



NIRB File No.: 10YN037  
NRI File No.: 02 078 10N-A  
NWB File No.: 3BC-FRA1013

April 14, 2011

Honourable Dan Shewchuk  
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College  
Government of Nunavut  
c/o Mosha Cote  
Manager, Research Liaison  
Nunavut Research Institute  
Box 1720, Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Via email: [mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca](mailto:mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca)

**Re: Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: INRS-ETE – Pierre Francus’ “Past Modes of Arctic Climate Variability from Varved Sediments” project**

Dear Mosha Cote:

On April 7, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for a Scientific Research Licence for the INRS-ETE – Pierre Francus’ (the Proponent) “Past modes of arctic climate variability from varved sediments” project proposal. Also, on March 30, 2011 the NIRB received an application from the Proponent for an amendment to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) Class B Licence for this project (2BC-FRA1013).

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 10YN037) was received by the NIRB from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) on April 7, 2010, and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On May 20, 2010 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, indicating that the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB’s recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current NIRB, NWB and NRI applications, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (10YN037) and related file information are available from the NIRB’s ftp site at the following link: <ftp://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2010/10YN037-INRS-ETE-Pierre%20Francus/>.

#### PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 10YN037), the “Past modes of climate variability from varved sediments” project was located within the Qikiqtani region, approximately 325 kilometres (km) north of the community of Grise Fiord. The Proponent indicated that it intended to retrieve sediment cores from frozen lakes on Ellesmere Island and also to install a meteorological station at one of the locations.

The activities and components associated with the original project proposal included:

- Use of an auger to drill through ice and retrieve sediment core samples from the bottoms of two lakes;
- Collection of bathymetric data;
- Installation of a meteorological station at South Sawtooth Lake (anticipated to be left on site for 3 years, to include annual summer maintenance);
- Establishment of a temporary campsite to include three sleeping tents and one catering tent (accommodations for 3 people for a total of 15 person days);
- Project to be supported by Twin Otter or helicopter and snow mobile;
- Transportation, storage, and use of fuels (gasoline, propane and oil); and,
- Production of sewage, grey water, and other domestic wastes.

#### CURRENT APPLICATION:

The INRS-ETE – Pierre Francus is proposing to amend its NWB Licence to include the following additional components and activities:

- Amend the location of a temporary camp to be established at South Sawtooth Lake during the 2011 field season.

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 amendment 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 screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original May 20, 2010 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Amanda Hanson, Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4615 or [ahanson@nirb.ca](mailto:ahanson@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Stephanie Autut". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Stephanie Autut  
Executive Director

cc: Pierre Francus, INRS-ETE  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 10YN037 (May 20, 2010)