



**NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD/NUNAVUTMI KANOGILIVALLIANIKOT ELITTOHAIYEOPLOTIK KATIMAYIIT**

April 29, 2002

To: Rita Becker  
Licensing Administrator  
Nunavut Water Board  
Gjoa Haven, NU

may 6/02

**Re: Exploratory Drilling in the Coronation Gulf Area**  
**NIRB: 02EN051      NWB: NWB2COR**

Enclosed is the completed NIRB Screening Decision Report on a water use permit associated with till sampling and possible drilling in the Kitikmeot Region.

NIRB has screened this application for eco-systemic and socio-economic impacts of the proposal.

NIRB's indication to the Minister is: 12.4.4 (a) the proposal may be processed without a review under Part 5 or 6; NIRB may recommend specific terms and conditions to be attached to any approval, reflecting the primary objectives set out in Section 12.2.5;

Please contact me at (867) 983-2593 if you have any questions about the Screening Decision Report.

Yours truly,

Wm. E. Sawyer

Gladys Joudrey  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board



**Reasons for Decision:**

NIRB's decision is based on specific considerations that reflect the primary objectives of the Land Claims Agreement. Our considerations in making this decision included:

- the impact of drilling activities on the ecosystem;
- disposal of drill cuttings and waste water;
- impact to water quality, aquatic habitat and wildlife and fish populations from chemicals, drill waste, drill fluids and potential fuel spills;
- storage and disposal of chemicals, fuel, garbage, sewage, and gray water, and impact of these on the ecosystem;
- the impact of noise from drilling activities and their disturbance to wildlife and traditional users of area;
- the impact of campsite and equipment on terrain;
- the impact of exploration activities on archaeological sites or cultural landmarks in the area; and
- clean up/restoration of the camp site and drilling locations upon abandonment.

**Terms and Conditions:**

That the terms and conditions attached to this screening report will apply.

**Drill Sites**

1. The Licensee shall not conduct any land based drilling within thirty (30) metres of the normal high water mark of a water body.
2. The Licensee shall not use drilling muds or additives in connection with drill holes unless they are recirculated or contained such that they do not enter the water, or are certified to be non-toxic.
3. The Licensee shall ensure that any drill cuttings and waste water that cannot be re-circulated be disposed of in a properly constructed sump or an appropriate natural depression that does not drain into a waterbody.
4. The Licensee shall ensure that drilling wastes do not enter any water body. The use of biodegradable, salt free drill additives is encouraged over non-biodegradable types.
5. The Licensee shall ensure that the sump/depression capacity is sufficient to accommodate the volume of waste water and any fines that are produced so that there will be no additional impacts.
6. The Licensee shall not locate any sump within thirty (30) metres of the normal high water mark of any water body.
7. The Licensee shall not deposit nor permit the deposit of slash, debris or sediment into any waterbody. These materials shall be disposed of above the high water mark in such a fashion that they do not enter the water.
8. The Licensee shall ensure that disturbance of vegetation from deposit of drill fluids/cuttings is restricted to the area of the sump and the ground prepared for revegetation upon abandonment.

9. The Licensee shall, where flowing water from bore holes is encountered, plug, the bore hole in such a manner as to permanently prevent any further outflow of water. The occurrence shall be reported to the Nunavut Water Board and Land Use Inspector within 48 hours.
10. If the drilling requires water in sufficient volume that the source waterbody may be drawn down details must be submitted (volume required, size of waterbody, etc.) to DFO-FHM for review. DFO-FHM does not recommend the use of streams as a water source.

### **Water**

11. The Licensee shall ensure that all water intake hoses are equipped with a screen with an appropriate mesh size to ensure that there is no entrapment of fish.

### **Fuel and Chemical Storage**

12. The Licensee shall ensure that fuel storage containers are not located within thirty (30) metres of the ordinary high water mark of any body of water.
13. The Licensee shall ensure that any chemicals, fuels or wastes associated with the project do not spread to the surrounding lands or enter into any water body.
14. Fuel storage shall either be equipped with secondary containment and other hazardous materials should be located in such a manner as to prevent their release into the environment.
15. The Licensee shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent the possibility of migration of spilled petroleum fuel or chemicals over the ground surface.
16. The Licensee shall examine all fuel and chemical storage containers daily for leaks. All leaks should be prepared immediately.
17. The Licensee shall seal all container outlets except the outlet currently in use.
18. The Licensee shall mark all fuel containers with the Licensee's name.
19. The Licensee shall dispose of all combustible waste petroleum products by incineration and removal from the site.
20. The Licensee shall ensure all activities, including maintenance procedures and refueling, should be controlled to prevent the entry of petroleum products or other deleterious substances into the water.
21. The Licensee shall have an approved emergency response and spill contingency plans in place prior to the commencement of the operation.
22. The Licensee shall immediately report all spills of petroleum and hazardous chemicals to the twenty-four (24) hour spill report line at (867) 920-8130.

