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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD  
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI  
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File No.: 1BR-STU1318/TR/D2

October 4, 2013

Natalie Plato, Director  
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**RE: Licence No. 1BR-STU1318, Type “B”; Application by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada for Authorization to Open Burn Untreated and Unpainted Wood Material at the Sturt Point (CAM-A) DEW Line Site Remediation Project.**

Dear Ms. Plato and Mr. Morakinyo:

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) received on September 11, 2013 from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) or the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (DIAND) an application in support of AANDC’s proposed plan to open-burn untreated and unpainted wood material generated from field activities associated with the Sturt Point (CAM-A) Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line Site Remediation Project, located approximately 80 kilometres east of Cambridge Bay, within the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut. The request is consistent with the requirements under Part D, Item 2 of the terms and conditions in Licence 1BR-STU1318.

On September 13, 2013, the NWB acknowledged receipt and distributed the application publicly for a fourteen-day (14) review period following which comments<sup>1</sup> were received from four intervening parties. The intervening parties in their submissions generally indicated that any authorization issued for the proposed activity should limit the materials being open burned

<sup>1</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), September 26, 2013; Environment Canada (EC), September 27, 2013; and Fisheries and Ocean Canada (DFO), September 23, 2013 and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), September 23, 2013.

to unpainted, untreated and uncontaminated wood and that the residual waste generated from the proposed activity should be disposed of at an appropriate waste disposal facility.

Following a review of the application, terms and conditions in the Licence, and interveners' submissions, the NWB is satisfied that the proposed activity is unlikely to directly or indirectly impact the freshwater receiving environment or contravene s.12.1(a) and or (b) of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*. The NWB has therefore approved, under **Motion Number 2013-B1-040**, AANDC's request for the one-time and controlled open-burning of the material described in AANDC's September 11, 2013 correspondence to the Board. The authorized activity is allowed to be undertaken during the period of **October 4 to the 31, 2013**.

To assist the Licensee in ensuring that minimum standards are maintained, the NWB has included, under **Appendix A**, a summary of general practices to be adhered to when conducting the specific activity allowed under this authorization. Further, the Licensee must abide by the terms and conditions in Licence 1BR-STU1318 as well as applicable guidelines<sup>2</sup> and regulations.

The Licensee is required to provide as part of its annual report for Licence 1BR-STU1318 the results of all tests conducted to determine the chemical properties of the residual waste generated by the authorized activity and the disposal method implemented for managing such waste.

Should you have any questions related to the above-referenced authorization, please contact the NWB's Licensing Department at (867) 360-6338 at or by email to [licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org).

Sincerely,



Thomas Kabloona  
Nunavut Water Board  
Chair

TK/sj/ri

Enclosure: Comments – AANDC, DFO, EC, KIA

Cc: Distribution List – Kitikmeot Region

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<sup>2</sup> Environment Canada's 'EC's Open Burning of Garbage Brochure' (2010); and Government of Nunavut's 'Environmental Guidelines for Burning and Incineration of Solid Waste' (2010)

## APPENDIX A – PRACTICES FOR OPEN BURNING

The NWB highlights several key items of this approval for carrying out of the activities, which include:

- a. The Licensee shall follow the Government of Nunavut’s policy on the open burning of segregated wastes, and shall not allow the open burning of plastics, wood treated with preservatives, electrical wire, Styrofoam, asbestos or painted wood;
- b. Solid wastes that are conditionally suitable for open burning are paper products, paperboard packaging and untreated wood wastes only;
- c. Wood and other acceptable products will be kept as dry as possible before and during burning;
- d. The size of the burn pile will be minimized, and a “**hot burn**” maintained to create an efficient burn using consistent/constant feed rates to avoid over-feeding and damping the fire;
- e. Burning will only be undertaken during favorable weather conditions (i.e. will not be undertaken during periods of extreme wind or during wet rain conditions);
- f. Fires will be completely extinguished to ensure that any smoldering of material does not persist;
- g. The Burn pits are to be located on appropriate surfaces (bedrock, gravel or sand) and in areas such that impacts to surface water and groundwater drainage do not occur;
- h. The Burn pits are constructed, operated and maintained so that any materials to be disposed of are contained during the process, including ashes;
- i. Any residual waste and ashes be collected and disposed of in an appropriate, approved facility; and
- j. Surface water runoff from the Burn pit areas shall be managed to prevent any direct or indirect flow into a water body and that no additional impacts to water are created.