

November 1, 2013

Darrell Christie
Environmental Impact Screening Coordinator
Environmental Impact Screening Committee
PO Box 2120
Inuvik, NT
XOE OTO

By Email: eisc@jointsec.nt.ca

RE: EISC 09-13-01 Beaufort Sea Joint Venture Exploration Drilling Program

Onshore support facilities:

The project description for this above-captioned development indicates that several onshore facilities may be constructed or upgraded in Tuktoyaktuk. The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre requests that the proponent keep us advised of the locations and design of onshore facilities. If any new ground disturbance is anticipated, a pre-development archaeological impact assessment may be required. We also note that dredging operations in near-shore contexts in the Beaufort Sea region of the NWT often recover Pleistocene paleontological remains. If dredging operations are required in the Tuktoyaktuk Harbor, we recommend that the proponent plan to monitor back dirt for the presence of Pleistocene fossils.

Oil spill response:

Oil spill response strategies for the exploration drilling program should include coastal archaeological sites as sensitive areas. In a scenario in which an oil spill impacts coastal landscapes, archaeological site protection should be a factor in the design of spill response strategies.

Sincerely,

Glen MacKay
Assessment Archaeologist
Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre