



NWB Tools

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Extension to comment period for the Whale Tail Project

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To: Karén Kharatyan <karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca>

Cc: Karen Costello <Karen.Costello@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca>, Scott Burgess <Scott.Burgess@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca>, Licensing Department <licensing@nwb-oen.ca>

Good day Karen,

In your October 3, 2016 letter to interested parties you acknowledged that it is AEM's intent to undergo a coordinated process for their proposed Whale Tail Project. INAC is bringing forward two comments on process options for the Board's consideration

Option One:

A coordinated process has been recommended by the INAC Minister and the NIRB.

Based on the NIRB's process map, their Information Request period will not start until the NIRB has completed its conformity review. This is expected to take until about November 10 based on the NIRB's September 9th Review Process Map. The IR stage will follow, with submissions due sometime in December. INAC's intention was to make a single submission to meet NIRB and NWB requirements. INAC would be requesting an extension to the current NWB timelines to match the NIRB deadline for IR's - potentially mid-Dec.

Option Two:

If it is the intent of the NWB to proceed with its own completeness/IR review ahead of the NIRB process, then we would require an extension to at least November 28, 2016.

We feel there is merit in waiting for the NIRB process to begin as outlined in Option One. INAC would then be able to provide one submission on the due date set by the NIRB. We see this an efficient way to meet the needs of the NIRB and NWB processes, and still allowing for an appropriate level of rigour in the review.

INAC welcomes further dialogue with the board on this should they have any questions,

Regards,

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