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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

April 19, 2017

Jaida Ohokannoak
Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
By email: info@nirb.ca

Mosha Cote
Manager-Research Liaison
Nunavut Research Institute
P.O. Box 1720 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
By email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca

Ashley Manning-Berg
Dept. of Earth and Planetary Science, University
of Tennessee
1412 Circle Dr., Knoxville, Tennessee 37996
By email: aberg@vols.utk.edu

Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Mr. Cote, Mrs. Manning-Berg:

RE: NPC File # 148530 Preservation of Organic Matter in Early Diagenetic Chert

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

1. Scientific Research: Limestones, dolostones, and sedimentary chert of the Angmaat Formation, near White Bay, Baffin Island contain the most exquisitely preserved 1.2 billion-year-old microbial mats. This project aims to correlate the well-preserved mat morphologies to the preserved geochemical signatures in the mats.
 - a. The purpose of this trip will be to collect chert and carbonate rocks from surficial outcrops near White Bay, Baffin Island. Hand-held rock hammers and chisels will be used for sample collection.
 - b. Samples collected by Linda Kah during a 1993-1994 field season for a separate, earlier project focused on the geochemistry preserved in the carbonates. Select samples from the previous field season have been used to begin this research project; however, larger sample volumes are required to perform the chemical analyses.
2. Location: Qikiqtani Region; White Bay, Baffin 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. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP. The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

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By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:
<http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148530&sessionid=>

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 applicable 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.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 983-4634.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alana Vigna', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alana Vigna
Senior Planner,
Nunavut Planning Commission