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Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Kharatyan, Ms. McCaie, Ms. Osmond, Mr. Atkinson, Ms. Gunson:

## RE: NPC File # 148480 [Gibson-MacQuoid Project]

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

1. Helicopter-supported prospecting in a large area between Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet.

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

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP.

Although the project proposal belongs to a class of works or activities that are exempt from screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) under Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement, the NPC has concerns regarding the cumulative impacts of this project proposal combined with those of other projects because of:

- a) Nearby projects that have been carried out, are being carried out, or have been proposed, including projects associated with expired and active prospecting permits and mineral claims<sup>1</sup>;
- b) the project proposal's potential to induce additional projects;
- c) the project proposal's locations, as they overlap with
  - i. core caribou calving and post-calving areas<sup>2</sup> for the Qamanirjuaq herd;
  - ii. the Kazan Canadian Heritage River<sup>3</sup>
  - iii. the Fall Caribou Crossing National Historic Site
  - iv. Qamanirjuag Caribou Protection Area and Designated Crossing<sup>4</sup>
- d) the area has been identified as having value and priority to local communities<sup>5</sup> for:
  - i. caribou migration, water crossings, and calving
  - ii. Fishing
  - iii. Muskox
  - iv. Wolves and wolverines
  - v. Bird nesting
  - vi. Drinking water
  - vii. Historic sites

Because of these concerns, by way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening under subsection 80(1) of the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA). Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address: <a href="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148480&sessionid="http://npc.strata360.com/portal/porta

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination 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. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA. My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 857-2242.

Sincerely,

Peter Scholz

Senior Planner, Nunavut Planning Commission

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Some nearby projects/project proposals include: Meliadine Gold Mine Project (NIRB Project Certificate No. 006), Peter, Fox, Parker Lakes (NIRB FILE NO.: 15EN049), Parker Lake (NIRB FILE NO.:10EN020), Baker Basin (NIRB FILE NO.:08EA038), Pistol Bay (NIRB FILE NO.: 11EN027).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Government of Nunavut. Submission to the Nunavut Planning Commission for the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. May 28, 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Kazaan Heritage River Management Plan (1990)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Department of Indian and Northern Development. Caribou Protection Map. March 5, 1992.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Nunavut Planning Commission. Summary of Community Meetings on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. 2014.