### **Waste Disposal**

23. The Licensee shall not discharge or deposit any refuse substances or other waste materials in any body of water, or on the banks thereof, which will impair the quality of the waters of the natural environment.
24. The Licensee shall not locate any sumps or areas designated for waste disposal within thirty (30) metres of the ordinary high water mark of any body of water, and be sufficiently

bermed or otherwise contained to ensure that these substances do not enter a waterway unless otherwise authorized.

25. The Licensee, prior to the discharge of fluids from any sump, shall carry out an analysis of the fluid in a manner prescribed by the NWB.
26. The Licensee shall treat greywater and sewage according to the terms and conditions outlined in the NWB approval.
27. The Licensee shall backfill and recontour all sumps to match the natural environment prior to the expiry date of the license.
28. The Licensee shall incinerate all combustible and food wastes daily in an approved incinerator.
29. The Licensee shall keep all garbage and debris in a covered metal container until disposed of.
30. The Licensee shall ensure that all wastes generated through the course of the operation are backhauled and disposed of in an approved dumpsite.
31. The Licensee shall deposit all scrap metal, discarded machinery and parts, barrels and kegs, at an approved disposal site.

## Wildlife

32. The Licensee shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.
33. The Licensee shall not feed wildlife.
34. The Licensee shall use the latest bear detection and deterrent techniques to minimize man-bear interactions and shall report any Man-Bear Interactions to the nearest Renewable Resource Officer.
35. The Licensee shall ensure that the drill sites avoid known environmentally sensitive areas (denning, nesting etc.) by a minimum of 250 metres.
36. The Licensee shall not locate any operation so as to block or cause substantial diversion to migration of caribou.
37. The Licensee shall cease activities that may interfere with migration or calving, such as airborne geophysics surveys or movement of equipment, drilling activities until the caribou and their calves have vacated the area.
38. The Licensee shall not conduct any activity associated with the land use operation during critical periods of wildlife cycles (eg. caribou migration, calving, fish spawning or raptor nesting).
39. That the Licensee shall ensure that there is no hunting by employees of the company or any contractors hired.
40. The Licensee shall ensure compliance with Section 36 of the Fisheries Act which requires that no person shall deposit or permit the deposit of a deleterious substance on any type in water frequented by fish or in any place under any conditions where the deleterious substance may enter such a water body.
41. The harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat is prohibited under Section 35 of the Fisheries Act. No construction or disturbance of any stream/lake bed or banks of any definable watercourse is permitted unless authorized by DFO.

## Environmental

42. The Licensee shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all times.
43. The Licensee shall prepare the site in such a manner as to prevent rutting of the ground surface.
44. The Licensee shall not do anything that will cause erosion of the banks of any body of water on or adjacent to the land and shall provide necessary controls to prevent such erosion. No disturbance of the bed or banks of any definable watercourse is permitted. Special efforts must be made to avoid bed and bank disturbance during the spring.
45. The Licensee shall be required to undertake any corrective measures in the event of any damage to the land or water as a result of the Licensee's operation.
46. The Licensee shall not remove any material from below the ordinary high water mark of any waterbody.
47. The Licensee shall not move any equipment or vehicles unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging.
48. The Licensee shall suspend overland travel of equipment or vehicles if rutting occurs.
49. The Licensee shall obtain all the necessary permits needed to carry out their operation.

## Structure & Storage Facilities

50. The Licensee shall not erect structures or store material on the surface ice of lakes or streams.
51. The Licensee shall locate all structures and storage facilities on gravel, sand or other durable land.

## Archaeological Sites

52. The Licensee shall follow all terms and conditions for the protection and restoration of archaeological resources as outlined by the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youths (CLEY) in attached letter.

## Reclamation

53. The Licensee shall remove all scrap metal, discarded machinery and parts, barrels and kegs, buildings and building material upon abandonment.
54. The Licensee shall undertake ongoing restoration for any land or improvements which are no longer required for the Licensee's operation on the land.
55. The Licensee shall plug or cap all bore holes and cut off any drill casings that remain above ground to ground level upon abandonment of the operation.

