

June 3, 2003

Phyllis Beaulieu
A/Licensing Administrator
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EXT.

Re: Turner Lake Project – Water Licence Application NIRB: #03EN065 NWB: #NWB2TUR

Enclosed is the completed NIRB Screening Decision Report for the application for a water licence for mineral exploration at Turner lake, NU.

NIRB has screened this application for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of the proposal.

NIRB's indication to the Minister is:

The decision of the Board in this case is 12.4.4(a) he proposal may be processed without a review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB may recommend specific terms and conditions to be attached to any approval, reflecting the primary objectives set out in Section 12.2.5;

Please contact Stephanie Briscoe, Executive Director at (867) 983-2593 if you have any questions about the Screening Report.

Yours truly,

Jørgen Komak

Environmental Technologist Nunavut Impact Review Board

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SCREENING DECISION

Date: May 28, 2003

Mr. Thomas Kudloo Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board Gjoa Haven, NT

Dear Mr. Kudloo:

RE: Screening Decision of the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) on Application:

NIRB 03EN065 NWB NWB2TUR

Turner Lake Project (Navasota Resources Ltd.).

Authority:

Section 12.4.4 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement states:

Upon receipt of a project proposal, NIRB shall screen the proposal and indicate to the Minister in writing that:

- a) the proposal may be processed without a review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB may recommend specific terms and conditions to be attached to any approval, reflecting the primary objectives set out in Section 12.2.5;
- the proposal requires review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB shall identify particular issues or concerns which should be considered in such a review;
- the proposal is insufficiently developed to permit proper screening, and should be returned to the proponent for clarification; or
- d) the potential adverse impacts of the proposal are so unacceptable that it should be modified or abandoned.

Primary Objectives:

The primary objectives of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement are set out in section 12.2.5 of the Land Claims Agreement. This section reads:

In carrying out its functions, the primary objectives of NIRB shall be at all times to protect and promote the existing and future well-being of the residents and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area, and to protect the ecosystemic integrity of the Nunavut Settlement Area. NIRB shall take into account the well-being of the residents of Canada outside the Nunavut Settlement Area.

The decision of the Board in this case is 12.4.4 (a) the proposal may be processed without a review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB may recommend specific terms and conditions to be attached to any approval, reflecting the primary objectives set out in Section 12.2.5;

Reasons for Decision:

NIRB's decision is based on specific considerations that reflect the primary objectives of the Land Claims Agreement. Our considerations in making this decision included:

- the impact of drilling activities on the ecosystem;
- disposal of drill cuttings and waste water;
- impact to water quality, aquatic habitat and wildlife and fish populations from chemicals, drill waste, drill fluids and potential fuel spills;
- storage and disposal of chemicals, fuel, garbage, sewage, and gray water, and impact of these
 on the ecosystem;
- the impact of noise from drilling activities and their disturbance to wildlife and traditional
 users of area;
- the impact of campsite and equipment on terrain;
- the impact of exploration activities on archaeological sites or cultural landmarks in the area;
 and
- clean up/restoration of the camp site and drilling locations upon abandonment.

Terms and Conditions:

That the terms and conditions attached to this screening report will apply.

Drill Sites

- The Licensee shall not conduct any land based drilling within thirty (30) metres of the normal high water mark of a water body.
- The Licensee shall not use drilling muds or additives in connection with drill holes unless
 they are recirculated or contained such that they do not enter the water, or are certified to be
 non-toxic.
- 3. The Licensee shall ensure that any drill cuttings and waste water that cannot be recirculated be disposed of in a properly constructed sump or an appropriate natural depression that does not drain into a waterbody. The Licensee shall ensure that drilling wastes do not enter any water body. The use of biodegradable, salt free drill additives is encouraged over non-biodegradable types.
- The Licensee shall ensure that the sump/depression capacity is sufficient to accommodate
 the volume of waste water and any fines that are produced so that there will be no
 additional impacts.
- The Licensee shall not locate any sump within thirty (30) metres of the normal high water mark of any water body.

- The Licensee shall ensure that disturbance of vegetation from deposit of drill fluids/cuttings
 is restricted to the area of the sump and the ground prepared for revegetation upon
 abandonment.
- 7. The Licensee shall, where flowing water from bore holes is encountered, plug, the bore hole in such a manner as to permanently prevent any further outflow of water. The occurrence shall be reported to the Nunavut Water Board and Land Use Inspector within 48 hours.

Water

The Licensee shall ensure that all water intake hoses are equipped with a screen with an
appropriate mesh size to ensure that there is no entrapment of fish. Refer to the Freshwater
Intake End-of Pipe Fish Screen Guideline (DFO 1995).

