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project proposal is subject to screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB). Under Articles 11, 12 and 13 of the Nunavut Agreement, NuPPAA and Part 3 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (NWNSRTA), until the project proposal has concluded the applicable land use planning and assessment process required by the NPC and the NIRB, the NWB cannot issue a water licence/approval.

On this basis, the NWB, while previously acknowledging the receipt of the application, waited for the Commission's determination and recommendations before proceeding to the next steps in the NWB's processing of the application. Please be advised that on January 5, 2018 the NWB received the required determinations and recommendations from the Commission and on March 23, 2018 received the NIRB's determination in respect of the project proposal associated with the water licence application.

Now that the application has concluded the pre-licensing steps required under the Nunavut Agreement, NuPPAA and the NWNSRTA, the NWB is now proceeding to the next steps in processing the application, including providing the attached Notice of Application which will be published in due course. In addition, to ensure this application is dealt with in a timely fashion, the NWB has forwarded notice of all documentation received by the NWB in respect of the application to regulators and Council of the Municipality(ies) most affected by the project. The NWB is also inviting interested parties to make representations about the application, including information requests, identifying issues of water user compensation and providing technical review comments directly to the NWB **within fifteen (15) days from the date of this letter; on or before April 30, 2018.**

After the NWB receives and reviews the comments received, the Board may provide additional procedural instructions regarding the next steps in the Board's processing of the application. Please note that throughout the Board's consideration of the application, the NWB retains the right to request additional information and studies, as set out under ss. 48(1)-(3) of the NWNSRTA. If additional information will be requested, the NWB's technical staff will contact the applicant to discuss the Board's request in detail.

If the applicant or parties have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Dave Baines, the Technical Advisor for the file.

Sincerely,

Licence Administrator

Enclosure: Notice of Application
Cc: Distribution List – Qikiqtani