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Mr. Philippe di Pizzo
Executive Director
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut
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MAY 24 2005

Public Registry

May 20, 2005

Re: **Type B Water License Application for the North 40 Gravel Pit**

Dear Mr. di Pizzo

The following letter is written to accompany the attached Type B Water License Application for the North 40 Gravel Pit. On May 16, 2005 the City submitted a request to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) requesting a separate water license be issued for the North 40.

Background

The North 40 gravel pit is the only source of granular material for the City of Iqaluit. This Site has operated without a water license since at least 2000. Historical usage of the site has included waste disposal by Federal, Territorial, and Municipal Governments. Much of the waste historically placed at the Site remains today. The ongoing incompatible usage of the Site as a granular source and a waste disposal site has resulted in regulator concern regarding the environmental suitability of the granular material being extracted from the Site and used in the City.

Currently there are a large number of significant projects scheduled to proceed to construction during the summer of 2005. These include:

- Water and sewer servicing to lower base;
- A new hospital;
- A new justice center;
- A new apartment building;
- Construction of a new subdivision.

Each of these projects is dependant on a supply of granular material whether for road construction, fill or concrete.



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North 40 Type B Water License Application

Current Request

Attached is our application for a Type B Water License. Attached to the application is a Granular Procedure Manual which has been prepared for the North 40 and is discussed further below.

In the opinion of the City and the Government of Nunavut the request for this Water License is urgent in order to allow construction to proceed in 2005. As such we are respectfully requesting that the board modify the notification period for this application as allowed for under Section 55, Sub-Section 4 which is repeated below:

- "Where a public hearing is not held in relation to an application, the Board shall not act on the application until at least thirty days after notice of the application has been published under subsection (1) unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are urgent circumstances that justify the Board acting on that application in a shorter period, but that shorter period shall not be less than ten days."

To help in expediting this process, a copy of this letter, the Type B application and the Extraction Procedure Manual has been distributed to the following regulatory Agencies for review:

- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada;
- Fisheries and Oceans;
- Environment Canada;
- Government of Nunavut Department of Health;
- Government of Nunavut Department of the Environment;
- Government of Nunavut Department of Community Government and Services;
- NTI;
- QIA;
- Justice Canada.

A further discussion of our application and the conditions in the North 40 is provided below.

Soil Sampling

In 2004 a soil sampling and analytical protocol was developed for the Site by the City and agreed to by the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). While the sampling protocol was deemed appropriate, ongoing operational issues at the site resulted in periodic closures of the gravel pit. To better define and monitor the extraction of granular materials in the North 40 the City has developed an Extraction Procedure Manual to be followed by all contractors removing granular material at the Site. This procedure includes penalties to contractors who



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North 40 Type B Water License Application

violate the requirements of the procedure. It is the City's intention to implement this procedure immediately.

Asbestos Waste

Asbestos waste identified in the North 40 in 2004 has been partially encapsulated. The final encapsulation will be performed during the summer of 2005. The City has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of an asbestos management plan for the site. Upon completion this asbestos management plan shall be submitted to the NWB.

Abandonment and Restoration Plan

The City is required to prepare an Abandonment and Restoration Plan (A&R Plan) for the gravel pit in accordance with our Quarry Management Agreement with the Government of Nunavut. This will be prepared during the summer of 2005.

The City acknowledges that this A&R Plan forms an important component of this license and we respectfully request that instead of holding up the issuance of a water license for the North 40 awaiting the completion of the A&R Plan, that the preparation of this plan be a condition of the license.


Application Fee

The City will be unable to submit the application fee until May 24, 2005.

Closing

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,


Brad L. Sokach, P.Eng.
Director of Engineering
City of Iqaluit

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