



Water Resources Division
Nunavut Regional Office
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

NWB File: 2BE-SIP1114
CIDMS #: 518312

Apr 2, 2012

**Re: 2BE-SIP1114 – Amendment Application – Southampton Island
Project – Vale Exploration Canada Inc. (Vale)**

Please be advised that the Water Resources Division of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) have completed a review of the amendment application 2BE-SIP1114 submitted by Golder Associates on behalf of VALE. The Nunavut Water Board (NWB) circulated the amendment application for comments on Mar 2, 2012. All documents related to the new application posted on the NWB ftp site under 2BE-SIP1114 were included in my review (See attached Technical Review Memo).

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact myself at (867) 975-4282 or by email at Ian.Parsons@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Ian Parsons
Regional Coordinator



Technical Review Memorandum

To: Phyllis Beaulieu – Manager of Licensing, Nunavut Water Board

From: Ian Parsons – Regional Coordinator, Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development Canada.

Re: 2BE-SIP1114 – Amendment Application – Southampton Island Project – Vale Exploration Canada Inc. (Vale)

Background

The Southampton Island Project is located 65 km Northeast of Coral Harbour on Southampton Island in the Nunavut Territory. The proponent is proposing the development of a main camp to support prospecting and drilling activities over a five year period (2012-2017). The camp is proposed to be large enough to support up to 20 people for a maximum of three months for the first year (summer only) and possibly longer for subsequent years depending on drill results of the first year.

The amendment application activities include:

- 1) Increased water use from 16m³/day to 100m³/day to support increased mining exploration related activities.
- 2) Project camp location.
- 3) Term of project water license

Recommendations/Comments

Application and Questionnaire

AANDC notes that VALE is requesting a change to the duration of its water license. The amendment application is requesting a new term for the years 2012-17. AANDC has no issue with the extended request to the term of water license.

AANDC recommends that the proponent submit to the NWB all source locations for water use, including water use for drilling operations, when they become available.



AANDC recommends that all relevant leases, permits, conformity checks and screenings as well as any other authorizations are in place and proper approvals received before any work commences. AANDC notes that questions 7 and 8 have been checked **NO**; however written confirmation from both the Nunavut Planning Commission and the Nunavut Impact Review Board has not been attached.

AANDC recommends that the proponent have the proper authorizations from the hamlet of Coral Harbour before depositing wastes into the hamlet's approved landfill facility.

AANDC recommends all contaminated wastes that are collected in drums as well as any other hazardous waste should be removed from the site in a timely manner and disposed of at an approved waste disposal site. The proponent should be advised that in order to transport hazardous wastes in Nunavut the waste generator is required to be registered with the Government of Nunavut, Environmental Protection Division as well as providing the final destination for the hazardous wastes (approved registered facility).

AANDC reminds the proponent that **open burning** is **not** permitted and the burning of applicable waste is to be conducted only within an approved incinerator.

Spill Contingency Plan

AANDC recommends that any and all spills, regardless of size, should be reported to the Manager of Field Operations of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (formerly INAC) at the following numbers 867 975 4295 or Fax 867 975 6445. These contact numbers should be reflected throughout the plan.

AANDC recommends that the proponent submit an updated spill contingency plan describing the method of secondary containment to be used for the fuel cache. AANDC recommends using the guidelines and regulations on the NWB ftp site as well as AAANDC Guidelines for Spill Contingency Planning.



Closure and Reclamation Plan

AANDC recommends that the proponent explain how the tent structures and associated camp equipment will be stored (i.e., sea cans, weatherhaven buildings, etc).

AANDC also recommends, as was mentioned above, that the proponent have all the necessary approvals in place before any deposit of wastes and/or hazardous waste takes place in the specified approved locations.

Cc Murray Ball, Manager of Water Resources – AANDC, Nunavut Regional Office.
Andrew Keim, A/Manager Field Operations – AANDC, Nunavut Regional Office.