



NIRB File No.: 10EN021

AANDC File No.: N2013C0004

Previous AANDC File No.: N2010C0011

NWB File No.: 2BE-TUK1015

April 5, 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
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via Email: landsmining@aandc.gc.ca; jeff.mercer@aandc.gc.ca

Re: Application Exempt from the Requirement for Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Advanced Explorations Inc.'s "Tuktu" project, Oikiqtani (South Baffin) Region

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On February 14, 2013 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application for a Land Use Permit application from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) in support of Advanced Explorations Inc.'s "Tuktu" project proposal. As this project is located within the South Baffin region of Nunavut which does not have an approved land use plan in place, no conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission was required for this file.

Please be advised that the original "Tuktu" project proposal (NIRB File No. 10EN021) was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC; now Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) on March 17, 2010, and was screened by the NIRB in accordance with Article 12, Part 4 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On April 27, 2010, the NIRB issued 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.

The following table presents a summary of the additional amendment, extension and other authorization requests associated with this project that have been reviewed by the NIRB following screening of the original project proposal.

Table 1: Additional applications associated with NIRB File No. 10EN021

Authorization	Application		NIRB Decision	
	Date Received by NIRB	Type	Date	Type
AANDC Land Use Permit (N2010C0011)	May 10, 2011	Amendment	May 17, 2011	Exempt from Screening, reissued April 27, 2010 Screening Decision Report
AANDC Land Use Permit (N2010C0011)	March 12, 2012	Amendment/Extension	April 10, 2012	New Screening Decision Report with additional terms and conditions
QIA IOL Access Permit	April 2, 2012	New Permit	April 17, 2012	Exempt from Screening, reissued April 10, 2012 Screening Decision Report

The current AANDC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (File No. 10EN021) and related file information are available from the NIRB's online public registry at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2010/10EN021-Advanced%20Explorations%20-%20Tuktu/>.

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 10EN021), the "Tuktu" project was an iron ore exploration project located approximately 70 kilometres north of Hall Beach in the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Set up of temporary/seasonal camp;
- Ground mapping and ground geophysics;
- Geological sampling;
- Diamond drilling, using 2 Boart Longyear drills;
- Environmental baseline and sampling studies;
- Archaeological studies;
- Establishment of fuel cache areas;
- Two-stage burning incineration;
- Usage of one (1) Eurocopter A-star 350B2 helicopter for personnel transportation, drill moves, and supplies;
- Usage of four (4) Honda ATVs and snowmobiles for transportation;
- Usage of one (1) industrial diesel generator; and,
- Usage of three (3) piston water pumps.

The additional activities/components associated with the Proponent's May 10, 2011 application for an amendment to its AANDC Land Use Permit (No. N2010C0011) included:

- An increase in the number of personnel on camp from twenty (20) to thirty (30); and
- An increase in the number of sleeping tents by three (3) or four (4).

The additional activities/components associated with the Proponent's March 12, 2012 application for an extension to its AANDC Land Use Permit (No. N2010C0011) included:

- Seasonal on-ice drilling for mineral exploration or geotechnical studies; and
- Expansion of the permit boundaries.

The additional activities associated with the Proponent's April 2, 2012 application for access to Inuit Owned Land included the following:

- Staking of mineral claims;
- Conducting initial surface geologic mapping and sampling programs;
- Drilling to collect core and chip samples for geological modeling etc.;
- Using camp facilities at adjacent Tuktu and Roche Bay project sites;
- Using overland vehicles including snowmobiles for transportation; and
- Storing fuel on site (1, 350 gallons each of diesel and Jet B aviation fuel, and 675 gallons of unleaded gasoline).

CURRENT APPLICATION:

Advanced Explorations Inc. is currently applying for a new AANDC Land Use Permit (No. N2013C0004) to replace the previously issued and expiring LUP N2010C0011 and to continue exploration activities previously permitted to proceed.

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 April 10, 2012 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tannis Bolt, Assistant Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4603 or tbolt@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Gary Williams, Advanced Explorations Inc. (gary@advanced-exploration.com)
Bernie MacIsaac, Qikiqtani Inuit Association (bmacisaac@qia.ca)
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board (licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)
Tracey McCaie, AANDC (tracey.mccaie@aandc.gc.ca)

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 10EN021 (April 10, 2012)