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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYIT
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File No.: 2BE-PET1114

August 2, 2011

Canada Nickel Limited
1500-885 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 3E8
E-mail: gdickson@goldore.ca

c/o
Alan Sexton
GeoVector Management Inc.
312-10 Green Street
Nepean, ON, K2J 3Z6

Email: as.geovector@bellnet.ca

RE: NWB Licence No. 2BE-PET1114

Dear Mr. Sexton:

Please find attached Licence No. **2BE-PET1114** issued to Canada Nickel Limited by the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) pursuant to its authority under Article 13 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada*. The terms and conditions of the attached Licence related to water use and waste disposal are an integral part of this approval.

If the Licensee contemplates the renewal of this Licence, it is the responsibility of the Licensee to apply to the NWB for its renewal. The past performance of the Licensee, new documentation and information, and issues raised during a public hearing, if the NWB is required to hold one, will be used to determine the terms and conditions of the Licence renewal. Note that if the Licence expires before the NWB issues a new one, then water use and waste disposal must cease, or the Licensee will be in contravention of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (NLCA) and the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (NWNSTRA). However, the expiry or cancellation of a Licence does not relieve the holder from any obligations imposed by the Licence. The NWB recommends that an application for the renewal of this Licence be filed at least three months prior to the Licence expiry date.

If the Licensee contemplates or requires an amendment to this Licence, the NWB may decide, in the public interest, to hold a public hearing. The Licensee should submit applications for amendment as soon as possible to give the NWB sufficient time to go through the amendment process. The process and timing may vary depending on the scope of the amendment: however, a minimum of sixty (60) days is required from time of acceptance by the NWB. It is the responsibility of the Licensee to ensure that

all application materials have been received and acknowledged by the Manager of Licensing.

The NWB strongly recommends that the Licensee consult the comments received by interested persons on issues identified. The NWB notes that there is a recommendation from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) to provide a letter of authorization from the disposal or recovery site confirming that they will accept contaminated material. Environment Canada (EC) stated that Hazardous Waste movement document (manifest) form must accompany all hazardous waste in transit and all parties will be properly registered as per the Environmental Protection Service (EPS) of the Department of Sustainable Development of the Government of Nunavut. This information is attached for your consideration.¹

Sincerely,



Thomas Kabloona
Nunavut Water Board Chair

TK/kk/ip

Enclosure:

Licence No. **2BE-PET1114**
Comments – AANDC, EC

cc: Distribution – Kivalliq

¹ Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), July 13, 2011 and Environment Canada (EC), July 14, 2011.

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DECISION

LICENCE NUMBER: 2BE-PET1114

This is the decision of the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) with respect to an application dated May 15, 2011 for a new Water Licence made by:

CANADA NICKEL LIMITED

to allow for the use of water and disposal of waste during exploration activities including regional prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling and diamond drilling at the Peter Lake Project, located within the Kivalliq Region, Nunavut, generally located at the geographical coordinates as follows:

Project Extents

Latitude: 63°10'00" N	Longitude: 92°36'00" W
Latitude: 63°10'00" N	Longitude: 92°27'30" W
Latitude: 63°05'00" N	Longitude: 92°27'30" W
Latitude: 63°05'00" N	Longitude: 92°36'00" W

DECISION

After having been satisfied that the application was in conformity with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan² and subject to a 12.4.4(a) Screening Decision by the Nunavut Impact Review Board³ in accordance with Article 12 of the *Nunavut Land Claim Agreement* (NLCA), the NWB decided that the application could proceed through the regulatory process. In accordance with S.55.1 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (NWNSRTA) and Article 13 of the NLCA, public notice of the application was given and interested persons were invited to make representations to the NWB.

After reviewing the submission of the Applicant and considering the representations made by interested persons, the NWB, having given due regard to the facts and circumstances, the merits of the submissions made to it and to the purpose, scope and intent of the NLCA and of the NWNSRTA, waived the requirement to hold a public hearing, and determined that:

Licence Number 2BE-PET1114 be issued subject to the terms and conditions contained therein. (Motion #: 2011-11-L13)

SIGNED this 25th day of July 2011 at Gjoa Haven, NU.



