



Environment Environment
Canada Canada

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June 18, 2003

Our file: 4703 003 014

Stephanie Driscoe
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 2379
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Via Facsimile

Dear Stephanie:

RE: Screening of Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the revised Bathurst Inlet Port and Road (BIPAR) project description, submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) on May 20, 2003. In your letter dated May 30, 2003, you requested comments on two questions:

- 1) Is the project description sufficiently complete from the perspective of the regulators who must process the application?
- 2) Is the project description complete in its response to NIRB's letter of April 14, 2003, such that it can now be rescreened?

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the revised project description in light of these two questions, and offers the following recommendations for your consideration.

- 1) Environment Canada does not have any regulatory permits to issue for this project.
- 2) Environment Canada believes that the project description is sufficiently complete to go forward to the rescreening process. While EC would like to have seen more comprehensive discussion and elaboration on some components of the project (for example, need for the project, transboundary impacts, alternatives assessment, cumulative effects assessment, spill contingency and emergency response planning), it is our view that these items can be further developed in the environmental impact assessment stage.

Environment Canada looks forward to hearing from the NIRB in regards to the next steps for the review of this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4639 or by email at colette.meloche@ec.gc.ca

Yours truly,

Colette Meloche
Environmental Assessment Specialist

cc: (Mike Fournier, Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)
(Stephen Harbicht, Head, Assessment and Monitoring, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)
(Diane Campbell, Environment Canada, Ottawa) - Via Email

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