

NIRB File No.: 16DN004 NPC File No.: 148197

March 31, 2016

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett

Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs

10 Rue Wellington Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

Sent via email: Carolyn.Bennett@canada.ca; minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca; infopubs@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Re: <u>Screening Decision for Joint Task Force's (North) "Operation Nunalivut" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region</u>

Dear Ms. Bennett:

On February 8, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Joint Task Force (North)'s (JTFN) "Operation Nunalivut" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to section 86 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal and assigned it file number 16DN004.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of JTFN's "Operation Nunalivut" 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 March 31, 2016 to the responsible Minister(s). 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 at www.nirb.ca by using the following search criteria:

Project Name: Joint Task Force (North)

NIRB File No.: 16DN004Application No.: 124622

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 Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Copland, Chairperson Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure: Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 16DN004 (March 31, 2016)