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Dear Calvin Ehloak, Richard Dwyer, Tracey McCaie, Cory Barker, Carson Gillis, Natalie D'Souza, and Jennifer Range:

RE: NPC File No. 150529 [2AM-DOH1335 Operational Update WL Amendment]

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

1. [AMENDMENT] Primary Land Use: Mineral exploration and development.
2. Project description (summary): Based on exploration results and economic modelling, the Proponent is planning to restart operations on the Hope Bay Belt, referred to as the Operational Update. Advanced exploration and construction activities will continue until 2029. The operations phase will begin in 2030.
3. Summary of modifications:

- a. Additional water and waste management infrastructure
 - b. Construction of a mill with throughput of 8, 000 tonnes per day (tpb)
 - c. Additional fuel storage at Roberts Bay, Dorris, and Madrid
 - d. Increased water withdrawal and use from approved waterbodies to support increased activities
 - e. Widening of Windy Road to support mining from the Madrid area and ensure safe operations
 - f. Optimize shipping window to allow operational flexibility for vessels to arrive earlier (e.g., June) as ice conditions allow, while maintaining commitment of no ice breaking
 - g. Increased shipping of cargo and fuel, particularly during the heavy construction period
4. Associated File Nos.:
 - a. NPC: 148454, 149605, 149720, 149768, 149997, and 150502;
 - b. NIRB: 05MN047 and 12MN001;
 - c. NWB: 2AM-DOH1335, 2BB-BOS1727, and 2BE-HOP2232
 5. Location: Kitikmeot Region; [Hope Bay Belt, located approximately 130 km southwest of Cambridge Bay]

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) can be accessed online using the link below.

The NPC has completed its review of the above-noted project proposal and has determined that it is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The works and activities associated with this proposal were previously reviewed by NPC on 9 February 2017, 16 November 2021, 25 March 2022, 27 May 2022, 07 March 2023, and 28 August 2024. In addition, works and activities associated with the current proposal were previously screened and reviewed by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB File Nos. 05MN047 and 12MN001).

The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the proposed modifications are within the scope of previously assessed activities and their inclusion does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3 (a) and (b) of the *Nunavut Agreement* do not apply.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this decision to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials are available at the following address:
<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150529>.

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 the email or telephone number below.

Sincerely,




Daniel Haney (he/him) | ᑕᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ

Senior Planner

Nunavut Planning Commission

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