



February 25, 2022
NPC File No. 149703

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Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
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Dear Ms. Maksagak, Mr. Cote, Ms. McCaie, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Clark, Ms. Geyman:

RE: NPC File # 149703 [Reconstructing ancient sea level and seafloor conditions in the 1.9-billion-year-old Rocknest Formation]

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

1. Conduct geological research in the Kitikmeot Region by using rocknest formation to study ancient climate and life on Earth. Specific project activities include:
 - Use of passenger float plane for drop and pick up of researcher(s) from the project area;
 - Setup of a remote camp for three (3) people to support scientific research activities;
 - Water withdrawal from nearby lakes for domestic use;
 - Measure detailed stratigraphic sections through the Rocknest Formation and compare observations to statistical models;
 - Use of a small trowel to dig holes for faeces burial below the ground; and
 - Undertake detailed measurements of stromatolites in the Rocknest formation and compare with numerical simulations, laboratory experiments, and observations of modern stromatolites in order to determine whether properties such as water depth from the size and shape of ancient stromatolites could be inferred.
2. Location: Kitikmeot Region; [near Kugluktuk].

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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 determined that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. 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.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the NIRB for screening. Project materials are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149703&sessionid=>

This decision 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.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 983-4982.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SA' with a horizontal line extending from the 'A'.

Solomon Amuno, PhD
Senior Planner
Nunavut Planning Commission