



NIRB File No. 12XN027
NWB File No.: 1BR-RLF----

May 30, 2012

Michael Molinski
Transport Canada
3rd Floor-344 Edmonton Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P6

Via email: Michael.molinski@tc.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Transport Canada's "Resolute Bay Landfarm Maintenance and Operation" project proposal

Dear Michael Molinski:

On February 29, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a Type B Water Licence application for Transport Canada's (TC) "Resolute Bay Landfarm Maintenance and Operation" project proposal from Transport Canada. On April 4, 2012 the NIRB received a screening referral from the Nunavut Water Board and on May 17, 2012 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission for this file. The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **12XN027** – please reference this file number in all future related correspondence copied to this office.

The project is located in the Qikiqtani Region within the municipal boundary of Resolute Bay, approximately 5 kilometres northeast of the town site. The proposed project is located at the Resolute Bay Airport, which was originally constructed in 1949 by the Royal Canadian Air Force and has been operated first by the Canadian Government and later the Government of the Northwest Territories. In 1995 as a condition of the transfer between the aforementioned two governments it was agreed that the Fire Training Area would be cleaned up to address environmental issues at site. In 1999 the Government of Nunavut assumed ownership of the airport and associated lands. At that time, environmental clean-up remained ongoing and in 2001/02 a landfarm was constructed to contain the hydrocarbon contaminated soil and to do in-situ remediation and complete the clean-up.

TC is currently proposing to continue the operations and maintenance of the landfarm and once remediation is complete, to decommission the landfarm. TC is proposing that operations and

maintenance would occur during the summer starting in 2012 and anticipate completing of the project in 2016.

The project activities expected to include the following proposed activities:

Operations of the existing land farm

- Yearly turning of the soil in both areas and adding fertilizer to encourage biodegrading of hydrocarbons (gasoline, diesel and aviation fuel); and,
- Testing of the soil and water to observe hydrocarbon levels and assess fertilizer requirements.

Decommissioning of the land farm

- Removal of the liner and plastic pipes from the land farm
- Materials removed to be disposed of in the Resolute Bay landfill; and,
- Land farm area to be backfilled with the remediated soil and graded to match the surrounding topography.

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/12XN027-TC-Resolute%20Bay%20Land%20Farm/01-APPLICATION/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English*
- *NIRB Part 2*
- *Maps*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in Inuktitut*
- *NPC Conformity Determination*
- *Operation and Maintenance Plan*
- *Spill contingency plan*
- *Abandonment and Restoration 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 TC's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **June 11, 2012**.

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 note that *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment (**Appendix A**).

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, feel free to contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag.
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB
Bernie McIsaac, QIA
Fred Fast, GN – Airport Division

Attachments: Appendix A – *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions

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

Appendix A

Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General

1. Transport Canada – Michael Molinski (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the Project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times.
2. The Proponent shall forward copies of all permits obtained and required for this project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to the commencement of the project.
3. The Proponent shall operate in accordance with all commitments stated in correspondence provided to the NIRB (Part 1 Summary Application Form, February 29, 2012; NIRB Part 2, February 29, 2012; Maps; Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuktitut; Operation and Maintenance Plan; Abandonment and Restoration Plan; Spill contingency plan and the Nunavut Planning Commission's Conformity Determination, May 16, 2012.
4. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

Fuel and Chemical Storage

5. The Proponent shall ensure that storage of fuel and hazardous materials and re-fuelling of project equipment is conducted at a minimum of thirty-one (31) metres away from the high water mark of any water body and in such a manner as to prevent their release into the environment.
6. The Proponent shall store all fuel and chemicals in such a manner that they are inaccessible to wildlife.
7. The Proponent shall use adequate secondary containment or a surface liner (e.g. self-supporting insta-berms and fold-a-tanks) when storing barrelled fuel. Appropriate spill response equipment and clean-up materials (e.g., shovels, pumps, barrels, drip pans, and absorbents) must be readily available during any transfer of fuel.
8. The Proponent shall flag all fuel caches on site so they remain visible in the winter months.
9. The Proponent shall inspect and document the condition of the fuel cache. All fuel containers must be clearly marked with the Proponent's name and examined for leaks immediately upon delivery.
10. The Proponent shall ensure that all personnel are properly trained in fuel and hazardous waste handling procedures, as well as spill response procedures. All spills of fuel or other deleterious materials of any amount must be reported immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife - General

11. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.

12. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently worrying or chasing animals, or disturbing large groups of animals. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
13. The Proponent shall ensure that all project personnel are made aware of the measures to protect wildlife and are provided with training and/or advice on how to implement these measures.

Migratory Birds and Raptors Disturbance

14. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. If nests are encountered and/or identified, the Proponent shall take precaution to avoid further interaction and or disturbance (e.g., a 100 metre buffer around the nests). If active nests of any birds are discovered (i.e. with eggs or young), the Proponent shall avoid these areas until nesting is complete and the young have left the nest.

Landfarm Operation

15. The Proponent shall only treat petroleum and hydrocarbon contaminated soils using the landfarm facility. Materials contaminated with other substances such as glycol and heavy metals are not to be stored at the landfarm and shall only be disposed of at an authorized facility.
16. The Proponent shall ensure required standards, set out in the Nunavut Water Board's Water Licence for this project are met prior to any discharge of collected water in the retention cell.
17. The Proponent shall ensure that the equipment used in the landfarm operation for aeration, have been cleaned off within the landfarm facilities prior to exiting to prevent contaminated soil transfer.
18. The Proponent shall take appropriate dust suppression measures when conducting soil turning and removal.
19. All operation personnel shall be adequately trained prior to commencement of any operation in the landfarm facility. Operational personnel should also be trained in the operational guidelines and commitments made by the Proponent for this project.

Ground Disturbance

20. The Proponent shall not move any equipment or vehicles to the site unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging. Overland travel of equipment or vehicles must be suspended if rutting occurs.
21. The Proponent shall implement suitable erosion and sediment suppression measures on disturbed areas before, during and after construction in order to prevent sediment from entering any water body.
22. All construction and road vehicles must be fitted with standard and well-maintained noise suppression devices and engine idling is to be minimized.
23. The Proponent shall use water or other non-toxic and biodegradable additives for dust suppression as necessary to maintain ambient air quality without causing water to pool or runoff.

Restoration of Disturbed Areas

- 24. The Proponent shall ensure that all disturbed areas are restored to a stable or pre-disturbed state as practical as possible upon completion of field work.
- 25. The Proponent shall remove all garbage, fuel and equipment upon abandonment.

Other

- 26. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region.