



**NIRB File No.: 12XN020**

NPC File No.: 148746

*Related to NPC File No.: 148232*

INAC File No.: N2017N0017

NWB File No. 8BC-EUR1621

May 1, 2018

Jean-Philippe Cloutier-Dussault  
Property Manager  
Environment and Climate Change Canada  
160 Chemin Tour de L'isle, Ile Ste-Hélène,  
Montreal, QC H3C 4G8

*Sent via email: [jean-philippe.cloutier-dussault@canada.ca](mailto:jean-philippe.cloutier-dussault@canada.ca)*

**Re: Opportunity to address comments received regarding Environment and Climate Change Canada's "Amended Land Use permit application for Eureka Weather Station" project proposal**

Dear Jean-Philippe Cloutier-Dussault:

On March 7, 2018 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) "Amended Land Use Permit application for Eureka Weather Station" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). On April 3, 2018 the NIRB circulated a public notice of the screening for this project, inviting interested parties to provide comments directly to the NIRB by April 24, 2018.

On or before April 24, 2018 the NIRB received comments from the following interested parties:

- Government of Nunavut
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

All comment submissions received by the NIRB relating to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca) by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Amended Land Use permit application for Eureka Weather Station
- NIRB File No.: 12XN020
- Application No.: 125295

A summary of the public concerns reflected in the comment submissions relate to the following:

#### Camp Services

- The 24 person tent camp that is proposed to be established at the site for the project and will house 50 contract workers will require review under the Public Health Act as the camp will be providing food, water and waste systems to service the camp.

#### Wildlife Mitigation

- Concerns the project potentially would result in wildlife disturbance.
- Minimal information on the area with respect to the composition of plant and animal communities and population abundances, and recommended the Proponent undertake localized surveying to determine the composition of local plant and animal species and their habitats that may be affected by project construction and operations.
- Recommended the Proponent take precautions to ensure no undue stress to wildlife is caused from the project activities by providing suggested mitigation measures for wildlife in general, caribou and raptors.
- Concerns noted that the proposed project area may overlap with or affect Polar Bear denning activities or sites. Further, concerns were noted that the project activities could result in Polar Bear encounters and disturbance of denning sites. Recommended mitigation measures in the event Polar Bears and/or dens are encountered during the project activities.
- Concern that earth moving (e.g. blasting, grading, piling gravel and other debris) activities may influence snow drifting, drift direction, drift thickness, etc. which may affect whether Polar Bears would find suitable denning habitat or not; and recommended that before any activities are conducted, the Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment (GN-DoE) be consulted.

#### Species at Risk

- Limited information on the presence of *Porsild's Bryum* which is listed as a threatened species under the *Species at Risk Act* and recommended the Proponent conduct a survey of the project location. If any *Porsild's Bryum* colonies are identified, the Proponent would be required to contact the GN-DoE prior to commencing construction activities.

#### Archaeological Resources

- Concern that the new infrastructure components as proposed would be in conflict with a number of archaeological sites in the area as identified in the Archaeological Impact Assessment.
- Recommended the Proponent applies for a Class 2 permit in order to mitigate any potential impact to archaeological sites located within the project footprint.

The NIRB would like to provide ECCC with an opportunity to address the comments noted above prior to the Board rendering its determination for this screening assessment and issuing its subsequent Screening Decision Report to the responsible Minister(s). The NIRB respectfully requests that a response be provided directly to the NIRB by **May 15, 2018**.

If ECCC determines that the time required to supply a written response is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please send any forthcoming submissions directly to the NIRB at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), or through the online public registry at [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca).

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at 867-857-4829 or [sgranchinho@nirb.ca](mailto:sgranchinho@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho, M.Sc., EP  
Manager, Impact Assessment  
Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List  
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board  
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada