



June 9, 2020

NIRB - Nunavut Impact Review Board

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PROPOSER:

Matthew Pickard

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Dear Ms. Maksagak, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. McCaie, Mr. Clark, Mr. Pickard:

RE: NPC File # 149378 [Back River 2020 Modification Package]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Modifications to existing approve project, including:
 - a. 600m extension to air strip
 - b. 300m extension of another airstrip
 - c. Waste rock storage to increase from 53Mt to 91Mt
 - d. 420m² of nearshore marine area to be constructed upon
 - e. 150,000m³ of aggregate added to road construction materials
 - f. 3 new emergency camps along the mine road, each with 20-50 beds
 - g. Increase of water use for ice road construction, from to 2,025 m³/km, and an increase in water use at the Goose Property to 882,450 m³/yr.
2. Location: Kitikmeot Region; [Back River, SW of Bathurst Inlet]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

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The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has determined that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) previously reviewed the works and activities associated with the current proposal (NIRB FILE NO. 12MN036).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because each of the modifications listed above, by itself, would require a screening, and there may be cumulative effects considerations from the original environmental assessment that should be re-assessed.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149378&sessionid=>

This decision applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 857-2242.

Sincerely,



Peter Scholz
Senior Planner,
Nunavut Planning Commission

cc.
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