



NIRB File No.: 19RN005

Related to NIRB File Nos.: 99WR053, 02RN037 and 04RN111

NPC File No.: 148975

January 17, 2019

Kenny Ruptash
Nahanni Construction Ltd.
Box 2070 100 Nahanni Drive
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6

Sent via email: kenny@nahannincl.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Nahanni Construction Ltd.'s "Lupin Mine Winter Access" Project Proposal

Dear Kenny Ruptash:

On January 14, 2018 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Nahanni Construction Ltd.'s "Lupin Mine Winter Access" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), which noted that the project is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The NPC noted that the project proposal is a significant modification to the previous projects because the form of traffic on the ice road will be modified from what occurred during the Lupin Mine.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **19RN005** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On January 14, 2019 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that the information provided be sufficient to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and that sufficient information has been provided to commence screening.

On January 15, 2019 the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

The proposed “Lupin Mine Winter Access” project is a transboundary project located within the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut and the Northwest Territories (NT), approximately 285 kilometres (km) southwest from Kugluktuk. The Proponent intends to construct and operate the portion of the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road (TCWR) route from Lac de Gras, NWT to the Lupin Mine in order to mobilize and demobilize equipment and supplies in support of ongoing reclamation of the Lupin Mine. The program is proposed to take place from seasonally (December to April) from 2019 through 2024.

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Seasonally construct, operate, maintain and close a 213 km winter access route (95 km in NT and 118 km in Nunavut);
- Transport of equipment and supplies such as bulk fuel, lime and explosives required for mine reclamation activities;
- Accommodations at the Lupin Mine site or in small, mobile, temporary camps; and
- Waste disposal to be collected for offsite disposal at either Lupin Mine or via a suitable waste receiver.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB’s online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125425.

The documents received include:

- *NPC Screening Referral*
- *NPC Application*
- *NIRB’s Online Application Form*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuinnaqtun*
- *Project Description*
- *Maps noting winter access route*
- *Abandonment and Restoration Plan*
- *Community Engagement Plan*
- *Engagement Summary*
- *Environment Heritage Resources Protection Plan*
- *Physical Biological and Socio-Economic Effects Assessment*
- *Regulatory History*
- *Spill Contingency Plan*
- *Wildlife Protection Plan*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Nahanni Construction Ltd.'s project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **February 7, 2019**.

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 or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca, via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125435.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned at (867)983-4609 or at johokannoak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Jaida Ohokannoak
Technical Advisor II
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English and Inuinnaqtun)
Comment Forms (English and Inuinnaqtun)

cc: Distribution List
Sharleen Hamm, Nahanni Construction Ltd.
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Shelagh Montgomery, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
Ryan Fequet, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board