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Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik
Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee

May 18, 2018

Robert Sauvé
President and Chief Executive Officer
Société du Plan Nord
900 René-Lévesque Blvd. East, Suite 720
Quebec City QC
G1R 2B5

Subject: Follow-up to our December meeting

Dear Sir:

The Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee (KEAC) would like to thank you for your presentation on December 5, 2017. Following up on your presentation, the KEAC identified a number of issues to be addressed to you. First, the KEAC welcomes the Québec-government initiative to withdraw 50% of the Plan Nord territory from industrial development in order to ensure environmental protection and safeguard biodiversity, as well as the continued planning and creation of protected areas. The KEAC was also pleased to learn about recent steps to create the Kovic River aquatic reserve.

The KEAC furthermore recognizes the goal of the Société du Plan Nord (SPN) to fund research, improve infrastructure and develop strategies for renewable energy and residual materials management. With regards to the latter, Action 26 of the SPN *Sustainable Development Action Plan* states that the SPN will facilitate reduction of the use of landfills and waste burning in remote communities and industrial projects. One sector of activity that is of major concern to the KEAC is residual materials management in Nunavik. As you may be aware, in 2015 the *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan* was confirmed compliant with government policy by the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MDDELCC). The Management Plan sets out a series of projects aimed at facilitating precisely what is stated in the SPN Action Plan. The findings of a study carried out by the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi entitled *Techniques de gestion des matières résiduelles adaptées au milieu Nordiques* (2017) also corroborates the projects. Notwithstanding, projects under the *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan* aimed in particular at reducing dependence on the open-air burning of residual materials and optimizing the use of landfills have yet to be initiated due to inadequate financial resources and support from either the provincial or federal governments. Further to recent communications with the MDDELCC, a decision was made –in part by the SPN, as we understand it– to reactivate the working group on residual materials in Nunavik. The working group will permit the KEAC to express its concerns. The KEAC is looking forward to this opportunity to collaborate with the SPN on this important issue.

Finally, the KEAC is aware of the continued discussions between the SPN, the Kativik Regional Government and the Northern Village of Kuujuaq concerning the proposed commercial greenhouse project. As transparency is important to the KEAC, it hopes to establish open dialogue on this matter and regarding all other development projects that fall under the KEAC mandate which is to ensure meaningful consultation and information sharing between concerned

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regional and local entities. Such dialogue is in line with the sustainable development approach advocated by the SPN involving integration of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development projects in the North.

Thank you for your attention to the above-mentioned concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexandre-Guy Côté". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and 'G'.

Alexandre-Guy Côté
Chairperson