

Environmental Protection Branch,
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Our File: 4517 000 003

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April 23, 2001

Rita Becker
Licensing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

By Facsimile: (867) 360-6369

Dear Ms. Becker,

Re: NWB5QIK Application for the Clean-up of Fox 5 Dew Line Site

Background:

The Hamlet of Qikiqtarjuaq has approved the development permit QADP-02-01, for the above stated project as indicated in a letter dated July 23, 2001. Attached to the permit were special conditions. The Nunavut Water Board indicated in a letter dated August 10, 2001 that there were outstanding public concerns with some of the components of the project, specifically, water drainage in and around the proposed landfill sites, as well as concerns regarding stand-alone water/sewage services for the construction camp. On the basis of these concerns, the NWB has scheduled a public hearing for May 8, 2002.

The applicant has indicated that they will engineer new landfills for the disposal of non-hazardous wastes and demolition/site debris and scattered debris collected during site clean-up. All hazardous material will be shipped off site for disposal. Along with the landfill, the applicant indicates that they will construct a Tier II soil disposal facility for the disposal of Tier II contaminated soils.

Comments:

Environment Canada has reviewed the documents relevant to this project. The applicant, Defence Construction Canada, has proposed appropriate methods of construction of the landfill and Tier II soil disposal facility for the long term containment of waste and contaminated soils in the arctic environment. Recognizing that there are risks associated with engineered projects such as these, Environment Canada recommends that a long-term monitoring program be developed and implemented and that appropriate mitigation measures be identified in a contingency plan.

Environment Canada provides specialist advice based primarily on its mandated responsibilities under Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Canadian Environmental*

Protection Act (CEPA) and the Migratory Birds Convention Act. Environment Canada will not be intervening at the upcoming public hearing.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4733 with any questions or comments regarding the foregoing.

Sincerely,

Stephen Harbicht,
Head of Assessment and Monitoring

cc: Paula Pacholek, Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator
Ed Collins, Head of Environmental Engineering