



NIRB File No.: 13UN006
NWB File No.: 4AH-IHP----

August 16, 2013

To: Iqaluit Hydroelectric Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Revised Draft Scope and Draft EIS Guidelines for Qulliq Energy Corporation's "Iqaluit Hydroelectric" project proposal

Dear Parties:

Qulliq Energy Corporation's (QEC; the Proponent) "Iqaluit Hydroelectric" project proposal (the Project) is currently undergoing a Review by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) pursuant to Part 5 of Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA).

Section 12.5.2 of the NLCA states:

"...The NIRB shall, upon soliciting any advice it considers appropriate, issue guidelines to the proponent for the preparation of an impact statement. It is the responsibility of the proponent to prepare an impact statement in accordance with any guidelines established by NIRB."

On August 9, 2013, the NIRB received correspondence from the Proponent indicating its intention to pursue a coordinated approach for the NIRB's Review and the Nunavut Water Board's (NWB) consideration of the Type A Water Licence application for the Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project (NWB File No. 4AH-IHP----).

The NIRB and the NWB will work together to develop a detailed description of the proposed file-specific coordination between the Boards for the Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project and will distribute this to all parties once complete. In the meantime, a public guide to this coordinated approach entitled "Detailed Coordinated Process Framework for NIRB Part 5 Reviews and NWB Licensing" was previously developed by the NIRB and NWB and is available from the NIRB's online registry here:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/02-REVIEWS/NIRB%20NWB%20COORDINATION/>.

REVISED DRAFT SCOPE FOR THE ASSESSMENT

The NIRB has initiated a comprehensive public process to delineate the scope of the Project and the factors to be assessed through the Board's Review, as well as to assist in the NIRB's

development of guidelines for the Proponent's preparation of an environmental impact statement pursuant to the NLCA, Section 12.5.2. On July 15, 2013 the NIRB issued an initial *Draft Scope* for its Review of the Project and requested that parties provide comments for the NIRB's consideration, based upon their mandate, jurisdiction and areas of expertise or interest.

The NIRB appreciates the effort made by the following parties to submit comments on or before August 6, 2013 as requested:

- Qikiqtani Inuit Association
- Government of Nunavut
- Government of Canada:
 - Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
 - Environment Canada
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada
 - Natural Resources Canada
 - Transport Canada

All submissions received regarding the *Draft Scope* of the Project are available online from the NIRB's public registry at the following location:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/02-REVIEWS/ACTIVE%20REVIEWS/13UN006-QEC%20IQALUIT%20HYDRO/2-REVIEW/04-SCOPING%20&%20GUIDELINES/01-SCOPING/03-COMMENTS/>

Following a review of all comments received by the Board, the NIRB has prepared the enclosed the Revised *Draft Scope* for the Project. While some comments received for the initial *Draft Scope* have not been directly incorporated into the enclosed Revised *Draft Scope*, the NIRB has taken this feedback into consideration during its preparation of the enclosed *Draft Guidelines* for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS Guidelines) for QEC's Iqaluit Hydroelectric project.

EIS GUIDELINES DEVELOPMENT

Section 12.5.2 of the NLCA directs the NIRB to issue Guidelines to the Proponent for its preparation of an EIS. An EIS is a detailed document prepared by the Proponent in accordance with the EIS Guidelines issued by the NIRB which identifies, predicts, evaluates and communicates information about the ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of a project proposal. An EIS also provides for the identification and development of mitigation measures – those provisions or measures which are designed to control, reduce or eliminate potentially adverse impacts of an activity or project.

The NIRB will draw on information obtained during the scoping of this Project in the development of the EIS Guidelines and also offers opportunity for public comment into their development. At the completion of this iterative process, the NIRB will issue the EIS Guidelines to the Proponent for its preparation of an EIS for the Project.

The Board invites interested parties to review both the enclosed Revised *Draft Scope* and the *Draft EIS Guidelines* for the Project and provide comments to the NIRB based upon their mandate, jurisdiction and areas of expertise or interest.

All parties are asked to ensure that their comment submissions:

- Identify the issue(s) of concern;
- Include a clear rationale of the issue's importance to the environmental assessment for the Project;
- Identify any specific information requirements or direction which should be incorporated into the documents to address each issue of concern; and
- Reference the page, section, paragraph and/or item numbers of the respective documents to which comments are applicable.

The NIRB requests that comment submissions be provided to the Board via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax to (867) 983-2594 on or before **Monday, September 16, 2013**.

PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS

As previously indicated, the NIRB will be holding open houses and public scoping meetings for the Iqaluit Hydroelectric project in in potentially affected communities during September 2013. Meeting times and venues are advertised via local radio and cable channels and posters within each respective community, as well as through territorial newspapers. The NIRB invites all members of the public to attend these meetings as follows:

September 10:	Iqaluit – Francophone Centre
September 11:	Kimmirut – Akavak Centre
September 12:	Pangnirtung – Community Hall

OVERVIEW OF NEXT STEPS

The following provides an overview of the next steps in the NIRB's Review of the Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project:

August 16, 2013	NIRB releases Revised <i>Draft Scope</i> and <i>Draft EIS Guidelines</i> for 30 day public comment period
September 10-12, 2013	NIRB Scoping Meetings (Iqaluit, Kimmirut, Pangnirtung)
September 16, 2013	Parties submit comments to the Revised <i>Draft Scope</i> and <i>Draft EIS Guidelines</i>
September 24, 2013	Final Scope issued and Revised <i>Draft EIS Guidelines</i> released for 10 day comment period
October 4, 2013	Parties submit comments to the Revised <i>Draft EIS Guidelines</i>
October 15-18, 2013	<i>Tentative EIS Guidelines Workshop</i>

Again, the Board invites Parties to submit comments on the Revised *Draft Scope* and *Draft EIS* Guidelines for the Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project on or before **Monday, September 16, 2013**.

Please forward all comment submissions to the NIRB via email to info@nirb.ca or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

Should you have any questions or require clarification regarding the NIRB's Review of the Iqaluit Hydroelectric project, please contact Jasvir Dhillon, Technical Advisor, at 867-983-4609 or jdhillon@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Amanda Hanson
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Cal Clark, Qulliq Energy Corporation
Natalie Chafe-Yuan, Qulliq Energy Corporation
Dave Hohnstein, Nunavut Water Board
Bernie MacIsaac, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
John Hussey, City of Iqaluit
Jean Daniel Blouin, Government of Nunavut
Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Elizabeth Patreau, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Rob Johnstone, Natural Resources Canada
John Clarke, Natural Resources Canada
Meighan Andrews, Transport Canada

Enclosures (2): Revised *Draft Scope* List for the NIRB's Assessment of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project (*August 2013*)

Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for Qulliq Energy Corporation's Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project (August 2013)