



NIRB File No.: 17YN003
NPC File No.: 148639

January 24, 2018

To:	The Honourable Carolyn Bennett Minister of Crown – Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6	The Honourable David Joanase Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College P.O Box 2410 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
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Sent via email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca, carolyn.bennett@canada.ca, djoanasie@gov.nu.ca
and davidjoanasie@southbaffinmla.ca

Re: Screening Decision for Geological Survey of Canada's "North Baffin Bedrock Mapping (Steensby-Barnes)" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region

Dear Honourable Ministers:

On November 24, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Geological Survey of Canada's "North Baffin Bedrock Mapping (Steensby-Barnes)" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. The NPC noted that the previous conformity determination issued on January 17, 2017 for the activities associated with the current proposal continues to apply and has determined that the project proposal is a significant modification to the project because it includes a new location and establishment of a temporary camp.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and section 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal. Due to the proposal containing activities that were sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number **17YN003**, the NIRB viewed this project proposal as an amendment to the previously screened project and assigned this proposal with this previous file number.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of Geological Survey of Canada's "North Baffine Bedrock Mapping (Steensby-Barnes)" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *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 24, 2018 to the responsible Minister(s). The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB's 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 online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: North Baffin Bedrock Mapping (Steensby-Barnes)
- NIRB File No.: 17YN003
- Application No.: 125217

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister and the NIRB remains available for consultation with the Minister regarding this report as necessary. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Acting Director, Technical Services, Kelli Gillard at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Copland, Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure: Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 17YN003 (January 24, 2018)