FROM : IAMN AND SEA RESOURCES LTD

FAX NO : 867 857 4100

MAY 02 2002 02:25PM P1

2002-Apr-29 03:08pm

From-NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

+8679632094

T-750 P.003/003 F-788

### **Other Recommendations**

1. NTRB would like to encourage the proponent to hire local people and services, to the extent possible.
2. NTRB strongly advises proponents to consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region, and do community consultation on the project to keep the communities informed.
3. Any amendment requests deemed by NTRB to be outside the original scope of the project will be considered a new project.

### **Validity of Land Claims Agreement**

#### **Section 2.12.2**

Where there is any inconsistency or conflict between any federal, territorial and local government laws, and the Agreement, the Agreement shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

Dated May 01/02 at Arviat, NU

  
Elizabeth Copland, Chairperson

### COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Nunavut. In order to assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project proposals, NIRB would like to hear your concerns, comments and suggestions about the following project application:

<b>Project Title:</b> <u>Exploratory Drilling in the Coronation Gulf Area</u>	
<b>Proponent:</b> <u>Stornoway Ventures</u>	
<b>Location:</b> <u>Coronation Gulf Area, Nunavut</u>	
<b>Comments Due By:</b> <u>April 17, 2002</u>	<b>NIRB #:</b> <u>02EN051</u>
<b>Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> No concerns	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional uses of land
<input type="checkbox"/> Water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Nut harvesting activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Terrain	<input type="checkbox"/> Community involvement and consultation
<input type="checkbox"/> Air quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Local development in the area
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism in the area
<input type="checkbox"/> Marine mammals and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Human health issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Birds and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and their habitat	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Heritage resources in area	_____
<b>Please describe the concerns indicated above:</b>	
<b>Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?</b>	
<u>Proposed activities do not require a water licence under the NWT Waters Act.</u>	
<b>Do you support the project proposal? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Any additional comments?</b>	
<b>Name of person commenting:</b> <u>Paul Smith</u> of _____	
<b>Position:</b> <u>Mgr. Water Resources</u> <b>Organization:</b> <u>DIAND</u>	
<b>Signature:</b> <u>Paul Smith</u> <b>Date:</b> <u>April 15/02</u>	





P.O. BOX 16  
CAMBRIDGE BAY  
NU X0B 0C0  
Ph: 867-983-2337  
Fax: 867-983-2193



2002-04-09

Nunavut Impact Review Board  
Box 2379  
Cambridge Bay, NU  
X0B 0C0

**Re: Exploratory Drilling on Coronation Gulf Area Application File #: 02EN051**

Further to the above, Mayor and Council of the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay wish to advise that they **Support the above noted application** and would ask that the following comments be duly noted.

- 1) That the project site is inspected annually to insure that all waste disposal and fuel storage requirements are strictly adhered to.
- 2) That traditional land use not be impeded or discouraged.
- 3) That all Archeological Sites and all Artifacts be identified documented and preserved at their original site and in their original state.
- 4) That at the completion of the project a summary of the project along with photographs wherever and whenever possible be provided to the Elders and the Mayor and Council of the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay in order that the paper work maybe archived.
- 5) Employees to be hired should be from within the Kitikmeot Region and wherever possible, are beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims.

We trust the above will be to your satisfaction however should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Ruth Niptanatiak-Wilcox  
Asst. Senior Administrative Officer



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada

Coast Guard

Garde côtière

Central & Arctic Region

Région du Centre et de l'Arctique

201 N. Front Street, Suite 703  
Sarnia, Ontario  
N7T 8B1

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence  
1675-9-9

March 26, 2002

Gladys Joudrey  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
PO Box 2379  
Cambridge Bay, NT X0E 0C0

Dear Madam:

Thank you for your submission with regard to NIRB # 02EN051, Exploratory Drilling in The Coronation Gulf Area, Stornoway Ventures, Coronation Gulf Area, Nunavut.

