



AANDC reference  
CIDM# 705492

August 16, 2013

NWB reference  
1BR-BEA1015

Phyllis Beaulieu  
Licencing Administrator  
Nunavut Water Board  
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0E 1J0

**Re: 1BR-BEA1015 – Bear Island Contaminated Site Remediation – Natalie Plato,  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – Contaminated Sites – Qikiqtani  
Region – Licence Cancellation**

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Dear Ms. Beaulieu,

Thank you for your email on July 16, 2013, concerning the above mentioned water licence cancellation application.

A memorandum is provided for the Board's consideration. Comments have been provided pursuant to the Department's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 867-975-4566 or email at [Bradley.Summerfield@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca](mailto:Bradley.Summerfield@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca) for further comments or any questions.

Sincerely,

Bradley Summerfield  
Water Resource Technician  
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
P.O. Box 100  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

c.c.: Murray Ball, Manager of Water Resources, AANDC  
Ian Parsons, Water Resources Regional Coordinator, AANDC  
Erik Allain, Manager of Field Operations, AANDC



## Memorandum

<b>TO</b>	Phyllis Beaulieu Manager of Licencing Nunavut Water Board	AANDC reference CIDM# 705492  NWB reference 1BR-BEA1015
<b>FROM</b>	Bradley Summerfield Water Resources Technician Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada	DATE August 16, 2013

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### A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On July 16, 2013 the Nunavut Water Board provided notification to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) that Natalie Plato, on behalf of AANDC (formerly Indian and Northern Affairs Canada) had submitted a Cancellation application for a Type B water licence, No. 1BR-BEA1015. The submitted information is as follows:

1. Letter to NWB Cover Letter Application
2. Appendix 1 – Remediation Completion Report
3. Appendix 2 – AANDC Inspector Re Closure
4. Application for Water Licence Cancellation
5. Signed Application

Bear Island is approximately 5 km long, north to south, by 1.5 km wide. It is a low lying black basalt outcrop covered with small lakes and ponds which were created by glacial scouring. Two Doppler radar stations operated on Bear Island from the 1950s to 1965 as part of the former Mid-Canada Early Warning Line. They were abandoned in 1965 without any cleanup operations although the majority of the buildings were removed to their foundations. The environmental issues at Bear Island included former



landfills and site buildings as well as abandoned hazardous materials (lead acid batteries, petroleum products, asbestos) barrels, and scrap metal.

During 2010 remedial work began and was mostly completed at the site. In 2011 the remaining clean-up and demobilization activities were completed.

The licence expires on May 1, 2015 with the application for cancellation submitted to the NWB on May 31, 2013.

Interested parties were requested to review the information and provide comments by August 16, 2013.

## **B. RESULTS OF REVIEW**

On behalf of AANDC, the following comments/ recommendations are submitted to the Nunavut Water Board for consideration:

### **1. Application For Water Licence Cancellation**

- AANDC notes that as stated in the licence Part K: Conditions Applying to the Monitoring Program “The Licensee shall submit to the Board for approval by March 31, 2012, a Post-Closure Monitoring Plan for the site that includes the long term monitoring of Waste Disposal Facilities addressing water quality monitoring, stability and the requirement for thermal monitoring and ground water monitoring.” It is understood that this is no longer required as all of the project waste was removed from the site. However AANDC recommends that the proponent submit to the NWB documentation regarding the removal of all wastes from the site before a cancellation determination is made.
- Once the NWB has absolved the licensee from their obligations described in Part K of the Licence 1BR-BEA1015, AANDC finds the cancellation application complete and recommends that the licence not be cancelled until a Water Resource Officer completes an on-site inspection and provides confirmation that no compliance issues are associated and/or remain outstanding with the project.