



**NIRB File No. 11YN005**

February 23, 2011

Karsten Piepjohn  
Federal Institute of Geosciences and Natural Resources  
Stilleweg 2, 30655 Hannover, Germany

Via email: [Karsten.Piepjohn@bgr.de](mailto:Karsten.Piepjohn@bgr.de)

**Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Karsten Piepjohn's (Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources) "CASE 12-Vednom Fiord" Project Proposal**

Dear Karsten Piepjohn:

On February 14, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received your "CASE-12-Vednom Fiord" project proposal from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI). On February 15, 2011 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for this file. The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **11YN005** - please reference this file number in related future correspondence.

The proposed research project area is located over Vendom Fiord, a natural inlet in the south-western portion of Ellesmere Island in the North Baffin Region. The main focus of the proposed project is to examine recent circum-Arctic continental margins and the processes that resulted in the break-up of Laurasia and the formation of the Arctic Ocean. The nearest communities to the proposed project area are Grise Fiord, approximately 240 kilometers (km) to the South, and Resolute, approximately 510 km to the South. The project is scheduled to be conducted from August 5 to August 30, 2011.

The proposed project activities would include:

- Establishment of temporary base camp (tent facilities) at end of Vendom Fiord
- Transporting fifteen (15) personnel and equipment to campsite via twin otter aircraft
- Temporary fuel storage at camp site (400 litres diesel and 3000 litres aviation fuel)
- Aeromagnetic surveys using helicopter
- Helicopter-supported geological field work

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal (NIRB File No. 11YN005) can be obtained from the NIRB's ftp site at

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/11YN005-BGR%20-%20Karsten%20Piepjohn/01-APPLICATION/> including:

- *NRI Licence Application Form in English*

- *Map*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in Inuktitut*
- *NPC Conformity Determination*

Pursuant to Article 12, Part 4 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 **March 7, 2011**.

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](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me directly at (867) 983-4609 or [kboa-antwi@nirb.ca](mailto:kboa-antwi@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Kofi Boa-Antwi, M.Sc.  
Assistant Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

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

Enclosed: Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)

## **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. Karsten Piepjohn (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 the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI Licence Application, February 4, 2011).
4. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

#### **Water**

5. The Proponent shall not use water, disturb any stream, lakebed or the banks of any definable water course unless approved by the Nunavut Water Board.

#### **Waste**

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

#### **Fuel and Chemical Storage**

8. The Proponent shall locate all fuel and other hazardous materials 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.
9. The Proponent shall store all chemicals in such a manner that they are inaccessible to wildlife.
10. The Proponent shall ensure that appropriate spill response equipment and clean-up materials (e.g., shovels, pumps, barrels, drip pans, absorbents, etc.) are readily available during any transfer of fuel.
11. The Proponent shall report all spills of fuel, or other deleterious materials immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

#### **Wildlife**

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 restrict aircraft/helicopter activity related to the project to a minimum altitude of 610 metres above ground level unless there is a specific requirement for low-level flying, which does not disturb wildlife and migratory birds.
15. The Proponent shall ensure that aircraft maintain a vertical distance of 1000 metres and a horizontal distance of 1500 metres from any observed groups (colonies) of migratory birds.
16. The Proponent shall ensure that aircraft/helicopter do not, unless for emergency, touch-down in areas where wildlife are present.
17. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. 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.
18. The Proponent shall cease activities that may interfere with migration or calving of caribou or muskox, until the caribou or muskox have passed or left the area.
19. The Proponent shall ensure all project staff are trained in appropriate bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques.

**Other**

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