Thomas Kabloona
Nunavut Water Board Chair

TK/kk/ip

² NPC Conformity Determination, February 14, 2011

³ NIRB Screening Decision, May 18, 2011



NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
WATER LICENCE

Pursuant to the Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act and the Agreement Between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, the Nunavut Water Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, hereby grants to

CANADA NICKEL LIMITED

(Licensee)

1500-885 WEST GEORGIA STREET, VANCOUVER, BC V6C 3E8

(Mailing Address)

hereinafter called the Licensee, the right to alter, divert or otherwise use water or dispose of waste for a period subject to restrictions and conditions contained within this Licence:

Licence Number/Type: 2BE-PET1114 TYPE "B"

Water Management Area: NUNAVUT 06

Location: PETER LAKE PROJECT,
KIVALLIQ REGION, NUNAVUT

Classification: MINING AND MILLING UNDERTAKING

Purpose: DIRECT WATER USE AND DEPOSIT OF WASTE

Quantity of Water use not
to Exceed: THIRTY (30) CUBIC METRES PER DAY

Date of Licence Issuance: July 25, 2011

Expiry of Licence: July 31, 2014

This Licence, issued and recorded at Gjoa Haven, Nunavut, includes and is subject to the annexed conditions.

Thomas Kabloona,
Nunavut Water Board Chair

PART A: SCOPE, DEFINITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

1. Scope

This Licence allows for the use of water and the disposal of waste for an undertaking classified as Mining and Milling as per Schedule II of the *Regulations* at the Peter Lake Project, located approximately 40 kilometres west - northwest of Rankin Inlet within the Kivalliq Region, Nunavut.

- a. This Licence is issued subject to the conditions contained herein with respect to the taking of water and the depositing of waste of any type in any waters or in any place under any conditions where such waste or any other waste that results from the deposits of such waste may enter any waters. Whenever new *Regulations* are made or existing *Regulations* are amended by the Governor in Council under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*, or other statutes imposing more stringent conditions relating to the quantity or type of waste that may be so deposited or under which any such waste may be so deposited, this Licence shall be deemed, upon promulgation of such *Regulations*, to be subject to such requirements; and
- b. Compliance with the terms and conditions of this Licence does not absolve the Licensee from responsibility for compliance with the requirements of all applicable Federal, Territorial and Municipal legislation.

2. Definitions

“**Act**” means the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*;

“**Addendum**” means the supplemental text that is added to a full plan or report usually included at the end of the document and is not intended to require a full resubmission of the revised report.

“**Amendment**” means a change to original terms and conditions of this Licence requiring correction, addition or deletion of specific terms and conditions of the Licence; modifications inconsistent with the terms of the set terms and conditions of the Licence;

“**Appurtenant Undertaking**” means an undertaking in relation to which a use of water or a deposit of waste is permitted by a Licence issued by the Board;

“**Board**” means the Nunavut Water Board established under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* and the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*;

“**Engineer**” means a professional engineer registered to practice in Nunavut in accordance with the Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Act (Nunavut) S.N.W.T.

1998, c.38, s.5;

“Greywater” means all liquid wastes from showers, baths, sinks, kitchens and domestic washing facilities, but does not include toilet wastes;

“Inspector” means an Inspector designated by the Minister under Section 85 (1) of the *Act*;

“Licensee” means the holder of this Licence;

“Modification” means an alteration to a physical work that introduces a new structure or eliminates an existing structure and does not alter the purpose or function of the work, but does not include an expansion;

“Nunavut Land Claims Agreement” (NLCA) means the *“Agreement Between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada”*, including its preamble and schedules, and any amendments to that agreement made pursuant to it;

“Regulations” means the *Northwest Territories Water Regulations* sor/93-303 8th June, 1993, omitting Section 5, Water Use or Waste Deposit Without a Licence;

“Sewage” means all toilet wastes and greywater;

“Spill Contingency Plan” means a Plan developed to deal with unforeseen petroleum and hazardous materials events that may occur during the operations conducted under the Licence;

“Sump” means an excavation in impermeable soil for the purpose of catching or storing water or waste;

“Toilet Wastes” means all human excreta and associated products, but does not include greywater;

“Waste” means, as defined in S.4 of the *Act*, any substance that, by itself or in combination with other substances found in water, would have the effect of altering the quality of any water to which the substance is added to an extent that is detrimental to its use by people or by any animal, fish or plant, or any water that would have that effect because of the quantity or concentration of the substances contained in it or because it has been treated or changed, by heat or other means.

3. Enforcement

- a. Failure to comply with this Licence will be a violation of the *Act*, subjecting the Licensee to the enforcement measures and the penalties provided for in the *Act*;

- b. All inspection and enforcement services regarding this Licence will be provided by Inspectors appointed under the *Act*; and
- c. For the purpose of enforcing this Licence and with respect to the use of water and deposit or discharge of waste by the Licensee, Inspectors appointed under the *Act*, hold all powers, privileges and protections that are conferred upon them by the *Act* or by other applicable law.

