



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT**  
**NIRB FILE NO.: 17YN008**

NPC File No.: 148402

March 31, 2017

To: Tracey McCaie  
Manager Land Administration  
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada  
Government of Canada  
P.O. Box 100  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Alexander Stubbing  
Director of Culture and Heritage  
Government of Nunavut  
P.O. Box 100, Stn. 800  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Mosha Cote  
Manager, Research Liaison  
Nunavut Research Institute  
P.O. Box 1720  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

cc: Karen Kharatyan  
A/Manager of Licencing  
Nunavut Water Board  
P. O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Geoffrey Clark  
Director, Lands, Environment & Resources  
Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
P.O. Box 18  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

*Sent via email:* [tracey.mccaie@aandc.gc.ca](mailto:tracey.mccaie@aandc.gc.ca); [landsmining@aandc.gc.ca](mailto:landsmining@aandc.gc.ca); [astubbing@gov.nu.ca](mailto:astubbing@gov.nu.ca);  
[karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca); [licencing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licencing@nwb-oen.ca);  
[mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca](mailto:mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca); and [dirlands@kitia.ca](mailto:dirlands@kitia.ca)

**Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Geological Survey of Canada's**  
**"GEM-2 Boothia-Somerset: Integrated Geosciences along the Northwest Passage"**  
**Project Proposal, Kitikmeot Region**

---

Dear Administrator:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, the Honourable George Kuksuk, Minister of Culture and Heritage, the Honourable Paul Quassa, Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Thomas Kabloona, Chairperson for Nunavut Water

Board and Stanley Anablak, President of Kitikmeot Inuit Association for Geological Survey of Canada's (GSC) "GEM-2 Boothia-Somerset: Integrated Geosciences along the Northwest Passage" Project Proposal, Kitikmeot Region, dated March 31, 2017.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister(s) that a review of the project is not required in accordance with paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of paragraph 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of section 75(1) of *the NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact Natasha Lear, NIRB Environmental Administrator at (867) 983-4612 or [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Natasha Lear  
Environmental Administrator

cc: Dr. Mary Sanborn-Barrie, Geological Survey of Canada  
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Sylvie LeBlanc, Government of Nunavut-Culture and Heritage

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report (NIRB File No.: 17YN008)