for an additional borrow source under their current Quarry Permit in association with INAC LUP N2008X0037. The request entails the addition of Borrow Area #7 to extract 800 m³ of granular materials for continued remediation work. DCC is also requesting to extend INAC LUP N2008X0037 for an additional year.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:

(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or

(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project.”

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current application the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed extension does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original December 18, 2008 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tannis Bolt, Environmental Administrator, at 867 983 4603 or tbolt@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Autut
Executive Director

cc: Eva Schultz, AECOM (eva.schultz@aecom.com)
Steve Poaps, DCC (steven.poaps@dcc-cdc.gc.ca)
Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB (licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 08DN081 (December 18, 2008)