



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY
4555 OVERLOOK AVE SW
WASHINGTON DC 20375-5320

5 November 2010

Norwegian Institute for Air Research

Cathrine Lund Myhre
Department of Atmospheric and Climate Research
P.O. Box 100
N-2027 KJELLER

Partnership in the project THAW: “Trends and Hazards in Arctic Warming: Climate change and greenhouse gas emissions from Arctic permafrost regions”

Dear Dr. Lund Myhre,

Thank you for the invitation to participate as a partner in the proposed project **THAW** coordinated by Norwegian Institute for Air Research. I gladly accept this invitation and I am looking forward to collaboration in the project and particularly in work package WP2.

I believe that this action will assist in development of research plans with you and Dr. Georgy Cherkashov for future planning climate change research in the Kara Sea. My contribution to the future efforts will include sharing the ship time cost and providing on board coring and sediment porewater analysis to assist in understanding spatial variation in deep sediment and permafrost methane and the contribution of methane to shallow sediment and water column carbon cycling. I believe the expertise that we are combining between the different research facilities will provide exceptional capability to study climate change and conduct methane hydrate energy exploration. We are also willing to help ^{14}C analyses for selected samples collected from gas hydrates, the sediment or the water column.

Please contact me if future information is needed about my support and contribution to this program. Thank you for the opportunity to confirm my becoming an official member of this research effort.

We confirm that we will participate as a partner in the THAW project without being a contractor.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RBC" followed by a stylized flourish.

Richard B. Coffin, Ph. D.
Section Head Code 6114
Marine Biogeochemistry