PART B: GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. The water use fees, payable to the Receiver General for Canada, shall be sent to the Board annually for the right to the use of water in accordance with Section 9 of the *Regulations*.
2. The Licensee shall file an Annual Report on the appurtenant undertaking with the Board no later than March 31st of the year following the calendar year being reported, containing the following information:
 - a. A summary report of water use and waste disposal activities;
 - b. A list of unauthorized discharges and a summary of follow-up actions taken;
 - c. A description of all progressive and/or final reclamation work undertaken, including photographic records of site conditions before, during and after completion of operations;
 - d. Report all artesian flow occurrences as required under Part F, Item 3;
 - e. Where drilling activity has penetrated below the permafrost layer, the depth of permafrost and location of the drill hole are to be included as required under Part F, Item 4;
 - f. A summary of all information requested and results of the Monitoring Program; and
 - g. Any other details on water use or waste disposal requested by the Board by November 1 of the year being reported.
3. The Licensee shall notify the NWB of any changes in operating plans or conditions associated with this project at least thirty (30) days prior to any such change.
4. The Licensee shall install flow meters or other such devices, or implement suitable methods required for the measuring of water volumes as required under Part J, Item 1.
5. The Licensee shall, for all Plans submitted under this Licence, include a proposed timetable for implementation. Plans submitted, cannot be undertaken without subsequent written Board approval and direction. The Board may alter or modify a Plan if necessary to achieve the legislative objectives and will notify the Licensee in writing of acceptance, rejection or alteration of the Plan.
6. The Licensee shall, for all Plans submitted under this Licence, implement the Plan as approved by the Board in writing.

7. The Licensee shall review the Plans referred to in this Licence as required by changes in operation and/or technology and modify the Plans accordingly. Revisions to the Plans are to be submitted in the form of an Addendum to be included with the Annual Report required by Part B, Item 2, complete with a revisions list detailing where significant content changes are made.
8. Every Plan to be carried out pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Licence shall become a part of this Licence, and any additional terms and conditions imposed upon approval of a Plan by the Board become part of this Licence. All terms and conditions of the Licence should be contemplated in the development of a Plan where appropriate.
9. The Licensee shall ensure a copy of this Licence is maintained at the site of operations at all times. Any communication with respect to this Licence shall be made in writing to the attention of:
 - (a) **Manager of Licensing:**
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0
Telephone: (867) 360-6338
Fax: (867) 360-6369
Email: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org
 - (b) **Inspector Contact:**
Manager of Field Operations, INAC
Nunavut District, Nunavut Region
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Telephone: (867) 975-4295
Fax: (867) 979-6445
10. The Licensee shall submit one paper copy and one electronic copy of all reports, studies, and plans to the Board. Reports or studies submitted to the Board by the Licensee shall include a detailed executive summary in English and Inuktitut.
11. The Licensee shall ensure that any document(s) or correspondence submitted by the Licensee to the Board is received and acknowledged by the Manager of Licensing.
12. This Licence is assignable as provided for in Section 44 of the *Act*.

PART C: CONDITIONS APPLYING TO WATER USE

1. The Licensee shall obtain all drill water from local un-named lakes, proximal to the drilling targets as outlined in the application and shall not exceed thirty (30) cubic metres per day.

2. If the Licensee requires water in sufficient volume that the source water body may be drawn down the Licensee shall, at least thirty (30) days prior to commencement of use of water, submit to the Board for approval in writing, the following: volume required, hydrological overview of the water body, details of impacts, and proposed mitigation measures.
3. The Licensee shall equip all water intake hoses with a screen of an appropriate mesh size to ensure that fish are not entrained and shall withdraw water at a rate such that fish do not become impinged on the screen.
4. The Licensee shall not remove any material from below the ordinary high water mark of any water body unless authorized.
5. The Licensee shall not cause erosion to the banks of any body of water and shall provide necessary controls to prevent such erosion.
6. Sediment and erosion control measures shall be implemented prior to and maintained during the operation to prevent entry of sediment into water.

PART D: CONDITIONS APPLYING TO WASTE DISPOSAL

1. The Licensee shall locate areas designated for waste disposal at a minimum distance of thirty one (31) metres from the ordinary high water mark of any water body such that the quality, quantity or flow of water is not impaired, unless otherwise approved by the Board in writing.
2. The Licensee shall not practice on-site land filling of domestic waste, unless otherwise approved by the Board in writing.
3. The Licensee is authorized to dispose of all acceptable food waste, paper waste and untreated wood products in an incinerator.
4. The Licensee shall not open burn plastics, wood treated with preservatives, electric wire, Styrofoam, asbestos or painted wood to prevent the deposition of waste materials of incomplete combustion and/or leachate from contaminated ash residual, from impacting any surrounding waters, unless otherwise approved by the Board in writing.
5. The Licensee shall provide to the Board documented authorization from the receiving communities prior to any backhauling of wastes to those communities.
6. The Licensee shall backhaul and dispose of all hazardous wastes, waste oil and non-combustible waste generated through the course of the operation in an approved waste disposal site.
7. The Licensee shall maintain records of all waste backhauled and records of confirmation

of proper disposal of backhauled waste. These records shall be made available to an Inspector upon request.

PART E: CONDITIONS FOR CAMPS, ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURES AND OPERATIONS

1. Camp use is not authorized under this Licence.
2. The Licensee shall not erect tents or store material on the surface of frozen streams or lakes, including the immediate banks, except what is for immediate use. Tents shall be located such as to minimize impacts on surface drainage.
3. All activities shall be conducted in such a way as to minimize impacts on surface drainage and the Licensee shall immediately undertake any corrective measures in the event of any impacts on surface drainage.
4. Winter lake and stream crossings, including ice bridges, shall be constructed entirely of water, ice or snow. The Licensee should minimize disturbance by locating ice bridges in an area that requires the minimum approach grading and the shortest crossing route. Stream crossings shall be removed or the ice notched prior to spring break-up.
5. The Licensee shall maintain a minimum packed snow thickness for overland and portage winter road operations of at least ten (10) centimeters during use, to minimize transport of sediments onto the ice and impacts to water.
6. With respect to access road, pad construction or other earthworks, the deposition of debris or sediment into or onto any water body is prohibited. These materials shall be disposed of at a distance of at least thirty one (31) metres from the ordinary high water mark in such a fashion that they do not enter the water.

PART F: CONDITIONS APPLYING TO DRILLING OPERATIONS

1. The Licensee shall not conduct any land based drilling within thirty one (31) metres of the ordinary high water mark of any water body, unless otherwise approved by the Board in writing.
2. The Licensee shall ensure that all drill waste, including water, chips, muds and salts (CaCl_2) in any quantity or concentration, from land-based shall be disposed of in a properly constructed sump or an appropriate natural depression located at a distance of at least thirty one (31) metres from the ordinary high water mark of any adjacent water body, where direct flow into a water body is not possible and no additional impacts are created.
3. If artesian flow is encountered, drill holes shall be immediately sealed and permanently capped to prevent induced contamination of groundwater or salinization of surface

waters. The Licensee shall report all artesian flow occurrences within the Annual Report, including the location (GPS coordinates) and dates.

4. Where drilling activity has penetrated below the permafrost layer, the Licensee shall record the depth of permafrost and location of the drill hole to be included within the Annual Report.
5. On-ice drilling is not authorized under this Licence

PART G: CONDITIONS APPLYING TO MODIFICATIONS

1. The Licensee may, without written consent from the Board, carry out Modifications to the Water Supply Facilities and Waste Disposal Facilities provided that such Modifications are consistent with the terms of this Licence and the following requirements are met:
 - a. the Licensee has notified the Board in writing of such proposed Modifications at least sixty (60) days prior to beginning the Modifications;
 - b. such Modifications do not place the Licensee in contravention of the Licence or the *Act*;
 - c. such Modifications are consistent with the NIRB Screening Decision
 - d. the Board has not, during the sixty (60) days following notification of the proposed Modifications, informed the Licensee that review of the proposal will require more than sixty (60) days; and
 - e. the Board has not rejected the proposed Modifications.
2. Modifications for which all of the conditions referred to in Part G, Item 1 have not been met can be carried out only with written approval from the Board.
3. The Licensee shall provide as-built plans and drawings of the Modifications referred to in this Licence within ninety (90) days of completion of the Modification. These plans and drawings shall be stamped by an Engineer.

