



NIRB File No.: 13UN038
AANDC File No.: N2013U0018

December 20, 2013

Natalie Plato
Director, Contaminated Sites Division
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Government of Canada
P.O. Box 2200
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: natalie.plato@aandc.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Contaminated Sites Division’s “Contwoyto Lake Remediation” project proposal

Dear Natalie Plato:

On December 12, 2013 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada - Contaminated Sites Division’s Contwoyto Lake Remediation project proposal from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Lands Division (AANDC). The NIRB notes that a conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission was not required for this file, as the proposed project is located within a region that does not currently have an approved land use plan in place (Kitikmeot region). The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **13UN038** – please reference this number in all related correspondence.

The proposed project is located in the Kitikmeot region approximately 190 kilometres southwest of Bathurst Inlet and 330 kilometres southeast of Kugluktuk. The program intends to remediate a former weather station and is proposed to take place from April 2014 to March 2015 with a possible extension to March 2016.

The proposed project activities include:

- Mobilization of equipment (expected April 2014):
 - Creation of an ice airstrip on the esker adjacent to the project site (winter weather dependent);
 - Possible alternate use of Lupin Mine airstrip and/or winter road to transport equipment and supplies;
- Transportation:

- Fixed wing aircraft used to transport personnel, supplies and equipment;
- Access during the summer months via float planes (with installation of a temporary floating dock) or by boat from the Lupin Mine site;
- Potential for an emergency airstrip on the esker during the summer months;
- Use of pre-existing roads and trails on site, including re-construction and repair of roads and airstrip as required;
- Site infrastructure to support cleanup:
 - Establishment and operation of a temporary, mobile camp to accommodate 15 personnel to support ice airstrip construction, mobilization and demobilization activities, and would be removed at end of project;
 - Proposed daily water consumption of 1.3 cubic metres (m³), sourced from Contwoyto Lake;
 - Generation of electricity for camp via diesel generators;
- Remediation activities:
 - Demolition of structures;
 - Consolidation and disposal of debris;
 - Segregation of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes;
- Disposal of wastes:
 - Processing of camp grey water using a Bio Barrier Membrane Bioreactor, including treatment if necessary and discharge of effluent more than 100 metres (m) from any water body;
 - Incineration of combustible waste on site, removal and transport of non-combustible solid waste to off-site facilities;
 - Hazardous materials and oil to be temporarily stored on site and disposed of off-site at appropriately licensed disposal facilities;
 - Consolidation of liquid drum contents, transportation of organic liquids and unknown liquids to an appropriate off-site facility and treatment of water at on-site drum wash. Empty barrels/fuel drums to be transported off-site to an appropriately licensed disposal facility;
 - Tier II soils (impacted by metals and approximately 50 m³) to be packaged, stored and transported south to a licensed disposal facility;
 - Landfarming of hydrocarbon contaminated soils (approximately 1,142 m³);
 - Landfarm to be constructed and operated in a primary hydrocarbon treatment area (with secondary area if required), to be decommissioned when soil remediation complete;
 - Development of borrow sources, use of granular material during remediation work;
 - Excavation and relocation of contaminated soil to landfarm;
 - Borrow areas to be backfilled with clean material from the landfarm when remediation complete, re-graded and sloped to prevent erosion;
- Fuel:
 - Transportation, storage and use of fuel (total proposed fuel volume of 79,770 Litres includes diesel, gasoline, aviation fuel, propane and miscellaneous types);
 - Fuel stored in a lined pop-up insta-berm containment facility to be constructed at least 100 m from camp;

- All fuels will be transferred from the barrels and into equipment via 12 volt fuel transfer pumps.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/13UN038-AANDC-Contwoyto%20Lake%20Remediation/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun*
- *NIRB Part 2 Project Specific Information Requirements Application in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun*
- *Remedial Action Plan*
- *Maps*
- *Environmental Screening Report*
- *Project Schedule*
- *Archaeological Impact Assessment*
- *List of Additional Documents*
- *Mobilization Options Plan and Supplemental Information*
- *Site Specific Health and Safety Plan*
- *Spill Contingency Plan*

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 AANDC's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **January 17, 2014**.

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.

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4606 or hramussen@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Heather Rasmussen
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
 Geoffrey Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
 Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Lands Division
 Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Lands Division

Enclosures (3): NIRB Comment Forms (English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)