



NIRB File No.: 05YN072  
NRI File No.: 02 048 10R-M  
NWB File No.: 3BC-HEL----

May 27, 2011

Kathy Young  
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Via email: [klyoung@yorku.ca](mailto:klyoung@yorku.ca) and [kathylyoung@gmail.com](mailto:kathylyoung@gmail.com)

**Re: Application Acknowledgement for Kathy Young's Amendment Request with the Nunavut Research Institute for "Hydrology of Extensive Low Gradient High Arctic Wetlands: An Examination of Sustainability"**

Dear Kathy Young:

On May 6, 2011, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for an amendment to your "Hydrology of Extensive Low Gradient High Arctic Wetlands: An Examination of Sustainability" project.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 05YN072) was received by the NIRB from the NRI on May 3, 2005. The proposal was screened in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) and on June 27, 2005 the NIRB issued a 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions. Project components/activities included the following:

- Conduct hydrologic studies of wetlands including a regional scale study of temporal and spatial responses to water inputs (melt water, rainfall) and losses (evaporation and drainage) can be determined;
- Use of 3 roving meteorological stations that have a footprint about 1.5 metres to be placed for the duration of the field season; one of which will be centrally located, and the other two at either end of the pass;
- Use of existing cabin with the addition of a supply tent and an equipment tent;
- Use of ATVs during the snow-free season and snow machines during the initial snow survey for transport, and walking only access of the wetlands after spring melt.

**Amendment-**

Kathy Young is proposing to amend the research license to include the following additional components/activities:

- The scope of the project has evolved from wetland monitoring to understanding the seasonal hydrology of submerging coastal wetlands and the response to rising sea levels, wave action, and erosion from thick multi-year ice which moves through the Melville-Bathurst Island corridor;
- Addition of six (6) new sample sites in Nunavut, two (2) of which appear to be on Inuit Owned Land;
- Addition of three (3) new sample sites in the Northwest Territories;
- Temporary installation of a 3 metre footprint climate station with most monitoring equipment removed at the end of summer 2011 and the last of the equipment removed by the end of 2015;
- Longer research time frame and climate station deployment from May 1, 2011 to December 15, 2015 and potentially beyond 2020 with the support of local community members from Melville and Bathurst Island; and
- Logistical support through the Polar Continental Shelf Program (PCSP).

The NIRB has determined that this request may result in a change to the original scope of the project.

The NRI application and the original NIRB screening file, 05YN072 are available from NIRB's ftp site at the following link: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2005/05YN072-Kathy%20Young/>.

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.”*

The NIRB is of the opinion that the request for the amendment is not likely to *significantly* change the general scope of the original project activities. Therefore the NIRB is *proposing* to re-issue the same terms and conditions as those in the attached June 7, 2005 Screening Decision, along with any new terms and conditions the NIRB considers appropriate. The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by this project and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by **June 6, 2011**.

The NIRB would like Parties to provide comments regarding:

- whether the proposed component or activity was a part of the original proposal;
- whether its inclusion would significantly modify the project;
- any additional mitigation measures that are appropriate; and
- any other matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

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

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Assistant Technical Advisor, Tara Arko at [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca) or by phone 867-983-4611.

Sincerely,



Tara Arko  
Assistant Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List  
Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB  
Mosha Cote, NRI  
Jason Akearok, CWS  
Robert St. Eloi, QIA

Attachment: Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)  
NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 05YN072 (June 7, 2005)