February 16, 2009

Han Ha

Δ৬፫ < Dear Mr. Chairperson:

15405-1: 20095 25406 2545004 ADC 104-07L0-15 <505 ABSACA-15

Re: NTI Proposal to manage the Pangnirtung char fisheries in 2009

Thank you for the NWMB's January 23 letter enclosing the Board's September 22 2008 letter and attached legal opinion and explaining that the enclosures were not sent previously due to an error.

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This letter addresses the steps to be taken prior to the August 2009 opening of the various char fisheries that supply the Pangnirtung fish plant. (NTI will respond to the other outstanding issues raised in the Board's correspondence at a later date.)

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In July 2008 the working group developing the Nunavut Fishery Regulations met in Iqaluit and discussed the factors that are inhibiting implementation of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (*NLCA*) with respect to the management of these and similar fisheries. Within Nunavut there also

have been useful discussions between DFO, GN, NWMB and NTI representatives regarding difficulties in collecting scientific samples and data under the current management approach, including a conference call held on January 23, 2009.

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Building on those discussions, NTI proposes the following approach for managing these fisheries in the upcoming year:

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- Recognize that the current challenges to managing these fisheries are driven by market expectations rather than conservation requirements;
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- Enable the Pangnirtung Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) to meet the market's expectations, with assistance from DFO and the GN.

Under this approach, it is not necessary for the NWMB/Minister to establish a quantitative limitation on Inuit char fishing: at the scale of fishing planned in 2009, conservation does not require a quantitative limitation. Nor is it necessary to satisfy the formal requirements for Marine Stewardship Council certification, which all agree are too costly to implement in Nunavut for the foreseeable future. Rather, the focus is on resolving the issues that need to be dealt with in order for DFO and the GN to report to southern buyers that these fisheries are sustainable, namely monitoring, reporting and sampling.

NTI proposes that the following steps be taken:

802500° Monitoring

- 1. <^ooo Δもっている a a Δレムイレヤ もっち イャケーマート Δもっしていまっている 2009 マント・ Δもっしている Δもっしている 2008 T. The Pangnirtung fish plant announces its intention to purchase in 2009 up to the same amount of char from each source that it was willing to purchase in 2008.
- 2. Cop®FDCcop/pop° しぐしし」 a pop®ros of another of phon another of phon another of the plant to ensure that the announced purchase amounts for 2009 are not exceeded.

Do bcD'o \$ 44 5 8DA 5 Ao Reporting and Sampling

- 5. <u>P&&Ni~~~ ACDNOLLOSIS ABOCA ATO DO GODO ACONOS OS ACONOS OS ABOCA ATO DO GODO ACONOS OS ACONOS OS ACONOS OS ACONOS OS ACONOS OS ACONOS ACON</u>
- 6. <u>P&VNI'-o-s</u> <u>ACPNOLLOSIC ASSOCIANTE POSSOCIANTE PLACEDE DE LACACEDE DISCUSSIONS tO involve the plant in the coordination of HTO sampling are completed to all parties' satisfaction.</u>

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The gear size restrictions established by the NWMB in previous years would continue to apply.

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In closing, NTI notes that a role for HTOs in allocation, reporting and sampling, such as is outlined above, would be as important to effective fisheries management if a Total Allowable Harvest/Basic Needs Level became necessary as it is in the present circumstances. Please respond to this proposal at your earliest convenience. NTI looks forward to putting in place an *NLCA*-compliant management regime that enables these fisheries to be developed pending completion of the Nunavut Fishery Regulations.

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Raymond Ningeocheak,

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Vice-President of Finance and Executive Member responsible for Wildlife Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

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Hon. Daniel Shewchuk, Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut

Hon. Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Government of Canada

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David Kennedy, Acting Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Fisheries and Oceans Canada