



NIRB File No.: 06AN085

AANDC LUP No.: N2014C0001

Previous AANDC LUP No.: N2009C0017

KIA File No.: KVL306C02

NWB File No.: 2BE-KIG0812

NRI File Nos.: 0300608R-M, 0301009R-M, 0301409N-A

February 26, 2014

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 February 6, 2014 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada for a new Land Use Permit (LUP; No. N2014C0001) associated with AREVA Resources Canada Inc.'s "Kiggavik-Sissons" project proposal to continue previously-approved exploration activities.

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 mining development that has been proposed by AREVA and is currently undergoing Review by the NIRB (NIRB File No. 09MN003). The Board notes further that a positive conformity determination (Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan) was received from the Nunavut Planning Commission on December 15, 2006 for this file.

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 Aboriginal Affairs and

Northern Development Canada or AANDC) which indicated that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Additional authorization and extension requests associated with the "Kiggavik-Sissons" project have also been 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 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 and considered by the NIRB is presented in **Appendix 1**.

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

<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 the identification of archaeological resources

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

- Replace barreled fuel caches (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 100 kW
- Addition of accommodation facilities to accommodate growth in personnel

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. On August 30, 2007 the NIRB re-issued the original Screening Decision Report 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 Screening Decision Report 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 Ahikak Caribou Herds.

With respect to the Proponent's previous requests to extend the AANDC Land Use Permit and KIA Land Use 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 currently applying for a new Land Use Permit with AANDC to continue exploration activities on Crown land covering six mineral leases on the south-west portion of the Kiggavik-Sissons Project. Activities proposed for the six leases would include exploration drilling and

geophysical surveys. Additional activities may include prospecting, geological mapping, core logging and sampling, and environmental baseline studies. The remainder of the exploration program will be conducted on Inuit Owned Lands (IOL), with operations based out of the existing Kiggavik camp on IOL.

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 application 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 require additional clarification, 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
Kiggavik Distribution List

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

Enclosure (1): NIRB Extension Request Letter dated *January 9, 2009*; includes original NIRB Screening Decision Report dated *April 3, 2007* and additional Terms and Conditions issued *August 30, 2007*; NIRB File 06AN085

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

Authorization	Application			NIRB Decision	
	Date Received by NIRB	Type	Reason for Application	Date Issued	Type
NRI Research Licence	April 20, 2007	New Licence	Conduct baseline assessment of surface hydrological conditions	April 24, 2007	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR
NRI Research Licence	May 5, 2007	New Licence	Conduct an aquatic baseline program	May 23, 2007	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	July 17, 2007	Amendment	Include additional components/activities for exploration activities	July 24, 2007	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	August 14, 2007	Amendment	Include additional components/activities for exploration activities	August 30, 2007	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR and <i>additional</i> terms and conditions
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	March 26, 2008	One Year extension	Continue exploration activities	March 28, 2008	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR and August 30, 2007 T&C
Water Licence (2BE-KIG0812)	April 29, 2008	Renewal	Continue exploration activities	May 7, 2008	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR and August 30, 2007 T&C
NRI Research Licence (0301007N-A)	May 15, 2008	Renewal	Conduct hydrological baseline assessment of the project	May 26, 2008	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR and August 30, 2007 T&C
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	October 17, 2008	Amendment	Use a loader at the project fuel esker site	October 29, 2008	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR and August 30, 2007 T&C
INAC Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	November 12, 2008	One year extension	Continue exploration activities	January 9, 2009	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR, August 30, 2007 T&C and <i>additional</i> terms and conditions
KIA Land Use Licence (KVL306C02)	November 25, 2008	Two year extension	Continue exploration activities		
NRI Research Licence (0301007N-A)	April 23, 2009	Renewal	Conduct hydrological baseline assessment of the project	May 12, 2009	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR
INAC Land Use Permit (N2009C0017)	January 8, 2010	New Licence	To replace original Land Use Permit (N2006C0037)	January 15, 2010	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR and August 30,

Authorization	Application			NIRB Decision	
	Date Received by NIRB	Type	Reason for Application	Date Issued	Type
					2007 T&C
AANDC Land Use Permit (N2009C0017)	January 9, 2012	One year extension	Continue exploration activities at Kiggavik and Sissons sites. To conduct prospecting and geological mapping for the Kiggavik lease and St. Tropez claim areas. Geotechnical investigations may be carried out to gain information on foundation and pad design and possible road routes.	January 17, 2012	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR, August 30, 2007 T&C and January 9, 2009 T&C
AANDC Land Use Permit (N2009C0017)	March 19, 2013	One year extension	Continue exploration activities at Kiggavik and Sissons sites. To conduct prospecting and geological mapping for the Kiggavik lease and St. Tropez claim areas. Ground geophysical surveys may be carried out to identify potential mineral deposits.	April 8, 2013	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR, August 30, 2007 T&C and January 9, 2009 T&C
NRI Research Licence (0300608R-M, 0301009R-M, 0301409N-A)	August 7, 2013 & August 14, 2013	New Research Licence	Collect additional baseline aquatic data and aquatic habitat surveys to inform future Environmental Effects Monitoring programs	August 23, 2013	Reissued April 3, 2007 SDR, August 30, 2007 T&C and January 9, 2009 T&C

Notes: AANDC = Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada; INAC = Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; KIA = Kivalliq Inuit Association; NIRB = Nunavut Impact Review Board; NRI = Nunavut Research Institute; SDR = Screening Decision Report; T&C = Terms and Conditions