



NIRB File No.: 06AN085
AANDC LUP No.: N2009C0017
KIA File No.: KVL306C02
NWB File No.: 2BE-KIG0812

April 8, 2013

The Honourable Bernard Valcourt
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

Sent via Email: Jeff.Mercer@aandc.gc.ca; landsmining@aandc.gc.ca

Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s "Kiggavik-Sissons" project, Kivalliq Region

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On March 19, 2013 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 (LUP; No. N2009C0017) for AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s "Kiggavik-Sissons" project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 06AN085) was received by the NIRB from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) on November 29, 2006 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On April 3, 2007 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the President of KIA and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC; now AANDC) which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the current application pertains to the ongoing exploration program at the Kiggavik-Sissons site, and while related in name and location, is considered to be a separate and distinct project proposal from the Kiggavik Uranium Mine that has been proposed by AREVA and is currently undergoing Review by the NIRB pursuant to Article 12, Part 5 of the NLCA (NIRB File No. 09MN003).

Additional authorization and extension requests associated with the “Kiggavik-Sissons” project have been previously reviewed by the NIRB following screening of the original project proposal (File No. 06AN085). In each instance the NIRB confirmed that the applications were exempt from the requirement for further screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and that the activities therein remained subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original April 3, 2007 Screening Decision Report along with additional terms and conditions as issued on August 30, 2007 and January 9, 2009. A summary of the additional applications associated with NIRB File No. 06AN085 is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Additional applications associated with NIRB File No. 06AN085

Authorization	Application			Correspondence Issued by NIRB
	Date Received by NIRB	Type	Reason for Application	
NRI Research Licence	April 20, 2007	New Licence	To conduct baseline assessment of surface hydrological conditions	April 24, 2007
NRI Research Licence	May 5, 2007	New Licence	To conduct an aquatic baseline program	May 23, 2007
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	July 17, 2007	Amendment	To include additional components/activities for exploration activities	July 24, 2007
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	August 14, 2007	Amendment	To include additional components/activities for exploration activities	August 30, 2007
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	March 26, 2008	Extension	One year extension to continue exploration activities	March 28, 2008
Water Licence (2BE-KIG0812)	April 29, 2008	Renewal	To continue exploration activities	May 7, 2008
NRI Research Licence (0301007N-A)	May 15, 2008	Renewal	To continue conducting hydrological baseline assessment of the project	May 26, 2008
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	October 17, 2008	Amendment	Amendment to use a loader at the project fuel esker site	October 29, 2008
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	November 12, 2008	Extension	One year extension to continue exploration activities	January 9, 2009
KIA Land Use Licence (KVL306C02)	November 25, 2008	Extension	Two year extension to continue exploration activities	January 9, 2009
NRI Research Licence (0301007N-A)	April 23, 2009	Renewal	To continue conducting hydrological baseline assessment of the project	May 12, 2009
INAC Land Use Permit (N2009C0017)	January 8, 2010	New Licence	To replace original Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	January 15, 2010
AANDC Land Use Permit	January 9, 2012	One year extension	To continue exploration activities at Kiggavik and	January 17, 2012

Authorization	Application			Correspondence Issued by NIRB
	Date Received by NIRB	Type	Reason for Application	
(N2009C0017)			Sissons sites. To conduct prospecting and geological mapping for the Kiggavik lease and St. Tropez claim areas. Potential that geotechnical investigations be carried out to gain information on foundation and pad design and possible road routes.	

The current AANDC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (File No. 06AN085) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2007/06AN085-AREVA%20Resources%20Inc/>.

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 06AN085), the "Kiggavik-Sissons" exploration project was located within the Kivalliq region, approximately 80 kilometres west of Baker Lake. The Proponent indicated that it intended to conduct uranium exploration activities from 2007 to 2009.

