



NIRB File No. 14DN023
AANDC File No.: N2014J0009

July 2, 2014

Brigadier-General Gregory Loos
Commander Joint Task Force (North)
c/o Michael Gray
Environmental Coordinator
P.O. Box 10500 Station Forces
Edmonton, AB

Sent via email: michael.gray@forces.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Joint Task Force's (North) "Operation NANOOK 2014" project proposal

Dear Michael Gray:

On June 6, 2014 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Joint Task Force's (North) (JTFN) "Operation NANOOK" project proposal from JTFN. On June 26, 2014 the NIRB received a referral from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). On June 27, 2014 the NIRB received a referral from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA). The NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number 14DN023 - please reference this file number in related future correspondence.

Operation NANOOK is a set of military exercises that have been conducted annually in the North with a focus on sovereignty and strengthening links between whole of government partners in the north (i.e., Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Rangers, Canadian Coast Guard and Royal Danish Navy). These exercises allow various groups and levels of government to cooperate in preparing responses to potential future threats and hazards. The JTFN is proposing to conduct exercises between August 1, 2014 to September 19, 2014 with the potential to conduct similar search and rescue exercises between 2015 to 2017 in the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region. The proposed exercises are to occur within a range of 5 to 15 kilometres (km) southeast of Iqaluit in Davis Strait, and either York Sound or Laird Peninsula depending on the weather.

The proposed project activities include:

- Use of airports in Resolute and Iqaluit;
 - Potential use of other airstrips within the area of operations may also occur;

- Iqaluit to be the main base of all activities, including the use of existing facilities and accommodations in the city;
 - Use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) for transportation within Iqaluit and between Iqaluit and the exercise sites;
- Search and Rescue Exercise on the ground between Aug 18 and 24, 2014 in York Sound:
 - Use of twin otters and helicopters to transport personnel to and from the area as well as All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) on site;
 - Establishment of a temporary camp for up to 250 people with tents and generators;
 - Water to be supplied from both Iqaluit (packed in and out) and from being sourced on site;
 - Temporary storage of fuel at camp site:
 - Approximately 2775 litres (L) of gasoline in barrels;
 - Approximately 7400 L of aviation fuel in barrels;
 - Approximately 925 L of naphtha in barrels;
 - All waste to be contained and transported back to Iqaluit for proper disposal;
- Search and Rescue exercises in the water between August 20 and 22, 2014 in Davis Strait:
 - Use of Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Coast Guard and Royal Danish Navy Vessels;
 - Aircraft(s) and personnel used for the exercises to be based out of Iqaluit;
- Cruise Ship Beaching Exercises between August 25 and 29, 2014 in York Sound:
 - Use of Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Coast Guard and Royal Danish Navy Vessels;
 - Aircraft(s) and personnel used for the exercises to be based out of Iqaluit; and
 - Assorted military exercises to be conducted.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/14DN023-Joint%20Task%20Force-Operation%20Nanook%202014/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Application Form in English and Inuktitut*
- *AANDC Land Use Permit Application*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuktitut*
- *Maps*
- *QIA Access to Inuit Owned Land Application*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NIRB shall proceed to screen this project proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by JFTN project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **July 23, 2014**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard B.Sc., P.Ag.
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Graham Macmillan, Joint Task Force (North)
 Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
 Bernie MacIsaac, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
 Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Enclosures (2): Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)