



NIRB File No.: 16DN063
NPC File No.: 148373

February 1, 2017

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: minister@aandc-aandc.gc.ca; carolyn.bennett@canada.ca

Re: Screening Decision for Joint Task Force North's "Operation Nunavut 2017"
Project Proposal, Qikiqtani, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot Regions

Dear Ms. Carolyn Bennett:

On November 12, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Joint Task Force North's (JTFN) "Operation Nunavut 2017" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin and Keewatin Regional Land Use Plans.

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* (NuPPAA), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal and assigned it file number 16DN063.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of JTFN's "Operation Nunavut 2017" 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 February 1, 2017 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: Operation Nunaliut 2017
- NIRB File No.: 16DN063
- Application No.: 125024

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.: 16DN063 (February 1, 2017)