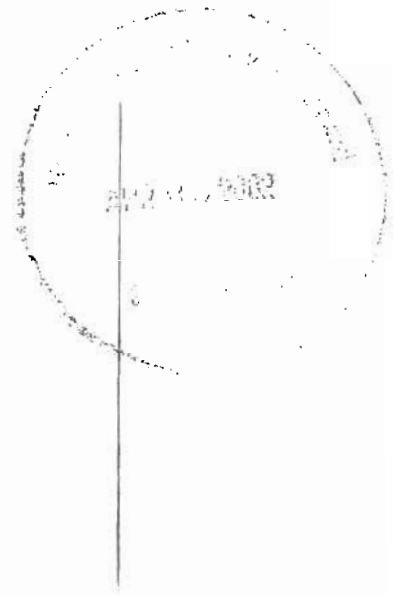
The information will be reviewed by this office and our response will be forwarded to DFO Fish Habitat in Iqaluit. They in turn will prepare a Departmental response encompassing both the Navigable Waters Protection Act and the Fisheries Act.

Yours truly,

Barry Putt  
A/Inspections Supervisor  
Navigable Waters Protection

BP/kab

cc: FHM



Canada

### COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

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**Project Title:** Exploratory Drilling in the Coronation Gulf Area  
**Proponent:** Stornoway Ventures  
**Location:** Coronation Gulf Area, Nunavut  
**Comments Due By:** April 17, 2002 **NIRB #:** 02EN051

**Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air concerns          | <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional uses of land               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Inuit harvesting activities            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terrain                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Community involvement and consultation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air quality                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Local development in the area          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife and their habitat       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism in the area                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marine mammals and their habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> Human health issues                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birds and their habitat          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish and their habitat           | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage resources in area       | _____   |

**Please describe the concerns indicated above:**

**Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?**

*Hire local Inuit train and use local Inuit firms.*

**Do you support the project proposal?** Yes ☒ No ☐ **Any additional comments?**

**Name of person commenting:** Stanley Anashkin of Kugshuk  
**Position:** KIA LANDS OFFICE **Organization:** KOMMUT PAVIL ASSOC  
**Signature:** [Signature] **Date:** MAR 21/02

MAR-24-02 05:33 PM KU JKTUK HTO

9825 2

F.01

02-Mar-22 09:33 am From-NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

+

T-315 P.03/08 F-535

## COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Nunavut. In order to assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project proposals, NIRB would like to hear your concerns, comments and suggestions about the following project application:

Project Title: <u>Exploratory Drilling in the Coronation Gulf Area</u>	
Proponent: <u>Stornoway Ventures</u>	
Location: <u>Coronation Gulf Area, Nunavut</u>	
Comments Due By: <u>April 17, 2002</u>	NIRB #: <u>02EN051</u>

Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No concerns	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional uses of land
<input type="checkbox"/> Water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Inuit harvesting activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Terrain	<input type="checkbox"/> Community involvement and consultation
<input type="checkbox"/> Air quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Local development in the area
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism in the area
<input type="checkbox"/> Marine mammals and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Human health issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Birds and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and their habitat	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral resources in area	

Please describe the concerns indicated above:

Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?

*This Activity is in the vicinity of Kugluktuk not Cambridge Bay Nu. Has Bear Safety been addressed?*

Do you support the project proposal? ☒ Yes ☐ No Any additional comments?

Name of person commenting: PETER TARTUNA of KUGLUKTUK

Position: MANAGER Organization: KUGLUKTUK INDIAN COUNCIL

Signature: [Signature] Date: MARCH 25 2002



March 22 2002

David Sateana  
Environmental Assessment Officer Trainee  
NIRB - Cambridge Bay

**NIRB File # 02NE051 - Exploratory Drilling - Coronation Gulf Area**

Perhaps the NIRB/NWB project proponents and applicants are getting wise to the various exploration needs and requirements of what to say in an application request for Land Use or other related Permitting.

Stornaway Ventures seems to have a well prepared application explanation and routine of how they propose to deal with most issues for their request for a Water License/Land Use Permit. Their approach to addressing back haul and total camp clean-up needs as soon as they vacate an area is commendable. I also like their attitude towards indicating they will attempt to backhaul old barrels and other materials left behind by others that they might find in carrying out their area surveys on the Land.

It would seem to me that if they intend to use one temporary site, then move to a next selected location, they might consider re-using the tent frames at the next location rather than bringing in new wood material to build infrastructure at all identified temporary locations. This type of small and light infrastructure could be "Slung" using their available helicopter. Such an approach would save money and back haul needs.

About the only additional comment I would make is that they contact the communities of Kugluktuk and Cambridge Bay beforehand to determine possible availability of people ready to assist with their camp operations. Seems to me the role of a sampler as identified can't be so difficult that good capable individuals with the desire to work could be quickly trained to accomplish the needs of this function. Both communities have Hamlet Economic Development and Human Resource staff that could assist with any necessary search for available expertise.

