

NIRB File No.: 13DN041 NPC File No.: 148152

January 8, 2016

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett

Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs

10 Rue Wellington Gatineau, QC KIA 0H3

Cc: Mr. P.J. Akeeagok

President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

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Re: <u>Screening Decision for Canadian Forces' "Exercise Arctic Ram 2016" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region</u>

## Dear Ms. Bennett:

On November 6, 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen the Canadian Forces' "Exercise Arctic Ram 2016" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission) with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. Due to the proposal containing activities that were sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number 13DN041, the NIRB assigned the amendment file to this previous file number. Pursuant to section 86 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of Canadian Forces' "Exercise Arctic Ram 2016" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA).

Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated January 8, 2016 to the responsible Minister. The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the

regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the project proposal will not be enclosed due to the size of the electronic document and the limited bandwidth. However, an electronic copy of the project proposal is accessible online from the NIRB's public registry using the following link:

http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2014/13DN041-Canadian%20Forces-Arctic%20Ram%202014/

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Acting Director, Technical Services, Solomon Amuno at (867) 983-4603 or <a href="mailto:samuno@nirb.ca">samuno@nirb.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Copland Chairperson

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Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure: Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 13DN041 (January 8, 2016)