



NIRB File No.: 09YN042
AANDC File No.: N2010N0013
NRI File No: 0301809N-M
NWB 3BC-NTC1012

August 3, 2012

The Honourable John Duncan
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
c/o Jeff Mercer
Manager Land Administration
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Via email: jeff.mercer@aandc.gc.ca and landsmining@aandc.gc.ca

Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Geological Survey of Canada's "Geomapping for Energy and Minerals" project, Kivalliq Region

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On July 10, 2012 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) for an extension to the Land Use Permit (No. N2010N0013) associated with the Geological Survey of Canada's (GSC or Proponent) "Geomapping for Energy and Minerals" project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 09YN042) was received by the NIRB from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) on April 27, 2009 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On June 4, 2009 the NIRB received the Proponent's application for a Scientific Research Licence from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI). On June 23, 2009 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut (then the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College) which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current AANDC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (File No. 09YN042) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2009/09YN042-GSC%20-%20Charles%20Jefferson/>.

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 09YN052), the “Geomapping for Energy and Minerals” project was located within the Kivalliq region, approximately 200 kilometres (km) northwest of Baker Lake. The Proponent indicated that it intended to conduct low level surveying from September 1, 2009 to March 30, 2010.

The activities and components associated with the previously screened proposal included:

- Low level (125 metre) aeromagnetic surveying to obtain geophysical data;
- On foot, between the months of July and August from 2009 to 2012;
- Use of accommodations in Baker Lake and existing exploration camp sites;
- Some geological work to utilize small portable tents for field crews of 2-3 that will be set out as fly camps for up to 7 days, carrying 10 Litres of gasoline and 20 Litres of propane to support ground crews; and,
- Transportation via fixed wing aircraft, aircraft on floats, or helicopters operating from Baker Lake.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

The GSC is proposing to extend its Land Use Permit (No. N2010N0013) for an additional one month, to August 30, 2012, in order to complete previously permitted activities.

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 the requirement for screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original June 23, 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director

cc: Charlie Jefferson, Geological Survey of Canada
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 09YN042 (June 23, 2009)