



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

September 24, 2013

To: Iqaluit Hydroelectric Distribution List

Sent via email

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

Dear Parties:

On August 16, 2013 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) distributed a request for public comments on the Revised *Draft* Scope for the assessment of Qulliq Energy Corporation's (QEC; the Proponent) "Iqaluit Hydroelectric" project proposal (the Project), as well as for the *Draft* Guidelines for QEC's Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project. Comment submissions were received by the NIRB on or before September 16, 2013 and have, where appropriate, been incorporated into the enclosed Final Scope and Revised *Draft* EIS Guidelines documents. A table has also been enclosed and is meant to serve as an accompaniment to the Revised *Draft* EIS Guidelines in order to describe how and where comments received have been addressed throughout the present version of the Guidelines.

As parties are aware, the NIRB facilitated open house and public scoping meetings for the Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project in Iqaluit, Kimmirut and Pangnirtung from September 10, 2013 to September 12, 2013. The scope has been updated where appropriate in consideration of the comments and feedback received during the NIRB's scoping tour, and is enclosed for the information of parties. A scoping report will be released the week of October 15th that summarizes the discussions that were held during these meetings and the comments and concerns that were raised in the communities visited.

The Final Scope and Revised *Draft* EIS Guidelines as well as all comment submissions and other materials relating to the NIRB's scoping and guideline development process for the Project are available from the NIRB's online public registry at:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/02-REVIEWS/ACTIVE%20REVIEWS/13UN006-QEC%20IQALUIT%20HYDRO/2-REVIEW/04-SCOPING%20%26%20GUIDELINES/>

COMMENT REQUEST – Revised *Draft* EIS Guidelines

Once issued by the NIRB, the EIS Guidelines provide instruction to the Proponent for its preparation of an EIS that addresses information requirements regarding potential project interactions with the biophysical and socio-economic environments to allow for a comprehensive and thorough impact assessment of the proposed project. The Board invites interested parties and responsible authorities to review the Revised *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 EIS Guidelines to address each issue of concern;
- Reference the page, section, paragraph and/or item numbers within the EIS Guidelines to which comments or concern are applicable; and
- Clearly identify the edits being suggested, i.e. any items that should be included, removed, or suggested changes in wording associated with the issue

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 **Friday, October 4, 2013**.

NEXT STEPS

The NIRB will consider whether scheduling of an EIS Guidelines workshop might be useful to facilitate discussions regarding technical matters raised and to draw upon the expertise and advice of various parties prior to finalization of the EIS Guidelines. The NIRB has tentatively scheduled this workshop for the week of October 15th, 2013 in the previously circulated review timeline documents, and asks that parties now indicate if there is interest or value in the NIRB holding such an event within this period. The NIRB expects that this workshop could be facilitated either as a face to face meeting or solely through several teleconference sessions, and the NIRB invites interested parties to also indicate their preference on meeting format accordingly.

Where parties would be interested in attending an EIS Guidelines workshop, the NIRB asks that they identify areas of particular interest for inclusion in the workshop agenda. Responses to this item should be submitted to the NIRB office on or before **October 4, 2013**. Please note that the NIRB will determine whether a workshop will be held based in part, upon responses received and upon the issues raised within comment submissions received on the Revised *Draft* EIS Guidelines.

The NIRB has updated the anticipated timeline in the enclosed process map for the Board's Review of the Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project, and has enclosed this map for the information of parties.

The NIRB invites interested parties to submit comments on the Revised *Draft* EIS Guidelines and to indicate their interest in participating in a Guidelines development workshop via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax at (867) 983-2594 by **October 4, 2013**.

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

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho
A/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 (4): 1) Final Scope List for the NIRB's Assessment of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project (*September 24, 2013*)
2) Revised *Draft* Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for Qulliq Energy Corporation's Iqaluit Hydroelectric Project (*September 24, 2013*)
3) Revised *Draft* EIS Guidelines Comment Table (*September 24, 2013*)
4) Review Process Map (*September 24, 2013*)