PART H: CONDITIONS APPLYING TO SPILL CONTINGENCY PLANNING

1. The Board has approved the Plan entitled "Fuel Spill Contingency Plan for the Peter Lake Project Nunavut, Canada" dated May, 2011 that was submitted on June 11, 2011 as additional information with the Application.
2. Licensee shall submit within thirty (30) days of issuance of the Licence, an Addendum to the Plan referred to in Part H, Item 1, in the format set out by the Consolidation of Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations R-068-93, addressing the following issues:
 - a. Include in the contacts list, the Water Resources Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Regional Manager,

- Iqaluit, 867-975-4566;
 - b. Include in the contacts list, the Nunavut Water Board, Gjoa Haven, Nunavut, 867-360-6338;
 - c. Provide reference and include within the Plan, a topographical map of the Project area, of appropriate scale, to adequately indicate locations of fuel caches and Spill Kits in relation to nearby water bodies;
 - d. Provide a reference to and include in an appendix, the Nunavut/NWT Spill Report Form (interactive pdf) along with the users guide; and
 - e. Appendix for the MSDS's provided with the plan
- 3. The Licensee shall prevent any chemicals, petroleum products or wastes associated with the project from entering water. All sumps and fuel caches shall be located at a distance of at least thirty one (31) metres from the ordinary high water mark of any adjacent water body and inspected on a regular basis.
- 4. The Licensee shall ensure that any equipment maintenance and servicing be conducted only in designated areas and shall implement special procedures (such as the use of drip pans) to manage motor fluids and other waste and contain potential spills.
- 5. If during the term of this Licence, an unauthorized discharge of waste occurs, or if such a discharge is foreseeable, the Licensee shall:
 - a. Employ the Spill Contingency Plan;
 - b. Report the spill immediately to the 24-Hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130 and to the Inspector at (867) 975-4295; and
 - c. For each spill occurrence, submit to the Inspector, no later than thirty (30) days after initially reporting the event, a detailed report that will include the amount and type of spilled product, the GPS location of the spill, and the measures taken to contain and clean up the spill site.

PART I: CONDITIONS APPLYING TO ABANDONMENT AND RESTORATION OR TEMPORARY CLOSING

- 1. The Board has approved the Plan entitled "Abandonment & Reclamation Plan for the Peter Lake Project Nunavut, Canada" dated May, 2011 that was submitted as additional information with the Application.
- 2. The Licensee shall complete all restoration work prior to the expiry of this Licence.
- 3. The Licensee shall carry out progressive reclamation of any components of the project no longer required for the Licensee's operations.
- 4. The Licensee shall backfill and restore all sumps to the pre-existing natural contours of the land.

5. The Licensee shall remove from the site, all infrastructure and site materials, including all fuel caches, drums, barrels, buildings and contents, docks, water pumps and lines, material and equipment prior to the expiry of this Licence.
6. All roads and airstrip, if any, shall be re-graded to match natural contour to reduce erosion.
7. In order to promote growth of vegetation and the needed microclimate for seed deposition, all disturbed surfaces shall be prepared by ripping, grading, or scarifying the surface to conform to the natural topography.
8. Areas that have been contaminated by hydrocarbons from normal fuel transfer procedures shall be reclaimed to meet objectives as outlined in the Government of Nunavut's Environmental Guideline for Site Remediation, January 2002. The use of reclaimed soils for the purpose of back fill or general site grading may be carried out only upon consultation and approval by the Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment and an Inspector.
9. Drill holes and disturbed areas will be restored to natural conditions immediately upon completion of the drilling. The reclamation of drill holes must include the removal of any drill casing materials and the capping of holes with a permanent seal.
10. The Licensee may store drill cores produced by the appurtenant undertaking in an appropriate manner and location at least thirty one (31) metres above the ordinary high water mark of any adjacent water body, where any direct flow into a water body is not possible and no additional impacts are created.
11. All disturbed areas shall be contoured and stabilized upon completion of work and restored to a pre-disturbed state.

PART J: CONDITIONS APPLYING TO THE MONITORING PROGRAM

1. The Licensee shall measure and record, in cubic metres, the daily quantities of water utilized for drilling and other related purposes.
2. The Licensee shall provide the GPS co-ordinates (in degrees, minutes and seconds of latitude and longitude) of all locations where sources of water are utilized for all purposes.
3. The Licensee shall determine the GPS co-ordinates (in degrees, minutes and seconds of latitude and longitude) of all locations where wastes associated with drilling operations, are deposited.
4. All sampling, sample preservation and analyses shall be conducted in accordance with methods prescribed in the current edition of *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*, or by such other methods approved by the Board in writing.

5. All analyses shall be performed in a laboratory accredited according to ISO/IEC Standard 17025. The accreditation shall be current and in good standing.
6. Additional monitoring requirements may be requested by the Inspector.
7. The Licensee shall include in the Annual Report required under Part B, Item 2 all data, monitoring results and information required by this Part.