

NIRB File No.: 07EN046

AANDC File No.: N2014C0010 (formerly N2007C0017)

NWB File No.: 2BE-SCH0712 KIA File No.: KVL307C01

January 30, 2015

The Honourable Bernard Valcourt
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
c/o Tracey McCaie, Manager Land Administration
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
P.O. Box 100
Igaluit, NU XOA 0H0

And

Thomas Kabloona, Chairperson Nunavut Water Board c/o Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Sent via email: tracey.mccaie@aandc.gc.ca; landsmining@aandc.gc.ca; and,

phyllis.beaulieu@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Forum Uranium Corp.'s "Schultz Lake" (North Thelon) project, Kivalliq Region

Dear Tracey McCaie and Phyllis Beaulieu:

On July 8, 2014 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) for a new Land Use Permit No. N2014C0010 to replace the previous permit (AANDC No. N2007C0017) to continue for Forum Uranium Corp.'s (Forum) "Schultz Lake" (North Thelon) project proposal. On July 17, 2014 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission for this file. On July 18, 2014 the NIRB received a renewal application from the Nunavut Water Board for the Type B water licence No.: 2BE-SCH0712 related to the "Schultz Lake" project.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 07EN046), then named the "North Thelon Joint Venture" project, was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC; now AANDC) on March 27, 2007 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On July 11, 2007 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC 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 "Schultz Lake" (North Thelon) project have also been reviewed by the NIRB following screening of the original project proposal (File No. 07EN046). 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 July 11, 2007 Screening Decision Report. A summary of the additional applications associated with NIRB File No. 07EN046 is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Additional applications associated with NIRB File No. 07EN046

	Application			NIRB Decision	
Authorization	Date Received by NIRB	Туре	Reason for Application	Date Issued	Туре
AANDC LUP (N2007C0017)	June 2, 2008	Extension	Continue exploration	July 15, 2008	Reissued July 11, 2007 SDR
AANDC LUP (N2007C0017)	May 11, 2009	Extension	Continue exploration	May 27, 2009	Reissued July 11, 2007 SDR
AANDC LUP (N2007C0017)	May 7, 2010	Extension	Continue exploration	May 25, 2010	Reissued July 11, 2007 SDR
AANDC LUP (N2007C0017)	June 6, 2011	Extension	Continue exploration	June 8, 2011	Reissued July 11, 2007 SDR
AANDC LUP (N2007C0017);	March 14, 2012	Extension	Continue exploration	April 2, 2012	Reissued July 11, 2007 SDR

Notes: AANDC = Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada; LUP = Land Use Permit; NIRB= Nunavut Impact Review Board; NWB = Nunavut Water Board; SDR= Screening Decision Report

The current AANDC and NWB applications, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (File No. 07EN046) and related file information are available from the NIRB's online public registry at the following location:

http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-

<u>SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2007/07EN046%20&%2008EN064-</u>Forum%20Uranium%20Corporation/.

## PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 07EN046), the "Schultz Lake" project was located within the Kivalliq region, approximately 100 kilometres (km) northwest from Baker

Lake. The Proponent indicated that it intended to conduct a two-stage uranium exploration program in the Kiggavik area over a two year period beginning in 2007.

The activities and components associated with the previously screened proposal included:

- Aircraft remote sensing (airborne geophysical survey);
- Soil/till sampling;
- Up to 25 on-land drill holes and potential for diamond drilling and surface trenching;
- Use of Thom Lake airstrip;
- Use of existing Thom Lake camp (owned by Tanqueray Resources Ltd.);
- Transportation and storage of fuel at camp, and caches;
  - o 21 drums of Jet A1 fuel at three separate caches (63 drums in total)
- Transportation and storage of hazardous materials; and
- Drill program and personnel transport supported by helicopter and fixed wing aircraft.

The activities associated with the previous June 2, 2008 extensions included:

- Continue geophysical surveys, prospecting, and drilling; and
- Transport and cache up to 500 drums of fuel in temporary locations (total of 102,500 Litres of fuel).

The activities associated with the previous May 11, 2009 extension included:

- Continued geophysical surveys, prospecting, and drilling; and
- Two options for temporary camp locations of either Majescor Resources' Princess Mary Lake Camp, or Tanqueray Resources Ltd.'s Thom Lake Camp.

The activities associated with the previous May 7, 2010 extension included:

- Continued geophysical surveys, prospecting, and drilling; and
- Worker accommodation in Baker Lake.

The previous June 6, 2011 extension was requested to continue geophysical surveys, prospecting, and drilling as outlined in previous work plans.

The activities associated with the previous March 14, 2012 one-year extension included:

- Continued geophysical surveys, prospecting, and drilling; and
- Camp located on Judge Sissons Lake after having purchase Thom Lake Camp from Tanqueray Resources Ltd.'s and moved it to current location in September 2011.

AANDC indicated that the March 14, 2012 amendment be the last extension that it would issue for this permit.

Upon receipt of the current July 8, 2014 application, the NIRB identified that annual reporting required by the Board's previously-issued Screening Decision Report for the Schultz Lake project had not been received for the years 2009, 2011, 2012, and 2013. As the NIRB requires previously-screened projects to be in compliance with monitoring requirements prior to consideration of additional amendment or renewal requests, on July 25, 2014 the NIRB requested that the outstanding information be supplied on or before August 4, 2014. On January

22, 2015 the outstanding information was received and the NIRB proceeded to consider the current project proposal.

## **CURRENT APPLICATION:**

Forum is currently proposing to replace its previous Land Use Permit No. N2007C0017 with a new Land Use Permit (AANDC No. N2014C0010), as required by AANDC to continue previously approved exploration activities. Forum has also applied to the Nunavut Water Board to renew its previously expired Type B water licence No. 2BE-SCH0712 required to continue previously approved exploration activities. Additionally, Forum is proposing to include the following updated project activities:

- Transport and cache up to 215 drums of fuel in temporary locations (total of 44,075 Litres of fuel), and
- Use of Judge Sissons Lake camp location.

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 and renewal 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 July 11, 2007 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact Tara Arko, Director, Technical Services, at (867) 983-4611 or <a href="mailto:tarko@nirb.ca">tarko@nirb.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

Ryan Barry

**Executive Director** 

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Anthony Williams, Forum Uranium Corp.

Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 11EN046 (July 11, 2007)