



**Environment Environnement
Canada Canada**

Environmental Protection Operations
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21 May 2010

EC file: 4703 001 071
NWB file: 2BE-MSX0712

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

Via email: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

RE: 2BE-MSX0712 Request for Open Burning

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 the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Aurora Geosciences on behalf of Silvermet Inc. has requested approval from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) for contained, open burning at the Muskox field camp under the water license 2BE-MSX0712. The site is located at 66°59.2'N and 114°54'W. The camp consists of eleven plywood and wood structures and Aurora Geosciences is requesting the allowance of open burning to dispose of these existing wood structures on site.

EC does not encourage the open burning of waste wood as a means of disposal and provides the following comments and recommendations for the NWB's consideration:

- EC recommends the use of an approved incinerator for the disposal of combustible camp wastes. EC has developed a Technical Document for Batch Waste Incineration, and is available at the following web link:
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/gdd-mw/default.asp?lang=En&n=F53EDE13-1>
The technical document provides information on appropriate incineration technologies, best management and operational practices, monitoring and reporting.
- Solid wastes that are conditionally suitable for open burning are paper products, paperboard packaging and untreated wood. Plywood, painted wood or other treated wood should not be disposed of in an open pit.
- EC recommends that all non-combustible associated structure waste (i.e., plastics, tar paper, floor coverings, shingles, insulation, wiring, and tents) be thoroughly removed prior to burning
- EC recommends that all residual waste from the burning (i.e. nails and coals) be thoroughly collected, removed from site, and disposed of at a suitable facility.

Comments previously submitted on behalf of EC by R. Bujold on 8 June 2007 would still apply to this project (as attached). 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 with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email at Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'PS' followed by a stylized flourish.

Paula C. Smith
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)
Ron Bujold (Environmental Assessment Technician, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)