

July 6, 2016

Karén Kharatyan Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board (NWB) P.O. Box 119, Gjoa Haven, NU XOB 1JO By email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca Jaida Ohokannoak Manager, Technical Administration Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU XOB 0C0 By email: info@nirb.ca

John Gosse
Dalhousie University
Earth Sciences, 1475 Oxford St
Halifax, NS B3H 4R2
By email: john.gosse@dal.ca

Dear Mr. Kharatyan, Ms. Ohokannoak, Dr. Gosse:

RE: NPC File # 148329 Paleontology and paleoecology of the 3 million year old sediment, 90-metre site, Strathcona Fiord, Ellesmere Island

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

1. Scientific Research: studying the plant and animal fossil record preserved in ancient stream sands. The site is located about 15 kilometres south of Strathcona Fiord, Ellesmere Island.

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 activities associated with this proposal were previously reviewed by NPC, and a conformity determination was issued on March 31, 2010, which still applies. In addition, the activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 10YN030). This project proposal is exempt from the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NUPPAA) under section 235 of that Act. The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was part of the original proposal and its inclusion is not a significant modification of the project.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials are available at the following address: http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148329&sessionid= The applicant has undertaken to comply with the attached conformity requirements. 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 attached 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.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 857-2242.

Sincerely,

Peter Scholz Senior Planner,

Nunavut Planning Commission