



NIRB File No.:14YN017
NPC File No.: 148159

November 25, 2015

Warner Miles
Geological Survey of Canada
235-615 Booth Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E9

Sent via email: warner.miles@canada.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for the Geological Survey of Canada's "Overby-Duggan, Nunavut Aeromagnetic Survey" project proposal

Dear Warner Miles:

On November 20, 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen the Geological Survey of Canada's (GSC or Proponent) "Overby-Duggan, Nunavut Aeromagnetic Survey" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). Pursuant to section 86 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal. Due to the proposal containing activities that were sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number 14YN017, the NIRB assigned the amendment file to this previous file number - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

PROJECT SCOPE

Project Scope:

The proposed "Overby-Duggan, Nunavut Aeromagnetic Survey" project is located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 200 kilometres (km) south of Cambridge Bay, east of Bathurst Inlet, and west of the Queen Maud Migratory Bird Sanctuary. The Proponent intends to conduct airborne surveys to acquire high-resolution aeromagnetic data, including magnetic properties of bedrock, to inform land management decisions. The program is proposed to take place from March 1 to May 31, 2016.

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following works or activities:

- Use of fixed-wing aircraft to conduct aeromagnetic surveys with a minimum ground clearance of 150 metres (m) and approximately 13,000 line kilometres (km) at a line spacing of 400 m for traverse lines and 2,400 m for orthogonal control lines;

- Survey proximal to but excluding the Queen Maud Migratory Bird Sanctuary;
- Flights to originate from Cambridge Bay and land at municipal or private airports only;
- Transfer and storage of approximately 64,000 litres (L) of aviation fuel at the Cambridge Bay airport;
- Use of waste disposal and accommodations in Cambridge Bay by five (5) personnel; and
- Collected data to be used to support new ground-based geological mapping, provide information in support of mineral exploration activities, and be made publically available.

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at the following location <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2014/14YN017-NRCan-Geological%20Geochemical%20Investigation/> and include:

- *NPC Conformity Determination*
- *Nunavut Research Institute Scientific Research Licence Application Form in English*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English, Inuktitut, and Inuinnaqtun*
- *Wildlife Impact Mitigation and Monitoring Plan*
- *Maps noting proposed project footprint*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by the Geological Survey of Canada project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **December 16, 2015**.

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 or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4606 or at hiasmussen@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Heather Rasmussen, M.Env-EA
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
 Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
 Mia Pelletier, Canadian Wildlife Service
 Tracy McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Enclosures (3): Comment Forms (English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)