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## November 17, 2014 article - Naval facility receives its water license

1 message

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To: editorial@nnsi.com

Thu, Nov 20, 2014 at 4:52 PM

Dear Editor,

When reviewing the article referenced above it came to our attention that several points were inaccurate and would benefit from correction or clarification. The opening statement of the article is as follows:

*"Despite concerns about a risk of dredging up environmentally dangerous zinc waste deposits and getting in the way of the CanZinco mine cleanup, the Nunavut Water Board has said the Department of National Defence (DND) can go ahead with plans for the Nanisivik Naval Facility"*

### Clarification

The application by DND specifically stated that there would be no dredging work. A copy of the Application is attached and it is also available on the NWB's ftp site. On page 5 of the Application, the DND stated that, *"The existing Wharf structure will be used, as is, with very minor improvements to maintain or improve its functionality. As such, very little work will be carried out in or near the water and there will be no dredging or pile driving"*

The water licence issued to the DND (8BC-NNF1418) does contain a provision dealing with dredging. A copy of the licence is attached, and is also available on the NWB's ftp site. Specifically, part D, paragraph 6 of the licence includes the condition that, *"The Licensee shall not dispose of any dredged material generated by Project on to land, in freshwater or within thirty one (31) metres from the ordinary High Water Mark of any Water body."* The NWB does not have authority over any marine environment and so cannot put conditions on any dredging activity in marine waters. The article inaccurately suggests that the NWB has ignored a risk that it had authority to address. The Application by DND does not include dredging work.

While the second paragraph of the article quotes from the July 25, 2014 letter from Mr. Skogland of Nyrstar (on behalf of CanZinco Mines Ltd.), it does not include reference to other relevant information available on the NWB public registry. CanZinco Mines Ltd. applied to the NWB for a renewal of its Type A water licence (1AR-NAN0914) for the continued post-closure work on the former Nanisivik mine site. The Public Hearing into that application was held in Arctic Bay on October 8 and 9, 2014. The NWB Panel is in the process of deliberations and it is anticipated that Panel decision on CanZinco's renewal application will be issued in the near future.

The land on which the Nanisivik Naval Facility and the former CanZinco mine site are located is administered by the DFO. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was provided to the NWB as evidence on how the DND's development of the Nanisivik Naval Facility could proceed at the same time as CanZinco continued its work on the former mine site

One of the exhibits put into evidence at the Public Hearing for the Nanisivik Mine water licence renewal (Exhibit 22) was a copy of the MOA between CanZinco and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). A copy of that Exhibit is attached for ease of reference (the schedules to the MOA are available on the NWB's ftp website). The MOA was

