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Via Email

RE: NWB2KIR – Triex Minerals Corp. – Kirwan Lake Project – New – Type ‘B’

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the information submitted with 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*.

Triex Minerals Corporation has applied for a multi-year water licence which permits water use and waste disposal associated with camp operations at their Kirwan Lake Project. The proposed time schedule for the water licence is 1 August 2005 to 1 August 2007. The project's 2005 program will be carried out from August to late September; the 2006 program will begin in early April and end in mid-September. The proponent intends to analyse Crown Lands which surround Mountain Lake and Dismal Lake for economically viable uranium deposits. A temporary remote camp will be established on the western shore of Kirwan Lake pending the approval of the Nunavut Water Board (coordinates: 67.18° to 67.33°N, 116.53° to 117.00°W). This remote camp will accommodate an average of 18 people (maximum of 22) throughout the 2005 program and will likely be modified to house 30-35 people during the project's 2006 program.

Triex Minerals Corporation intends to perform a phased approach in its exploration of the Mountain Lake and Dismal Lake areas. Mountain Lake's 2005 program will consist of an airborne MEGATEM survey and the establishment of Kirwan Lake temporary camp. In 2006, two diamond drill rigs will be put into operation, drilling approximately 10,000 m in the Mountain Lake area. The Kirwan Lake camp will be expanded to accommodate employees during the project's peak drilling period.

The Dismal Lake area crosses the Nunavut/Northwest Territories border. Four test-lines will be flown as part of the airborne MEGATEM survey in the 2005 program. Ground boulder-prospecting and field surveys will be conducted in conjunction with the airborne



survey. Plans for 2006 include a focused follow-up of the 2005 exploration season results. It is anticipated that a small drill program will be established for analysing identified targets.

A total of five spill kits will be employed in the Kirwan Lake project. One will be kept at the temporary camp and the remaining spill kits will be placed at each of the four proposed fuel cache locations. Triex Minerals Corporation has submitted a spill contingency plan which provides a chain of command to follow in the event of a fuel spill, necessary clean-up procedures for fuel spills on different media (i.e., land, muskeg, water, rivers and streams, and ice and snow), a listing of spill kit contents, hazardous substance MSDS information sheets, and an anticipated product inventory.

The fuel products and their corresponding volumes are as follows:

DIESEL: 40 x 205 L drums

GASOLINE: 205 L drum

AVIATION FUEL: 31 x 205 L drums

PROPANE: 13 x 100 LB tanks

The proponent anticipates that 5 m³ of fresh water will be consumed on a daily basis from Kirwan Lake for domestic uses at the temporary camp. As far as waste water is concerned, 0.02 m³ of sewage and 3 m³ of gray water will be produced each day throughout the project's 2005 program. All sumps will be located at a minimum of 31 metres from the normal high water mark of any water body.

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.

CAMPS

- The proponent shall not store materials on the surface ice of lakes or streams, except that which is for immediate use.
- EC recommends the use of an approved incinerator for the disposal of combustible camp wastes.
- All sumps shall be backfilled upon completion of the field season and contoured to match the surrounding landscape.



FUEL STORAGE/SPILL CONTINGENCY/HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- EC recommends the use of secondary containment, such as self-supporting insta-berms, when storing barrelled fuel on location rather than relying on natural depressions.
- The proponent shall ensure that any hazardous materials, including waste oil, receive proper treatment and disposal at an approved facility.
- Drip pans, or other similar preventative measures, shall be used when refuelling equipment on site.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

- EC recommends that all activities be conducted outside the migratory bird breeding season, which extends from approximately 1 June to 15 July. These dates are approximate, and if active nests (i.e., nests containing eggs or young) are encountered outside of these dates, the proponent should avoid the area until nesting is complete (i.e., the young have left the nest). Paragraph 6(a) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* states that no one shall disturb or destroy the nests of migratory birds.
- In order to mitigate potential effects and minimize disturbance, any aircraft used in conducting project activities should maintain a horizontal distance of 2 km and a vertical distance of 610 m from any observed groups (colonies) of migratory birds."

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