

Environmental Assessment North  
Environmental Protection Operations (EPO)  
Qimugjuk Building 969 P.O. Box 1870  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0  
Tel: (867) 975-4631  
Fax: (867) 975-4645

22 July 2011

EC File: 4511 055 T004  
NWB File: 1BR-RBL----

Phyllis Beaulieu  
Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Via email: [licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)

**RE: 1BR-RBL---- Resolute Bay Landfills new water licence application**

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the information regarding the above-mentioned water license application, as submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Transport Canada is applying to the NWB for a Type B water license to support remediation activities at two historic landfills and two metal dumps adjacent to the Resolute Bay airport, approximately 5 km northeast of the hamlet of Resolute Bay. Past activities for transportation, communications and administration in the Arctic and the hamlet have resulted in the generation of solid waste. No water use will be associated with this license. Project activities are proposed to occur between July 2011 and September 2016 and include the consolidation and transport of garbage, and off-site recycling of selected metal debris.

**General**

- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of chemicals, sediment, wastes, or fuels associated with the project into any water body. According to the *Fisheries Act*, Section 36 (3), the deposition of deleterious substances of any type in water frequented by fish, or in any place under any conditions where the deleterious substance, or any deleterious substance that results from the deposit of the deleterious substance, may enter any such water, is prohibited.

**Spill Contingency Plan**

- EC's contact information can be included in Section 1.0 Part i: Environment Canada Enforcement Officer (867) 975-4644.
- Refuelling shall not take place below the high water mark of any water body and shall be done in such a manner as to prevent any hydrocarbons from entering any water body frequented by fish. EC recommends that drip pans, or other similar preventative measures, should be used when refuelling equipment.
- Spills are to be documented and reported to the NWT/NU 24 hour Spill Line at (867)920-8130. EC recommends that all releases of harmful substances, regardless of quantity, are immediately reported where the release:

- is near or into a water body;
- is near or into a designated sensitive environment or sensitive wildlife habitat;
- poses an imminent threat to human health or safety; or,
- poses an imminent threat to a listed species at risk or its critical habitat.

### **Wildlife and Species at Risk**

- Section 6 (a) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* states that no one shall disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of migratory birds. If active nests are encountered during project activities, the nesting area should be avoided until nesting is complete (i.e., the young have left the vicinity of the nest). In the northern Arctic region of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, migratory birds may be found incubating eggs from May 31 until August 4, and young birds can be present in the nest until August 28.
- EC recommends that food, domestic wastes, and petroleum-based chemicals (e.g., greases, gasoline, and glycol-based antifreeze) be made inaccessible to wildlife at all times. Such items can attract predators of migratory birds such as foxes, ravens, gulls, and bears. Although these animals may initially be attracted to the novel food sources, they often will also eat eggs and young birds in the area. These predators can have significant negative effects on the local bird populations.
- All mitigation measures identified by the proponent, and the additional measures suggested herein, should be strictly adhered to in conducting project activities. This will require awareness on the part of the proponents' representatives (including contractors) conducting operations in the field. Environment Canada recommends that all field operations staff be made aware of the proponents' commitments to these mitigation measures and provided with appropriate advice / training on how to implement these measures.
- Implementation of these measures may help to reduce or eliminate some effects of the project on migratory birds and Species at Risk, but will not necessarily ensure that the proponent remains in compliance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, *Migratory Birds Regulations*, and the *Species at Risk Act*. The proponent must ensure they remain in compliance during all phases and in all undertakings related to the project.

If there are any changes in operations EC should be notified as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email at [Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca)

Yours truly,



Paula C. Smith  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, EC, Yellowknife, NT)  
Ron Bujold (Environmental Assessment Technician, EPO, EC, Yellowknife, NT)  
Allison Dunn (Sr. Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPO, EC, Iqaluit, NU)