The activities/components associated with the original proposal included:

- Satellite remote sensing
- Aircraft remote sensing to collect airborne geophysics data
- Soil sampling supported by helicopter
- Sediment sampling
- On-land drilling supported by helicopter
- Winter overland transportation of goods
- Construction of temporary wooden camp, and expansion of existing structures
- Fuel transportation and storage
- Chemical transportation and storage
- Environmental baseline work consisting of field surveys conducted on foot and supported by helicopter
- Ground geophysical surveys conducted on foot and supported by helicopter
- Geological mapping and prospecting conducted on foot and supported by helicopter
- Possible landing of aircraft with tundra tires on eskers
- Consumption of water and generation of waste

The activities and components associated with the previous July 17, 2007 Land Use Permit (No. N2006C0037) amendment included:

- The addition of a Compact Utility Loader onto the equipment list
- Use a float plane to deliver supplies and personnel, replacing the use of an esker airstrip due to identified archaeological resources.

The activities and components associated with the previous August 14, 2007 Land Use Permit (No. N2006C0037) amendment included:

- Replace current fuel caches that store hundreds of drums (205 litre size) in arctic berms with double-walled tanks (50,000 litre size) to adequately facilitate the 2008 fuel season and future requirements
- Transportation of tanks to the Kiggavik site via an ice road during the 2007/2008 winter season
- Use of tanker trucks to fuel all the tanks, access to site via the ice road
- The addition of 2 ATV's and 2 snowmobiles to the equipment list
- Upgrade the existing diesel powered 35 kilowatt (kW) generator at the Kiggavik camp to a diesel powered 100 kW generator
- Addition of 4 sleeping quarters, with walkways and expansion of washroom facilities to accommodate growth in personnel for the 2008 field program

After a thorough assessment of the amendment request and comments received, the NIRB determined that this request would result in a change to the original scope of the project. The NIRB re-issued the original screening decision report on August 30, 2007 along with additional terms and conditions (enclosed).

For the Proponent's previous March 26, 2008 Land Use Permit extension request, the NIRB determined that the proposed extension did not significantly change the general scope of the original project activities and on March 28, 2008 re-issued the original terms and conditions along with the additional terms and conditions as outlined in the August 30, 2007 letter. The NIRB further recommended specifically that a one year extension to the Land Use Permit be granted (to April 9, 2009) based on the original comments received from Parties. After the expiration of the permit, the NIRB indicated that it would review any requests related to the project proposal and that renewals thereafter would be subject to any findings, direction or advice received by INAC and the KIA from the Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment as a result of the Government of Nunavut/Government of Northwest Territories Population Surveys conducted regarding the Beverly and Ahik Caribou Herds.

With respect to the Proponent's previous requests to extend the Land Use Permit and Licence on November 12, 2008 and November 25, 2008 (respectively), following an assessment of the requests, comments received and the original project proposal, the NIRB determined that the proposed extensions did not significantly change the general scope of the original project activities. However, comments were received which provided new information regarding the status of the Beverly caribou herd and therefore, the NIRB issued additional terms and conditions on January 9, 2009 (enclosed) along with the previously issued terms and conditions from the April 3, 2007 and August 30, 2007 Screening Decision Reports.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

AREVA is proposing to extend its Land Use Permit for one year to continue exploration drilling, core logging and sampling in areas of potential mineralization at both the Kiggavik and Sissons sites. Additional activities may include geochemical and geophysical surveys, prospecting, geological mapping and environmental baseline studies. In addition, prospecting and geological mapping is planned to take place for the Kiggavik lease and St. Tropez claim areas. Ground geophysical surveys may be carried out throughout the lease areas to identify potential for additional mineral deposits and to further evaluate known deposits. Geotechnical investigations may also be conducted to further knowledge for mine development.

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 April 3, 2007 Screening Decision Report, as well as the additional terms and conditions issued August 30, 2007 and January 9, 2009 (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sophia Granchinho, Senior Technical Advisor, at (867) 793-4633 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: John Robbins, AREVA Resources Canada Inc.
Naomi Stumborg, AREVA Resources Canada Inc.
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 06AN085 dated *January 9, 2009*; includes original NIRB Screening Decision Report dated *April 3, 2007* and additional Terms and Conditions issued *August 30, 2007*