



NIRB File No.: 10DN056
AANDC File No.: N2010X0020
NWB File No.: 1BR-PEE1116

December 16, 2011

The Honourable John Duncan
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
c/o Jeff Mercer, Manager Land Administration
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: jeff.mercer@aandc.gc.ca and landsmining@aandc.gc.ca

**Re: Application Exempt from Screening Pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA:
AANDC – Contaminated Sites Division’s “PIN-E Cape Peel” project**

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On November 18, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) – Lands Division for an amendment to AANDC Land Use Permit N2010X0020 for AANDC-Contaminated Sites Division’s “PIN-E Cape Peel” project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 10DN056) was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (now AANDC) on November 29, 2010 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On January 11, 2011 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (the Minister) which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB’s recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On July 7, 2011 the NIRB received an application from AANDC for an amendment to Land Use Permit N2010X0020 to allow for the inclusion of a quarry with project activities. After a thorough assessment of the amendment request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on July 13, 2011.

The current AANDC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (Original NIRB File No. 11DN056) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2011/10DN056-INAC-PIN-E%20CAPE%20PEEL/>

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 10DN056), the "PIN-E Cape Peel" project was located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 80 kilometres west of Cambridge Bay. AANDC-Contaminated Sites Division was proposing to carry out the remediation of the PIN-E Cape Peel Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line Site. The planned work was expected to be conducted on both Crown land and Inuit owned land during the summer and fall of 2011 and again between July and September 2012 when it was anticipated that clean-up would be completed.

The proposed project activities included:

- Access to site via sealift and fixed wing aircraft;
- Establishment of a camp to support site operations;
- Roads and the airstrip re-constructed and repaired as required;
- Demolition of existing site infrastructure, with segregation of demolition wastes into hazardous and non-hazardous materials for disposal;
- Disposal of all hazardous materials and soil at an off-site licensed disposal facility;
- Remediation of existing landfills/drums;
- Construction of a land far for the treatment of hydrocarbon contaminated soil;
- Transportation of non-hazardous wastes to PIN-D Ross Point at the landfill;
- Consolidation of barrels with contents, these contents were to be incinerated or shipped to PIN-D Ross Point for disposal;
- Empty barrels to be crushed and transported to PIN-D Ross Point;
- Development of borrow sites;
- Fuel (diesel, gas and jet fuel) and propane to be drummed and stored on-site within a containment area;
- Spill kits at fuel transfer site; and,
- Two temporary lagoons.

AANDC further applied for approval to allow for the extraction of materials from existing borrow sites previously identified during the original screening of the file.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

AANDC-Contaminated Sites is currently proposing to amend AANDC Land Use Permit N2010X0020 to allow the contractor to use a 1,000 litre double walled Enviro tank and a 2,200 litre double wall utility tank for the storage of diesel fuel in place of the currently utilized barrels.

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 amendment 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 pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original January 11, 2011 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director

cc: Natalie Plato, AANDC-Contaminated Sites
Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB
Geoff Clark, KIA
Tracey McCaie, AANDC

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 10DN056 (*January 11, 2011*)