



NIRB File No. 10YN009

February 5, 2010

Benoit Beauchamp
University of Calgary
Calgary, AB
T2N 1N4

Via email: bbeauch@ucalgary.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Benoit Beauchamp's "Arctic Carbonates" project proposal

Dear Benoit Beauchamp:

On January 26, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received your "Arctic Carbonates" project proposal from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI). Upon receiving your proposal, the NIRB issued correspondence to you, advising that your project appeared to be in an area with an approved land use plan, and would therefore require a conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) prior to screening by the NIRB. On January 29, 2010 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) from the NPC for this file. NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **10YN009** - please reference this file number in related future correspondence.

The project is located on Raanes Peninsula, southwest Ellesmere Island, North Baffin region. The program is proposed to take place annually from June 25 to August 6, commencing in 2010 and continuing through to 2013. The objective of the proposed research project is to investigate ocean acidification during the late Palaeozoic-early Mesozoic transition period in the Sverdrup Basin.

The project activities include:

- Examine outcrops of large ancient reefs west of Blind Fiord;
- Examine outcrops of carbonates and sandstones east of Blind Fiord;
- Collect approximately 50 small rock samples (less than 0.5 kilograms each) for geochemical analysis from five research sites;
- Establish temporary tent camps to be used by 3 research personnel; camps to be located near research sites and to be removed after ~ 4 days of research at each site (total of 5 research sites);
- Use of helicopter to relocate personnel between research sites;
- Temporary fuel storage;

- Water consumption and waste production;
- Incineration of combustible wastes; and
- Transportation of non-combustible wastes to Resolute for disposal.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/10YN009-University%20of%20Calgary%20-%20Beniot%20Beauchamp/1-SCREENING/> including:

- *NRI Scientific Research Licence Application Form in English*
- *Maps*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in Inuktitut*
- *NPC Conformity Determination*

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.

Be advised that the NIRB is copying interested parties and municipalities most affected by your project proposal. Interested parties are encouraged to comment directly to the NIRB by **February 15, 2010**.

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 me directly at 867-983-4607 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Mosha Cote, NRI

Attachments: Appendix A – *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions
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. Benoit Beauchamp (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 NIRB (email correspondence dated February 5, 2010) and to NRI (Scientific Research Application dated January 26, 2010).
4. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

Waste

5. The Proponent shall incinerate all combustible wastes daily, and remove the ash from incineration activities and non-combustible wastes from the project site to an approved facility for disposal.
6. The Proponent shall keep all garbage and debris in bags placed in a covered metal container or equivalent until disposed of. All wastes shall be kept inaccessible to wildlife at all times.

Fuel and Chemical Storage

7. The Proponent shall locate all fuel and other hazardous materials 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.
8. The Proponent shall store all fuel and chemicals in such a manner that they are inaccessible to wildlife.
9. The Proponent shall report all spills of fuel, or other deleterious materials immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife

10. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.
11. 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.
12. The Proponent shall restrict aircraft/helicopter activity related to the project to a minimum altitude of 610 metres above ground level unless there is a specific requirement for low-level flying, which does not disturb wildlife and migratory birds.

13. The Proponent shall ensure that aircraft maintain a vertical distance of 1000 metres and a horizontal distance of 1500 metres from any observed groups (colonies) of migratory birds.
14. The Proponent shall ensure that aircraft/helicopter do not, unless for emergency, touch-down in areas where wildlife are present.
15. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. 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.
16. The Proponent shall ensure all project staff are trained in appropriate bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques.

Physical Environment

17. The Proponent shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all times.

Camp

18. The Proponent shall ensure that all camps are located on gravel, sand or other durable land.
19. The Proponent shall not erect camps or store material on the surface ice of lakes or streams.

Restoration

20. The Proponent shall remove all garbage, fuel and equipment upon abandonment.
21. The Proponent shall complete all clean-up and restoration of the lands used prior to the expiry date of the permit.