



NIRB File No.: 10YN030

April 2, 2013

Dr. Gordon Osinski
Department of Earth Sciences
University of Western Ontario
1151 Richmond Street
London, ON N6A 5B7

Via email: gosinski@uwo.ca

Re: Application Acknowledgement for the University of Western Ontario's Amendment Request with the Nunavut Research Institute for the "Paleoenvironmental Reconstruction of the Haughton Impact Structure and Surrounding Terrains over the Past 39 Million Years" Project

Dear Dr. Osinski:

On March 20, 2013 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for an amendment to the University of Western Ontario's (UWO's) "Paleoenvironmental Reconstruction of the Haughton Impact Structure and Surrounding Terrains over the Past 39 Million Years" project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 10YN030) was received by the NIRB from the NRI on March 31, 2010. The NIRB also received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) for the file from the Nunavut Planning Commission on March 31, 2010. The proposal was screened in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) and on May 6, 2010 the NIRB issued a 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister Responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions. Project components/activities included the following:

- Use of a helicopter, Twin Otter aircraft and All-terrain Vehicle (ATV) for the transport of personnel to sample sites;
- Storage and use of fuel (diesel, gasoline, aviation fuel and propane);
- Set up of a temporary camp on site;
- Production of wastes (sewage, grey water, combustible and non-combustible);
- Geologic mapping and sampling of various sites;
- Detailed outcrop-scale mapping with subsequent follow up laboratory work;
- Collection of samples of impact-shocked gneiss from the Haughton Impact Structure (HIS) for analysis of microorganisms; and,

- Ground penetrating radar to delineate massive ice deposits.

Amendment-

The proponent is proposing to amend their scientific research licence to include the following additional components/activities:

- Use of geophysical instruments to further define magnetic anomalies and the use of a custom designed drill rig (diamond drill) to retrieve lithology responsible for magnetic anomalies;
- Use of a helicopter and ATVs (four instead of one) to transport personnel and equipment to sites;
- Use of water for domestic and drilling purposes (100 litres per day); and
- Research activities to be carried out between July 10, 2013 and August 10, 2013.

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 (10YN030) are available from NIRB's ftp site at the following link:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2010/10YN030-U%20Western%20Ontario%20-%20Gordon%20Osinski/>.

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 enclosed May 6, 2010 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 date comments are due **April 12, 2013**.

The NIRB would like Parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the inclusion of the additionally proposed component(s) and/or activity(ies) 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 or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Technical Advisor Catherine Braun Rodriguez at crodriguez@nirb.ca or by phone 867-983-4607.

Sincerely,



Catherine Braun Rodriguez
Nunavut Impact Review Board

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

Enclosures (3): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 10YN030 (May 6, 2010)
Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)