



10 June 2014

Mr. Jim Noble
Executive Director
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
P.O. Box 1379
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Re: Meeting of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporation and Government of Nunavut – Southampton Island Caribou Public Hearing.

In response to the Board's May 28 request, representatives of the GN and NTI met for the morning of June 6 to report to the Board by June 10 on the additional BNL-related evidence that each party will bring forward in the Board's fall public hearing. The parties also took the opportunity to discuss and try to reach an understanding regarding how the current TAH is being enforced.

For the Board's information, attached are copies of NTI's letter proposing the meeting, NTI's proposed agenda, and the fact-sheet that NTI assembled for assistance in discussing the BNL issue.

Meeting summary

NTI understood initially that the GN would be reporting on the results of the meeting. NTI welcomes any comments that the GN wishes to provide on this summary.

1. TAH

The GN informed NTI that

- compliance with the current TAH of 1000 is good, and monitoring and enforcement is proceeding better than the GN had anticipated; and
- the reported export of 17,000 lbs of caribou meat over two months in early 2014 is not considered a conservation concern. (The government calculates that this amounts to approximately 200 caribou.)

There was a constructive discussion of the sensitivities involved in encouraging community reporting of any violations of household allocations, and how this might be handled in future.

The GN also informed NTI that the government plans to replace the current interim TAH order with a new interim order of up to one year's duration, reducing the TAH to 800. The order would be intended to come into effect in July 2014 . The government likely will make the necessary decision on June 11. In response, NTI's representatives informed the GN that

- in NTI's view, the "urgent and unusual circumstances" required by the NLCA in order to give the Minister jurisdiction to issue a further, more restrictive order without working through the NWMB are not present here, and
- NTI's representatives do not anticipate that NTI would plan to take any immediate legal action in relation to such an order.

2. BNL

The GN indicated that it is not prepared at this time to indicate agreement as to facts, and that the GN's views on the facts listed in NTI's fact-sheet would be indicated in the GN's next written submission, due June 27, 2014.

The meeting participants discussed most of the facts listed in the fact-sheet and exchanged comments and questions for clarification. In the course of this discussion, the GN indicated that the GN's next written submission likely will include a copy of one or more "commercial wildlife licenses" relied on by the government to authorize the harvesting of Southampton Island caribou for sale to the Rankin Inlet meat plant, as well as a copy of one or more proposals for such a licence. (NTI invites the GN to add detail to this part of the meeting summary regarding the GN's explanations of its assumptions and views on the facts listed in the fact sheet. In light of the GN's statement that the GN does not intend to commit to such matters prior to filing its June 27 submission, NTI has refrained from summarizing any further discussions.)

NTI follow-up comments

1. TAH

While the GN appears to be consulting with the Coral Harbour HTO about reducing the current TAH level by interim order in July 2014, NTI wishes to confirm that NTI has not been consulted either by the NWMB or the GN regarding this response to the Board's adjournment of the hearing session that had been scheduled for June 3-4, 2014.

NTI does not waive any legal rights, nor would it advise the Coral Harbour HTO or local Inuit harvesters to waive any legal rights, regarding the GN's proposal to issue such an order in the present circumstances.

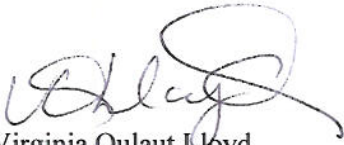
2. BNL

NTI asks the GN to ensure that, at minimum, the GN particulars and supporting evidence provided in the GN's next submission to the Board answer the questions or confirm the assumptions stated in the attached fact sheet, in connection with each fact listed. If necessary, NTI is prepared to meet with the GN after June 27 to complete this or a similar revised document, in the mutual interests of NTI and the GN and for the Board's further assistance.

In the meantime, the attached version of the fact sheet that NTI has assembled indicates for the Board and the GN the positions that NTI would expect to take at the hearing respecting such key facts, if the GN did not provide further particulars and evidence beforehand.

Because NTI has provided all the written evidence it can anticipate needing to provide the Board respecting the BNL issue, and has submitted all the written argument it can anticipate needing to submit, NTI does not plan to make any further written submissions by June 27. NTI does request of the Board, however, an opportunity to reply to the GN's next submission in writing by July 15. Such a reply would not restate previous NTI submissions. NTI would not object to the GN responding in writing to NTI's reply, provided that this occurs a reasonable time before the hearing opens.

In closing, NTI assures the Board and the GN that NTI remains committed to making NTI's best efforts to work with the GN in the coming months to narrow and clarify any contested issues relating to the BNL that the Board will have to decide following the fall 2014 public hearing. In view of the significant financial and human resources that already have been expended on this issue, and the lengthy time the GN has been given to prepare its case, NTI considers it critical to the integrity of the NLCA co-management process that the Board make its initial decision on the BNL for Southampton Caribou in the fall of 2014.



Virginia Qulaut Lloyd
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Cc
Steve Pinksen – Acting Deputy Minister – Department of Environment