Otherwise, this seems to be an acceptable project application for the purpose intended.

Regards:

Doug Crossley  
Special Advisor  
CG&T - Cambridge Bay

### COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Nunavut. In order to assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project proposals, NIRB would like to hear your concerns, comments and suggestions about the following project application:

**Project Title:** Exploratory Drilling in the Coronation Gulf Area  
**Proponent:** Starnoway Ventures  
**Location:** Coronation Gulf Area, Nunavut  
**Comments Due By:** April 17, 2002 **NIRB #:** 02EN051

**Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No concerns                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional uses of land               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Inuit harvesting activities            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terrain                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Community involvement and consultation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air quality                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Local development in the area          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife and their habitat       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism in the area                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marine mammals and their habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> Human health issues                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birds and their habitat          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish and their habitat           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage resources in area       |   |

**Please describe the concerns indicated above:**

**Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?**

Contact YCO + YCB for available workers  
Sampler training is assumed to be feasible

**Do you support the project proposal? Yes ☒ No ☐ Any additional comments?**

Good Application however  
Innuinagtuq Orthography instead of MC 15

**Name of person commenting:** Doug Crussley **of** Cambridge Bay  
**Position:** Special Advisor **Organization:** CG+T  
**Signature:** Doug Crussley **Date:** March 22, 02

APR-17-2002 WED 04:33 PM

FAX NO. 86 79 8039

P. 02

Fisheries  
and OceansPêches  
et OcéansFish Habitat Management  
P.O. Box 358  
Iqaluit, Nunavut  
X0A 0H0Our file: Notre référence  
NU00516

April 17, 2002

Mr. Doug Smith  
Stornoway Ventures Ltd.  
860-625 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC V6C 2T6  
Tel: (604)-687-7545  
Fax: (604)-669-5041**RE: NWB2COR, NIRB02EN051, Exploration at the Coronation Gulf Area.**

Dear Mr. Smith,

This letter is to advise that The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Fish Habitat Management (DFO-FHM) received the application submitted on your behalf by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB). The focus of the proposed program is till sampling, diamond drilling, and includes a temporary camp set-up. Operations are planned to begin June 1 and finish by September 15, 2002. The DFO-FHM's assessment takes into consideration primarily fish and fish habitat related concerns. I have reviewed the plans for the proposed work.

Operations in or near water may result in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat, which is prohibited under Section 35 of the *Fisheries Act*. The following mitigation measures, along with mitigation measures indicated in the project proposal, are intended to prevent any potentially harmful impacts to fish and fish habitat:

- All disturbed areas should be stabilized and re-vegetated as required, upon completion of work, and restored to a pre-disturbed state.
- If artesian flow is encountered, drill holes should be plugged and permanently sealed upon completion of the project.
- If the drilling requires water in sufficient volume that the source waterbody may be drawn down please submit details (volume required, size of waterbody, etc.) to DFO-FHM for review. DFO-FHM does not recommend the use of streams as a water source.
- All water intakes should be properly screened to prevent the entrainment of fish. Refer to the *Freshwater Intake End-of-Pipe Fish Screen Guideline* (DFO 1995), available on request.

Canada

APR-17-2002 WED 04:33 PM

FAX NO. 867 979 8039

P. 03

- When using explosives, please follow the Guidelines for the use of explosives in or near water (DFO, 1998) available on request. If, for any reasons these guidelines cannot be followed, please contact DFO, an Authorization may be required.

Depositing deleterious substances into fish bearing waters is prohibited as stated under Subsection 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*. The following are additional measures to mitigate habitat disturbance or loss as well as the deposition of deleterious substances.