Fuel and Chemical Storage

- The Licensee shall ensure that fuel storage containers are not located within thirty (30)
 metres of the ordinary high water mark of any body of water.
- 10. The Licensee shall ensure that any chemicals, fuels or wastes associated with the project do not spread to the surrounding lands or enter into any water body. The use of secondary containment, such as self-supporting insta-berms is recommended.
- The Licensee shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent the possibility of migration of spilled petroleum fuel or chemicals over the ground surface.
- 12. The Licensee shall mark all fuel containers with the Licensee's name.
- The Licensee shall dispose of all combustible waste petroleum products by incineration or removal from the site.
- The Licensee shall use drip pans, or other preventative measures when refueling equipment
 on site.
- The Licensee shall have emergency response and spill contingency plans in place prior to the commencement of the operation.
- The Licensee shall immediately report all spills of petroleum and hazardous chemicals to the twenty four (24) hour spill report line at (867) 920-8130.

Waste Disposal

- 17. The Licensee shall not discharge or deposit any refuse substances or other waste materials in any body of water, or on the banks thereof, which will impair the quality of the waters of the natural environment.
- The Licensee shall not locate any sumps or areas designated for waste disposal within thirty (30) metres of the ordinary high water mark of any body of water, unless otherwise authorized.
- The Licensee shall construct a sump to contain all greywater discharged and shall ensure drainage is away from any waterbody.
- The Licensee shall backfill and recontour all sumps to match the natural environment prior to the expiry date of the permit.

- The Licensee shall ensure that all wastes generated through the course of the operation are backhauled and disposed of in an approved dumpsite.
- 22. The Licensee shall not bury any wastes.
- The Licensee shall deposit all scrap metal, discarded machinery and parts, barrels and kegs, at an approved disposal site.

Wildlife

- The Licensee shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this
 operation.
- 25. The Licensee shall not feed wildlife.
- 26. The Licensee shall make every effort to prevent the unintentional harassment of caribou, muskox and nesting or molting waterfowl at all times. It is an offense under the Wildlife Act to harass wildlife.
- The Licensee shall not conduct any activity associated with the land use operation during critical periods of wildlife cycles (e.g. caribou migration, calving or raptor nesting).
- The Licensee shall abide by the attached Caribou Protection Measures for the Kaminuriak and Beverly Herds
- The Licensee shall immediately report problem wildlife to the Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) wildlife officers.
- 30. The Licensee shall ensure compliance with Section 36 of the Fisheries Act which requires that no person shall deposit or permit the deposit of a deleterious substance on any type in water frequented by fish or in any place under any conditions where the deleterious substance may enter such a water body.
- 31. The harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat is prohibited under Section 35 of the Fisheries Act. No construction or disturbance of any stream/lake bed or banks of any definable watercourse is permitted unless authorized by DFO.
- The Licensee shall not obstruct the movement of fish while conducting the land use operation.
- The Licensee shall ensure that the drill sites avoid known environmentally sensitive areas (calving, denning, nesting etc.) by a minimum of 250 metres.
- 34. The Licensee shall not allow any employee to hunt or fish, unless the appropriate permits and licenses are acquired from a Renewable Resources Officer.

Environmental

- 35. The Licensee shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all times.
- The Licensee shall prepare the site in such a manner as to prevent rutting of the ground surface.
- 37. The Licensee shall be required to undertake any corrective measures in the event of any damage to the land or water as a result of the Licensee's operation.
- 38. The Licensee shall not move any equipment or vehicles unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging.
- 39. The Licensee shall suspend overland travel of equipment or vehicles if rutting occurs.

Camp

- 40. The Licensee shall not erect camps or store material on the surface ice of lakes or streams.
- 41. The Licensee shall locate all camps and storage facilities on gravel, sand or other durable land.

Archaeological

42. The Licensee shall follow all terms and conditions for the protection and restoration of archaeological resources as outlined by the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youths (CLEY).

Reclamation

- The Licensee shall remove all scrap metal, discarded machinery and parts, barrels and kegs, buildings and building material upon abandonment.
- 44. The Licensee shall complete all clean-up and restoration of the lands used prior to the expiry date of the permit.

Other Recommendations

- NIRB strongly advises the proponent to hire local people and services, to the extent
 possible, consult with the local residents regarding their activities in the region and that the
 information be presented to the community in the community's preferred language.
- Any amendment requests deemed by NIRB to be outside the original scope of the project.
 Will be considered a new project.
- The Environmental Protection Branch (DOE), Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO),
 Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) should be
 advised of any material changes to plans or operating conditions associated with the
 project.

Validity of Land Claims Agreement

Section 2.12.2

Where there is any inconsistency or conflict between any federal, territorial and local government laws, and the Agreement, the Agreement shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

Dated

at Arviat NU

Elizabeth Copland, Champerson