



NIRB File No.: 15YN003

January 22, 2015

Prof. Alexandre Langlois
University de Sherbrooke
Departement de geomatique appliquee
2500 blvd. de l'University
Sherbrooke, QC J1K 2R1

Sent via email: a.langlois2@usherbrooke.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for University de Sherbrooke's "Evaluation of Simulated Snow Properties across the Arctic" project proposal

Dear Prof. Alexandre Langlois:

On January 19, 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received the University de Sherbrooke's "Evaluation of Simulated Snow Properties across the Arctic" project proposal from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI). The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **15YN003** - please reference this file number in related future correspondence.

The proposed project is located in the Kitikmeot Region in three areas ranging from 7 kilometres (km) east and 50 km west of Cambridge Bay. The project is proposed to take place from April 7 to April 17, 2015 and would consist of collecting information about the snow (depth, temperature, grain size, density, wetness, layers structure) along the pre-designed transects. This information could then be used to assist in developing methods of analyzing snow using satellite image data and/or assist in creating a new model to simulate caribou grazing conditions.

The proposed project activities and components include:

- Staff accommodations in Cambridge Bay for 4 personnel,
- Use of snowmobiles and komatiks (sleds) for transportation to and from the transects; and
- Jerry cans for approximately 250 Litres of fuel.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/15YN003-U%20of%20Sherbrook-Snow%20Properties/> including:

- *NRI Scientific Research Licence Application Form in English*

- *Maps*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuinnaqtun*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB shall proceed to screen this project proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

Be advised that the NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by this project proposal. Interested parties are encouraged to comment directly to the NIRB by **February 2, 2015**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please note that *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment (**Appendix A**).

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag.
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Corey Dimitruk, Community and Government Services
Tara Rutherford, Community and Government Services
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Hamlet of Cambridge Bay

Attachment: Appendix A – *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions

Enclosures (2): Comment Forms (English and Inuinnaqtun)

Appendix A
Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General

1. University de Sherbrooke (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the Project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times.
2. The Proponent shall forward copies of all permits obtained and required for this project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to the commencement of the project.
3. The Proponent shall operate in accordance with all commitments stated in correspondence provided to NIRB (NRI Scientific Research Licence Application, January 20, 2015).
4. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

Waste

5. The Proponent shall keep all garbage and debris in bags placed in a covered metal container or equivalent until disposed of at an approved facility. All such wastes shall be kept inaccessible to wildlife at all times.

Fuel Storage

6. The Proponent shall locate all fuel a minimum of thirty-one (31) metres away from the high water mark of any water body and in such a manner as to prevent their release into the environment.
7. The Proponent shall ensure that re-fuelling of all equipment occurs a minimum of thirty-one (31) metres away from the high water mark of any water body.
8. The Proponent shall store all fuel in such a manner that they are inaccessible to wildlife.
9. The Proponent shall use adequate secondary containment or a surface liner (e.g. self-supporting insta-berms and fold-a-tanks), when storing fuel and chemicals at all locations.
10. The Proponent shall ensure that appropriate spill response equipment and clean-up materials (e.g., shovels, pumps, barrels, drip pans, and absorbents) are readily available during any transfer of fuel and at all fuel storage sites.
11. The Proponent shall ensure that all personnel are properly trained in fuel and hazardous waste handling procedures, as well as spill response procedures. All spills of fuel or other deleterious materials of any amount must be reported immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife - General

12. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.

13. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently worrying or chasing animals, or disturbing large groups of animals. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
14. The Proponent shall ensure that all project personnel are made aware of the measures to protect wildlife and are provided with training and/or advice on how to implement these measures.
15. The Proponent shall ensure all project staff are trained in appropriate bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques.

Migratory Birds and Raptors Disturbance

16. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. If nests are encountered and/or identified, the Proponent shall take precaution to avoid further interaction and or disturbance (e.g., a 100 metre buffer around the nests). If active nests of any birds are discovered (i.e. with eggs or young), the Proponent shall avoid these areas until nesting is complete and the young have left the nest.

Caribou and Muskoxen Disturbance

17. The Proponent shall cease activities that may interfere with the migration or calving of caribou or muskox, until the caribou or muskox have passed or left the area.

Other

18. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and to consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region.