



Environment Canada **Environnement Canada**

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12 January 2006

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Via Email

**Re: NWB4SOU0305 – Coral Harbour Development Corporation – Southampton Island
Commercial Caribou Harvest Project - Renewal**

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the above mentioned application. The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to Environment Canada's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

The Coral Harbour Development Corporation (CHDC) is applying for a licence renewal to permit water use and waste disposal associated with the harvesting and camp operations of the Southampton Island Commercial Caribou Harvest Project. This project has occurred annually since 1995 in the months of February and March, and is expected to provide 60 direct employment opportunities in the upcoming harvest season. The Hunters and Trappers Organization has been advised by the Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment that it can harvest up to 4,000 caribou in 2006.

The proponent will establish a temporary camp approximately 30 km from Coral Harbour, having a coordinate of 64°16'N, 83°26'W. This camp will be equipped with a kitchen, bathroom facilities, and sleeping quarters. An unnamed lake which drains into the Kichoffer River will supply the project's freshwater needs, which will not exceed 2,000 L a day. Sewage will be collected in honey bags and delivered to an approved waste disposal site. Gray water will be discharged in an area at least 30 m from any water body and be disposed of in such a manner that prevents the possibility of flowing directly into any nearby water bodies. All solid waste will be delivered to an approved waste disposal site on a bi-weekly basis, or more often if necessary. Non-edible portions of the harvested caribou will be transported to Coral Harbour's community dump for proper disposal. Waste oil will be contained and delivered to an approved hazardous waste disposal facility.

A fuel cache of twenty barrels of heating oil (20 x 55 gallons) and 500 gallons of gasoline will be established in an area at least 50 m from any open body of water and 100 m from the camp. The barrels will be mounted on wooden pallets and the gasoline will be stored in a steel container supported by a stand above a plywood sheet. The wooden pallets and plywood sheet will be lined with a heavy plastic material to prevent soil contamination resulting from fuel spills. Should a fuel spill occur, the proponent will notify the 24-hour spill report line at (867) 920-8130. A Resource Team responsible for dealing with fuel spills is listed in the Spill Contingency Plan and



the contact numbers for its members are provided (e.g., site manager, lead hand, and volunteer fire department).

Environment Canada recommends that the content and locations of emergency spill response kits be provided in the spill contingency plan.

It is advised that the heavy plastic liner positioned underneath the fuel caches be designed such that they have the capacity of containing all heating oil and gasoline quantities should a major fuel spill occur.

The Spill Contingency Plan should provide spill response procedures for project personnel to follow in the event of a spill. The proponent must be prepared for spills which may occur on snow and ice, and any other environmental conditions relevant to this project (e.g., open water and tundra). Having detailed spill response procedures will demonstrate that the proponent is well prepared and capable of responding to hazardous material spills. Therefore, it is advised that the proponent revise its Spill Contingency Plan accordingly.

Environment Canada recommends that the proponent discharge its gray water into a sump(s) located above the high water mark of any water body. The sump(s) shall be backfilled upon completion of the field season and contoured to match the surrounding landscape.

Environment Canada recommends that the following conditions be applied throughout all stages of the project:

GENERAL

- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of any fuel, chemicals, wastes, or sediment 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 other deleterious substance that results from the deposit of the deleterious substance, may enter any such water is prohibited.
- The proponent shall not store materials on the surface ice of lakes or streams, except that which is for immediate use.
- Any sumps shall be located above the high water mark of any waterbody and in such a manner as to prevent the contents from entering any waterbody frequented by fish. Further, all sumps shall be backfilled upon completion of the field season and contoured to match the surrounding landscape.

FUEL STORAGE / SPILL CONTINGENCY / HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- All fuel caches shall be located above the high water mark of any water body.
- Drip pans, or other similar preventative measures, shall be used when refueling equipment on site.

If there are any changes in the proposed project, EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email via david.abernethy@ec.gc.ca.

Regards,

David W. Abernethy
Environmental Assessment Technician

Cc: Colette Spagnuolo (Environmental Assessment and Contaminated Sites Specialist)