



NIRB File No. 09YN056
INAC File No. N2009N0010

January 6, 2010

Mr. Keith Dewing
Geological Survey of Canada
3303-33rd Street NW, Calgary
AB T2L 2A7

Via email: Keith.Dewing@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for the Geological Survey of Canada's (Keith Dewing) "Ellef Ringnes Island" project proposal

Dear Keith Dewing:

On June 25, 2009 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Keith Dewing's Ellef Ringnes Island project proposal from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). On August 26, 2009 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission. NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number 09YN056.

The proposed research program would take place from June 25, 2010 to August 10, 2011 and would be located on Ellef Ringnes Island in the North Baffin Region. The nearest community is Grise Fiord, located approximately 433 km SE. The objective of the project is to update the understanding of the geological and hydrocarbon potential of Ellef Ringnes Island by developing a detailed geological map for use in re-interpreting previously collected seismic data. A related program, the "Hydrocarbon Potential of Northern Melville Island and Ellef Ringnes Island" project was previously screened under NIRB File No. 09YN043.

The project would include the following components and activities:

- Temporary tent camp of 20 people for one month in 2010 and 15 people for one month in 2011;
- Caching of field equipment for use in 2011;
- Transport of personnel using a helicopter; and
- Collection and analysis of rock, water and ice samples.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/09YN056-GSC%20-%20Keith%20Dewing/1-SCREENING/01-APPLICATION/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English*
- *INAC Land Use Permit Application in English*
- *Maps*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*

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

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.

The NIRB is copying interested parties and municipalities most affected by the proposed project with this letter, and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by **January 13, 2010**.

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 send your comments to an Environmental Administrator with the NIRB at 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) 983-4610 or gtaptuna@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



George Taptuna
Assistant Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Steve Grasby, GSC (Steve.Grasby@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca)
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Julie Ross, GN-CLEY (jross@gov.nu.ca)

Attachments: Comment Form (English and Inuktitut)