

November 24, 2017

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Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Cote, Mr. Shoo, Ms. McCaie, Mr. Kharatyan, Ms. Vaillancourt and Dr. Saumur:

## RE: NPC File # 148639-North Baffin Bedrock Mapping: Steensby-Barnes

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

- 1. This project by the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) represents the second summer of a two-year field program (2017-18) devoted to the bedrock geology of northern Baffin Island (Saumur et al., 2017). In 2017 fieldwork focused on the Pond Inlet Mary River area (Skipton et al., 2017). In the forthcoming summer of 2018, fieldwork will be focused on the environs of Steensby Inlet and the Barnes Ice Cap.
- 2. This project proposal pertains to bedrock mapping within NTS map sheets 37F and 38E during the summer of 2018. This proposed fieldwork involves a team of 8 geoscientists conducting daily bedrock mapping traverses on foot in the map area, with helicopter transportation to and from traverse locations. All staff would be based out of a camp located along the Isortoq River, a central location near the border of both NTS

sheets. The proposed project will include hired positions for community members, including two Nunavut Arctic College students as bedrock mappers, as well as an assistant cook.

3. Location: Qikiqtani Region; South of Pond Inlet, North of Steenby Inlet, West of Mary River mine site as far as Walker Arm in Sam Ford Fiord.

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal, including fuel caches and methods of travel and a conformity letter was issued: January 10, 2017 (NPC File # 148397). This conformity determination still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 17YN003)

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because it includes a new location and establishment of a temporary camp. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

http://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148639&sessionid=

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,

Goump Djalogue

Senior Planner, MCIP | RPP

**Nunavut Planning Commission**