- Sediment and erosion control measures should be implemented prior to, and maintained during the work to prevent sediment entry into the water during a spring thaw.
- All wastes, drill cuttings, sewage containments, and fuel caches should be located a minimum of thirty (30) metres from the normal high water mark of any water body, and be sufficiently bermed or otherwise contained to ensure that these substances do not enter any water body.
- Drill cuttings should be disposed of in a sump such that they do not enter any water body. The use of biodegradable, salt free drill additives is encouraged over non-biodegradable types.
- All activities, including maintenance procedures and refuelling, should be controlled to prevent the entry of petroleum products or other deleterious substances into the water.
- All spills of oil, fuel, or other deleterious material should be reported immediately to the 24-Hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

If the proposed work is carried out as described in the plans provided to DFO-FHM and if the additional mitigation measures specified above are implemented, the proposed work will not be considered as contravening Subsection 35(1) of the *Fisheries Act* which reads:

*"No person shall carry on any work or undertaking that results in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat."*

Therefore, an authorization under Subsection 35(2) of the *Fisheries Act* will not be necessary. If a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat and/or the deposition of deleterious substances into fish bearing waters occurs as a result of a change in the plans for the proposed works or failure to implement the additional mitigation measures specified above, prosecution under Subsection 35(1) and/or Subsection 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act* may be initiated.

If you have any questions concerning the mitigation measures or should there be any changes to the proposed work, please contact me at (867) 979-8011 or Jordan DeGroot (867) 979-8007 or by fax at (867) 979-8039.



Sincerely,



Stephanie Thompson  
Area Habitat Biologist  
Fish Habitat Management  
Eastern Arctic Area

c.c. Jordan DeGroot-Habitat Management Biologist  
Rita Becker-Nunavut Water Board  
Gladys Joudrey -Nunavut Impact Review Board  
Ipeelee Itorcheak-A/C&P Supervisor  
Keith Pelley-C&P Field Supervisor



Environment Environnement  
Canada Canada

Environmental Protection Branch  
Suite 301, 5204 - 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2  
tel: (867) 669-4700

April 19, 2002

Our File: 4703 001 040

Davis Sateana  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)  
PO Box 2379  
Cambridge Bay, NT X0E 0C0.

**Re: Land Use Permit Application NIRB 02EN051 Water Licence NWB2COR - Stormway Ventures. -  
Exploratory Drilling - Coronation Gulf Area, NU.**

On behalf of the Environmental Canada I have reviewed the information submitted with the above application, and recommend the following conditions for inclusion in the land use/water licence. This advice is provided pursuant to Section 12(3) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA), and is based primarily on Environment Canada's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA), Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act* and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*.

#### Comments and Recommendations

- Meeting the requirements of the Federal *Fisheries Act* is mandatory, irrespective of any other regulatory or permitting system. Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act* specifies that unless authorized by federal regulation, no person shall deposit or permit the deposit 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.
- The proponent has indicated that the solid waste will be incinerated. The method described would more accurately be called uncontrolled open burning inside a barrel.

#### **Drilling Activities**

- If an artesian flow is encountered, core-drill holes shall be plugged and permanently sealed upon project termination. Poor quality ground water from one aquifer may contaminate another or in some cases flowing conditions at the surface can create large washouts or quicksand conditions.
- Drilling wastes from land-based drilling shall be disposed of in a sump such that they do not enter any waterbody.
- For on-ice drilling, return water released to the lake must be non-toxic, and not result in an increase in total suspended solids in the immediate receiving waters of the lake above Canadian Council of Ministers for the Environment Guidelines for the Protection of Freshwater Aquatic Life (ie. 10mg/L for lakes with background levels under 100 mg/L, or 10% for those above 100 mg/L).
- Drilling additives or mud shall not be used in connection with holes drilled through the lake ice unless they are re-circulated or contained such that they do not enter the water, or demonstrated to be non-toxic.
- The permittee shall not store material on the surface ice of streams or lakes.

Canada

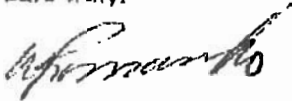


**Spill Response Plan**

- Under section titled "Clean-up", it states that any spills will be contained and pumped into empty barrels. There is no description of how the fuel will be contained when the drums will be sitting on bare ground and what the proponent will do with the recovered fuel. Environment Canada recommends that all fuel storage be equipped with secondary containment and the other hazardous materials be stored in such a manner as to prevent their release into the environment.
- In the section titled "Disposal", the proponent states that contaminated soil will be incinerated and then replaced in the excavation. Uncontrolled open burning in a barrel will be ineffective in removing the fuel, another option should be presented. The clean soil should not be replaced unless it has been tested.

Changes in the proposed or permitted activities associated with this land use application would require further review. I can be contacted at (867) 669-4736 (by e-mail at [wade.romanko@ec.gc.ca](mailto:wade.romanko@ec.gc.ca)) for any questions or comments with regard to the foregoing.

Yours truly,



Wade Romanko  
Aquatic Environmental Officer  
Environmental Protection Branch - Northern Division



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