

**NIRB File No.: 07CN007**  
**NWB File No.: 1BR-ROB0813**  
**AANDC File No.: N2007X0006**

April 29, 2015

Thomas Kabloona, Chairperson  
Nunavut Water Board  
c/o Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0

*Sent via email:* [phyllis.beaulieu@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:phyllis.beaulieu@nwb-oen.ca)

**Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Contaminated Sites Division’s “Roberts Bay and Ida Bay Site Remediation” project, Kitikmeot Region**

Dear Phyllis Beaulieu:

On April 1, 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) for an amendment and renew to the Type B Water Licence 1BR-ROB0813 for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) – Contaminated Sites Division’s “Roberts Bay and Ida Bay Site Remediation” project. The Board 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).

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 07CN007) was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC, now AANDC) on February 5, 2007 and from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association on March 9, 2007. The proposal was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On March 20, 2007 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC and the President of KIA which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current NWB application, the original NIRB screening file and Screening Decision (NIRB File No.: 07CN007) are available from the NIRB's online public registry at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2007/07CN007-INAC%20Roberts%20Bay%20and%20Ida%20Bay/>

On February 13, 2009 the NIRB received an extension request for Land Use Permit N2007X0006 and a quarry permit application from INAC for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the extension request and the quarry permit application, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on February 16, 2009.

On February 11, 2010 the NIRB received an application for an extension from INAC for Land Use Permit N2007X0006 as well as a new quarry permit for the above mentioned project. After a thorough assessment of the extension request and the quarry permit, NIRB determined that the application was exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on March 11, 2010.

#### PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 07CN007), the “Roberts Bay and Ida Bay Site Remediation” project was located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 115 kilometres from Municipality of Cambridge Bay. The Proponent indicated that it intended to complete a comprehensive site remediation of the abandoned Roberts Bay Silver Mine and Ida Bay Silver Deposit in accordance with the Government of Canada’s Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan.

The activities and components associated with the previously screened proposal included:

- Transportation of equipment, materials, and personnel to the site;
- Enhancement of site access routes;
- Set-up of camp and operations facilities;
- Storage, removal, and transportation of hazardous materials;
- Demolition of existing mine structures;
- Excavation and relocation of contaminated soils;
- Capping of waste rock and tailings;
- Site grading;
- Demobilization of equipment, materials, waste, and personnel; and,
- Long-term post-remediation site monitoring.

The activities and components associated with the February 12, 2009 and February 2, 2010 extension requests and quarry permit applications were to extend permits for one year in each case to continue previously approved remediation and quarrying activities at site.

#### CURRENT APPLICATION:

AANDC – Contaminated Sites Division is currently proposing to renew and amend its Type B Water Licence with the NWB to transition the project from site remediation into long-term (20 year) monitoring program, specifically:

- Monitor landfill using visual inspection, thermal monitoring, and soil monitoring to assess the site for any potential seepage or staining;
- Conduct thermal monitoring of the landfill; and
- Continue site environmental monitoring.

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 and 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 the requirement for 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 March 20, 2007 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact Erika Zell, Assistant Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4622 or [ezell@nirb.ca](mailto:ezell@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Tara Arko  
Director, Technical Services  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

*For*

Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Natalie Plato, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Stephen Traynor, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Dele Morakinyo, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Lilianne Arsenault, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 07CN007 (*March 20, 2007*)