



NIRB File No. 09YN065

October 9, 2009

Darryl Pederson
Superintendent, Contaminated Sites Management Program
Environmental Affairs
Transport Canada
1100, 9700 Jasper Avenue Northwest
Edmonton, AB
T5J 4E6

Via email: darryl.pederson@tc.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Transport Canada's "Resolute Bay Risk Management Plan" project proposal

Dear Mr. Pederson:

On June 25, 2009 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Transport Canada's (TC) "Resolute Bay Risk Management Plan" project proposal. On July 16, 2009, the NIRB informed TC that the proposed project appeared to be located in an area which required conformity to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. On August 26, 2009 the NIRB received an additional application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) in support of this project proposal. On October 5, 2009 the NIRB received confirmation from the Nunavut Planning Commission that this project proposal did not require a conformity determination and, as such the Board could commence screening. The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **09YN065**; please reference this file number in any related future correspondence.

Following receipt of the original project proposal, the NIRB conducted a preliminary completeness check and determined that there was insufficient information to conduct a Part 4 screening and requested the required information. By August 25, 2009 the NIRB received the information required to conduct the screening of the project.

The proposed project is to take place within the Resolute Bay airport (airport) boundaries with potential hand sampling occurring outside the boundaries as required. The airport is located approximately 3.4 kilometre (km) northwest of the community of Resolute. The project is proposed to take place over a one week period during the summer of 2010. The focus of the program is to identify the extent and degree of contamination at the main drum cache, above ground storage tank, solid waste landfill, historic landfill, and historic fuel spills, and to investigate the data gaps in these areas prior to the creation and implementation of a sound risk management plan for the airport.

The proposed project activities include:

- Digging ~ 40 test pits using a combination of hand augering and a backhoe.
 - Test pits will be ~ 2 metres (m) (or to permafrost depth) deep and 1 to 2 m in length
 - Soil samples will be collected at various depths for off-site analysis
- Installing ~ 10 temporary groundwater monitoring wells.

- Collection of groundwater samples for off-site analysis
- At end of project, wells will be sealed with bentonite
- Collecting surface water samples for off-site analysis.
- Collecting ~ 30 vegetation samples for off-site analysis.
- Potential sampling of soil samples (use of hand auger only), surface water samples and vegetation samples outside the airport boundary where required.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/09YN065-TC%20-%20Resolute%20Bay%20Airport/> including:

- *NRI Scientific Research License Application in English*
- *Maps*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in Inuktitut; and*
- *NPC Determination (e-mail)*

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

Be advised that the NIRB is copying interested parties and municipalities most affected by your project proposal. Interested persons are encouraged to comment directly to the NIRB by **October 20, 2009**.

The 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 note that proposed project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment (**Appendix A**).

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

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me directly at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag.
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute, mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca
James Neary, Transport Canada, james.neary@tc.gc.ca
Micheal Molinski, Transport Canada, micheal.molinski@tc.gc.ca .

Attachments: Appendix A – *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions
Comment Form in English and Inuktitut

Appendix A

Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General

1. Transport Canada (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times.
2. The Proponent shall forward copies of all permits obtained and required for this project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to the commencement of the project.
3. The Proponent shall conduct their project in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.
4. The Proponent shall ensure that all field personnel conducting the fieldwork are aware of the Proponent's commitments.
5. Any activity outside the original scope of the project as described in the application, will be considered a new project and should be submitted to the NIRB for Screening.

Water

6. The Proponent shall not disturb any stream, lakebed or the banks of any definable water course unless approved by the Nunavut Water Board.

Wildlife

7. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.
8. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently worrying or chasing animals, or disturbing large groups of animals. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
9. The Proponent shall not disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of any birds. If nests are encountered and/or identified, the Proponent shall take precaution to avoid further interaction and or disturbance.
10. The Proponent shall cease activities that may interfere with migration or calving of caribou or muskox, until the caribou or muskox have passed or left the area.
11. The Proponent shall ensure all project staff are trained in appropriate bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques.

Handling of Hazardous or Contaminated Materials

12. The Proponent shall ensure that all on site personnel follow an established protocol for working with hazardous material or contaminated soil, and are properly trained in hazardous sample handling procedures.
13. The Proponent shall ensure that the appropriate transportation of dangerous goods documentation accompany all potential hazardous samples that are transported off site.

Physical Environment

14. The Proponent shall not move any equipment or vehicles unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging. The Proponent shall suspend overland travel of equipment or vehicles if rutting occurs.
15. The Proponent shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all times.

Restoration

16. The Proponent shall complete all clean-up and restoration of the lands used prior to the expiry date of the permit.

Other

17. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region.