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| **From:** | Damien Côté |
| **To:** | Andrew.Keim@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca |
| **Cc:** | Karen Kharatyan; dts@nunavutwaterboard.org; "Phyllis Beaulieu" |
| **Subject:** | Meadowbank Correspondence re: Water Usage |
| **Date:** | Friday, September 28, 2012 5:27:17 PM |

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for your call this afternoon and for bringing the above noted matter to my attention. I've since had more time to look into this issue and to correspond with our Director of Technical Services, our Manager of Licensing and the author of the correspondence dated September 28, 2012 ("the letter"), namely our Technical Advisor Karén Kharatyan.

Allow me to draw your attention to the closing paragraph of the letter and to highlight – what I'm told – was some carefully selected wording on our part:

> "The NWB concurs with AEM, that improving the water management practices on site resulting in a reduction of the fresh water usage (and subsequently within the licence authorized amount) is a much better resource management approach than seeking permission for additional fresh water to be used through an amendment to the Licence. The **NWB acknowledges the efforts being made by the Licensee with respect to reduction in freshwater use and water recycling/reuse, however would like to remind the Licensee that all terms and conditions of the Licence including Part E, Item 3 still apply**. The NWB looks forward to an update from AEM with results of the studies and the direction if any, the Company will pursue once reclaim/recycle studies have been completed.

I also take note of correspondence from AANDC dated March 23-24, 2012 that the NWB has on file and of the language that it contains:

> "The total allowable volume of water as authorized under the current license has been exceeded and **must be addressed by the licensee either though an amendment application or reduction in the consumption rate**. A **plan to address this issue is to be developed prior to the period of the next Inspection**."

Further, I'm informed that we have, as of today's date, no additional follow-up Inspection Reports from AANDC on file. As such, in the event that a follow-up inspection was indeed completed prior to today's date by AANDC and that the related correspondence was prepared or even delivered, it should be noted that the NWB operated in the absence of this information.

In analyzing the language quoted above, it appears as though both the NWB and AANDC delivered (or implied) the same 2 points: firstly that we encourage efforts to reduce water use and second, that all terms and conditions of the current licence still apply. AANDC, for its part, requested that a "plan to address this issue is to be developed prior to the period of the next Inspection" whereas the NWB reminded that "all terms and conditions of the Licence including Part E, Item 3 still apply". It would appear as though AANDC is still at liberty in its enforcement capacity to follow up as it sees fit in this matter.

I hope that this helps shed light on the issue. Please let me know if there is anything additional I might be able to do to further assist or clarify.

Damien

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