



NIRB File No.: 09YN014

NRI File No.: 0201909N-M, 0206219R-M

June 18, 2010

Honourable Minister Daniel Shewchuk
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
c/o Mosha Cote, Manager, Research Liaison
Nunavut Research Institute
Iqaluit, NU

Via email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca

Re: Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Elizabeth Turner's "Architecture Evolution & Metallogeny of Mesoproterozoic Sedimentary Basins of the Eastern Canadian Arctic Islands, North Baffin" project

Dear Mosha Cote:

On February 9, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application for an application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for an amendment/renewal to a Scientific Research Licence for Elizabeth Turner's "Architecture Evolution & Metallogeny of Mesoproterozoic Sedimentary Basins of the Eastern Canadian Arctic Islands, North Baffin" project proposal.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 09YN014) was received by the NIRB from NRI on February 13, 2009 and was screened in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On March 31, 2009 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Territorial Minister of Education indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current NRI application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (09YN014) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/ARCHIVE/2009_SCREENINGS/09YN014-Elizabeth%20Turner/1-SCREENING/

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB under File No. 09YN014, Elizabeth Turner's "Architecture Evolution & Metallogeny of Mesoproterozoic Sedimentary Basins of the Eastern Canadian Arctic Islands, North Baffin" project was located within the Qikiqtaaluk region, near the communities of Resolute, Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet and Igloolik. The Proponent indicated that it

intended to identify areas where economic mineral deposits could be present in northern Nunavut.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- Stratigraphy, sedimentology, mapping and sampling of mineralized material of the three basins of northern Nunavut;
- Research information and lithological samples to be collected on foot at each of the nine research locations;
- Temporary camp sites at each sampling location for a total of 9 camps;
- Temporary camp fuel storage;
- Helicopter supported research (pick-up and drop-off at each camp site);
- Incineration of combustible material and removal to municipal disposal facility; and
- Removal of non-combustible material to municipal disposal facility.

CURRENT APPLICATION

Elizabeth Turner is proposing to renew the Scientific Research Licence for this project for a period of one year until December 31, 2010 and amend the licence by substituting five new project locations. The project locations currently being proposed for research activities in 2010 are within the Qikiqtaaluk Region include:

- Cuming Inlet (new location) 74°33'10"/84°37'30";
- Hunting River (carry over from last year) 73°37'40"/94°47'12";
- Clarence Head (new location) 76°47'/77°48';
- Cape Combermere (new location) 77°00'/78°06';
- Stanfield Point (new location) 78°07'/76°01'; and
- Gale Point (new location) 78°13'/75°33'.

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."*

On June 9, 2010 NIRB distributed the current amendment and renewal request to a regional distribution list, requesting submission of any comments or concerns related to the application by June 16, 2010. On or before June 16, 2010 the NIRB received comments from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment (GN-DoE) and Environment Canada (EC), summarized as follows:

INAC

- Request that the various temporary fuel caches (once identified) be reported to INAC's Lands Administration Office once established with specific GPS co-ordinates.

GN-DoE

- Information and recommendations provided to the Board and the Proponent for consideration regarding:
 - Recommendations for mitigation of potential impacts to Peary caribou resulting from flights and activities that might interfere with migration; and
 - Recommendation was made to avoid polar bears and their young.

EC

- The proponent should ensure that:
 - Camp sewage is treated as outlined in the Polar Continental Shelf Project Operation Manual protocols;
 - Secondary containment is used at each of the temporary fuel stations; and
 - Confirmation and authorization is obtained from the community for use of its landfill prior to shipment.

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current application as well as the comments received from interested parties, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed amendment and renewal 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 March 31, 2009 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Best regards,



Ryan Barry
Director, Technical Services

For:

Stephanie Autut
Executive Director

cc: Elizabeth Turner, Department of Earth Sciences, Laurentian University

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 09YN014 (March 31, 2009)