



NIRB File No.: 16FN015
NPC File No.: 148223

July 4, 2016

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A0A6

and

The Honourable Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A0A6

Sent via email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca, Carolyn.bennett@canada.ca, infopubs@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca, ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca, catherine.mckenna@parl.gc.ca.

Re: Screening Decision for Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources’ “Fuel Depot and CASE 19 Pearya Research” Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region

Dear Ms. Carolyn Bennett and Ms. Catherine McKenna:

On March 21, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources’ (BGR) “Fuel Depot in 2016 and CASE 19 Pearya Research in 2017” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

In addition, on May 13, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen BGR’s “Fuel Caching at Tanquary Fiord” project proposal directly from Parks Canada pursuant to section 167 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). The referral was in association to the proposed fuel caching and research activities to take place within Quttinirpaaq National Park.

Pursuant to section 86 of the NuPPAA, the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal and assigned it file number 16FN015.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of BGR's "Fuel Depot in 2016 and *CASE 19 Pearya* Research in 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 July 4, 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 online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Fuel Depot 2016 and field work Case 19 Pearya in 2017
- NIRB File No.: 16FN015
- Application No.: 124652

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.: 16FN015 (July 4, 2016)