



NIRB File No.: 09DN009  
INAC File No.: N2007J0044  
NWB File No.: 3BC-AWW0814

October 22, 2010

Honourable Minister John Duncan  
Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
c/o Jeff Mercer  
Manager Land Administration  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
Iqaluit, NU  
Via email: [jeff.mercer@inac-ainac.gc.ca](mailto:jeff.mercer@inac-ainac.gc.ca) & [landsmining@inac-ainc.gc.ca](mailto:landsmining@inac-ainc.gc.ca)

and

Okalik Egeesiak  
President of Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
c/o Stephen Bathory  
Director of Lands and Resources  
Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Iqaluit, NU  
Via email: [landsdirector@qia.ca](mailto:landsdirector@qia.ca)

**Re: Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA:  
Department of National Defence's "Winter Warfare Advanced Course" project**

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On October 21, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application for an extension to Land Use Permit #N2007J0044 from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for Department of National Defence's (DND) "Winter Warfare Advanced Course".

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 09DN009) was received by the NIRB from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) on January 29, 2009 and a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) was received from the Nunavut Planning Commission on February 26, 2009. The project proposal was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On March 13, 2009 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current INAC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (09DN009) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2009/09DN009-DND%20-%20Winter%20Warfare%20Advanced%20Course/>

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 09DN009), the "Winter Warfare Advanced Course" was located within the Qikiqtaaluk region based in the community of Resolute Bay. Course participants planned, mounted and executed a mock sovereignty patrol, employed Canadian Rangers and navigated while using GPS and astrocompass. The candidates practiced skiing, ski-joring, use of light over-snow vehicles (skidoo) and medium over-snow vehicle (BV-206), and towing loads.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Communicating in arctic conditions;
- Assessing the effects of cold on training;
- Conducting re-supply operations;
- Applying First-Aid in arctic conditions;
- Conducting casualty evacuations;
- Demonstrating arctic survival techniques;
- Establishing bivouacs;
- Constructing snow structures;
- Conducting tactical training; and
- Conducting community relations activities.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

DND is proposing to extend their existing Land Use Permit #N2007J0044 for another year to continue to authorize the above mentioned activities/components.

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 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 screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the

activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original March 13, 2009 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or [kgillard@nirb.ca](mailto:kgillard@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Autut', with a stylized, cursive script.

Stephanie Autut  
Executive Director

cc: Eric Trepanier, DND  
Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB  
Salamonie Shoo, QIA  
Tracey McCaie, INAC

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 09DN009 (March 13, 2009)