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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijittkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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Tammaqtailinahuarniriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

July 13, 2012

Honourable Keith Ashfield
Minister of Fisheries & Oceans
Government of Canada

Honourable James Arreak
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut

Cathy Towtongie
President of Nunavut
Tunngavik Inc.

Ross Tatty
Chairperson of the
Kivalliq Wildlife Board

Attima Hadlari
Chairperson of the
Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
Board

James Qillaq
Chairperson of the
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Jobie Tukkiapik
President of
Makivik Corporation

Chairpersons of Nunavut's
Hunters and Trappers
Organizations, c/o Nunavut
Inuit Wildlife Secretariat

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Late initial submission from the Government of Nunavut to the NWMB public hearing to establish the basic needs level of beluga, narwhal and walrus

The Nunavut Wildlife Management (NWMB or Board) wrote to you all on May 1st 2012, regarding the NWMB's public hearing to establishment of the basic needs level of beluga, narwhal and walrus to take place on September 11th and 12th in Iqaluit. That correspondence invited written, translated initial submissions to be filed by no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 31st 2012. It also indicated that –unless persuasive reasons were provided to the Board for late filing –the NWMB would not consider materials during the hearing that were not filed on time.

The Government of Nunavut (GN) subsequently filed an initial late submission that NWMB received on July 3rd 2012, with an accompanying explanation for the late filing.

The delivery of written submissions within a particular time frame is an important requirement of the NWMB hearing process. Although it is clearly necessary from an administrative perspective to facilitate the Board's efforts to run a timely and efficient hearing, the primary value of meeting filing deadlines is to ensure fairness to all parties.

In order to meet the highest standards of procedural and substantive fairness in its hearings, the NWMB is of the view that other parties require an opportunity to consider whether the late filing of a submission is unfair to them, to be able to raise any objections, and – if there are objections – to set out recommended measures to fairly address any resulting prejudice to them.

In the case of this particular hearing, the NWMB has committed to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada to provide its decisions and recommendations on the establishment of basic needs level of beluga, narwhal and walrus, following the public hearing dates of September 11th and 12th 2012.

Accordingly, the NWMB has decided to proceed as follows: attach a copy of the late GN letter and its submission to this letter for your review. If you have any objections to the late filing, the Board requests that you provide a written response with reasons – in English and Inuktitut – as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on August 6th 2012. The NWMB further requests that your response set out recommended measures to fairly address any resulting prejudice to you. The Board will take into account that the short timeline may require a party to submit a less detailed response than it would otherwise have done.

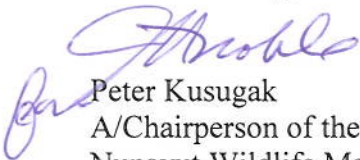
Responses may be filed with the Board in person, by courier or by mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the NWMB hearing on the establishment of the basic needs level of beluga, narwhal and walrus. Delivery of the responses may also be made through fax or electronic transmission, but only if you or your organization confirms by phone with the NWMB –by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on August 6th 2012 –that a complete and legible copy of the transmission has been received by the Board. Responses are deemed to have been filed on the actual day of receipt by the NWMB. The Board recommends that a copy of any response filed with the NWMB be delivered, at the same time, to all hearing parties.

To deliver responses, or if you have questions regarding this letter, or if you require further information concerning the NWMB public hearing, the NWMB may be contacted at the following coordinates:

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

1106 Iqaluktuutiak Drive, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0
Phone: 867-975-7300
Fax: 1-888-421-9832
E-Mail: receptionist@nwmb.com

Yours sincerely,


Peter Kusugak
A/Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Attachments (3)

- cc. Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;
Bert Dean, Senior Policy Advisor, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;
Keith Pelley, A/Eastern Arctic Director, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Kathy Fisher, Division Manager, Resource Management and Aboriginal Affairs,
Fisheries and Oceans Canada;
David Akeegok, Deputy Minister, Nunavut Department of Environment;
Wayne Lynch, Director of Fisheries and Sealing, Nunavut Department of
Environment;
Stas Oplinski, Science and Policy Advisor, Makivik Corporation;
Johnny Oovaut, Chairperson, Nunavik marine Regional Wildlife Board; and
Mark O'Connor, Director of Wildlife Management, Nunavik Marine Regional
Wildlife Board.