

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 13UN037), the “Hamlet of Rankin Inlet: Amendment Application - Seasonal Replenishment of Nipissar Lake” project was located within the Kivalliq region, approximately two to four kilometres (km) from Rankin Inlet. The Proponent indicated that it intended to transport water from the Char River in order to re-supply the Nipissar Lake (also known as Nipissak Lake), which was in turn used to supply the municipal water needs for Rankin Inlet. The program was proposed to take place from September 2012 to September 2032, or longer if the pipeline remains functional, with yearly seasonal operation between June and September to commence in June 2014.

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

- Use and grading of the existing access road at the intake area along Char River;
- Development and use of a temporary winter access trail along the pipeline to transport equipment, materials and personnel (fuel to be stored in Rankin Inlet);
 - Approximately 10 Litres (L) of oils and lubricants to be used annually during the operation phase;
 - Used oil and waste fuel to be disposed of at an approved disposal facility in Rankin Inlet;
- Domestic waste to be disposed of at the Rankin Inlet Solid Waste Facility;
- Construction, operation and decommissioning of a 4.05 kilometre (km) overland water intake pipeline extending from the Char River to Nipissar Lake including:
 - Installation of a water intake area with pump and 75 horsepower diesel powered generator (to be refueled with a hand pump or electric pump and stored in a sea canister);
 - 50 m intake hose with floating base (to anchor the intake hose during operation), and intake screen. Hose and floating base to be stored in the sea canister at the end of the operation season;
 - 250 millimetre (mm) diameter high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipeline with one low point drain and two high point air releases to facilitate draining of the pipeline at the end of the operation season; and
 - Discharge area at the high water mark of Nipissar Lake with the installation of a concrete slab (splash pad) and surrounding riprap;
- Installation of culverts under existing access roads to facilitate surface water drainage and to allow for passage of the pipeline;
- Approximately 0.5 m of granular material (sand) sourced from Rankin Inlet’s community borrow pit to be placed on the pipeline in two areas to facilitate snowmobile access; and
- Amount of water required to prevent water level decreases in Nipissar Lake would be dependent on community need and expected to increase as the community increases in size, with a projected maximum 47,187 cubic metres (m³) to be transferred during the 2014 season and up to 271,924 m³ in 2030:

- A Withdrawal Plan is proposed to be developed using data collected from the 2014 pumping season for pumping activities to be conducted during subsequent years.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

GN-CGS is proposing to renew the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet's Type A water licence (No. 3AM-GRA1015) for 25 years with the NWB to continue use of water and the operation of the Water Supply Facilities, Utilidor and Sewage Treatment Facility in the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet with no changes to the amount of water licenced. The Proponent noted that the water intake pipeline constructed in 2012 from Char River to replenish Nipissar Lake will begin operation in June 2015 to transport water during the summer months to Nipissar Lake to mitigate the decreasing water levels (as authorized under No. 3AM-GRA1015).

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 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 June 26, 2014 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact Sophia Granchinho, Senior Technical Advisor, at (867) 793-4480 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Megan Lusty, Government of Nunavut-Community and Government Services
John Kusugak, Government of Nunavut-Community and Government Services
Ralph Ruediger, Government of Nunavut-Community and Government Services
Darren Flynn, Government of Nunavut-Community and Government Services
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 13UN037 (June 26, 2014)