



NIRB File No.: 08DN056

May 14, 2008

Nelson McCoy
Defence R&D Canada-Atlantic
9 Grove Street
P.O. Box 1012
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Z7

Via email: nelson.mccoy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Defence R&D Canada-Atlantic's "Northern Watch Technology Demonstration" Project Proposal

Dear Mr. Nelson McCoy:

On May 13, 2008 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Defence R&D Canada-Atlantic's *Northern Watch Technology Demonstration* project proposal from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). On May 7, 2008 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission for this project proposal. NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **08DN056**.

The proposed project is located in Barrow Strait, on and near the southwest corner of Devon Island, in the Northern Baffin Region of Nunavut. The nearest community to the proposed project area is Resolute, approximately 110 km from the proposed camp.

The purpose of the project is to identify and characterize combination of sensor systems for cost effective surveillance of the unique Canadian Arctic maritime environment. The proposed research activities would be conducted from middle August to middle September annually from 2008 to 2010.

The proposed project activities would include:

- Establishment of two temporary structures at the existing camp site;
- Temporary fuel storage;
- Aircraft use for research activities;
- ATV and trailer use on site;
- Placement of four bottom-mounted underwater arrays (include acoustic, magnetic, and electric field sensors) and connecting submarine cables;
- Installation of land-based sensors (include a marine navigation radar, an Electro-Optical system, an Electronic Intelligence receiver and an Automatic Identification system); and
- Data collection and experiments.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at <ftp.nirb.ca> - [/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE SCREENINGS/ 08DN056-DCC - NWTD](ftp.nirb.ca) including:

- *INAC Land Use Permit Application*
- *Spill Contingency Plan*
- *Maps*
- *NIRB Part 1 Form*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuktitut*
- *NPC Conformity Determination*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), NIRB shall proceed to screen the subject Project Proposal. NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

NIRB is copying interested Parties and municipalities most affected by the project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by **June 4, 2008**.

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 the attention of NIRB's Manager of Environmental Administration Leslie Payette by email at lpayette@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the NIRB's Technical Advisor Li Wan at (867) 983-4606 or liwan@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Li Wan - Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Jeff Holwell, INAC (holwellj@inac-ainc.gc.ca)