



NIRB File No.: 09AN034
AANDC File No.: N2013J0013

July 26, 2013

Richard Weber
Canadian Arctic Holidays Ltd.
363 Pritchard Rd
Alcove, QC J0X 1A0

Via email: mail@arcticwatch.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Canadian Arctic Holidays Ltd.'s "Tourism & Wildlife Observation at Somerset Island and Prince Leopold Island Bird Sanctuary" project proposal

Dear Richard Weber:

On May 27, 2013 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for Canadian Arctic Holidays Ltd.'s "Tourism & Wildlife Observation at Somerset Island and Prince Leopold Island Bird Sanctuary" project proposal. On May 28, 2013 the NIRB received a referral from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) to screen a Land Use Permit (No. N2013J0013) application for activities in support of the above noted project proposal.

The proposed project is located in the North Baffin Region, on both Somerset and Prince Leopold Islands, approximately 150 kilometres southeast of the community of Resolute. The proposal involves the utilization of Canadian Arctic Holidays' Arctic Watch Lodge located on Crown land at Cunningham Inlet on Somerset Island (Land Lease No. 05F802001).

The project activities include:

- Hosting groups of tourists at the Lodge (maximum 24 people on-site, including staff);
- Use of aircraft to transport tourists and personnel to site from Yellowknife;
- Use of an airstrip for access to site;
- Storage of fuel for aircraft and camp use;
 - Up to 4100 litres of diesel fuel (20 drums with 205 litre capacity)
 - Up to 2050 litres of gasoline (10 drums with 205 litre capacity)
 - Up to 4100 litres of aviation fuel (20 drums with 205 litre capacity)
 - Up to 1000 pounds of propane
 - Up to 250 litres of oil
- Use of 10 all-terrain vehicles as the main transportation on site (transporting tourists);

- Use of 2 trucks to transport materials to and from the airstrip to the Lodge; and
- Use of a bull dozer for runway maintenance.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2009/09AN034-Canadian%20Arctic%20Holidays/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English;*
- *Non-technical project proposal summary in English and Inuktitut;*
- *Spill Contingency Plan; and*
- *AANDC Land Use Permit Application.*

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.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Canadian Arctic Holidays Ltd.'s project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **August 16, 2013**.

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

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4603 or tbolt@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T Bolt".

Tannis Bolt
Assistant Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
 Bernie MacIsaac, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Enclosures (2): Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)