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# **Environment Canada Presentation Regarding 2AM-MRY 1325 Amendment No. 1**

Nunavut Water Board

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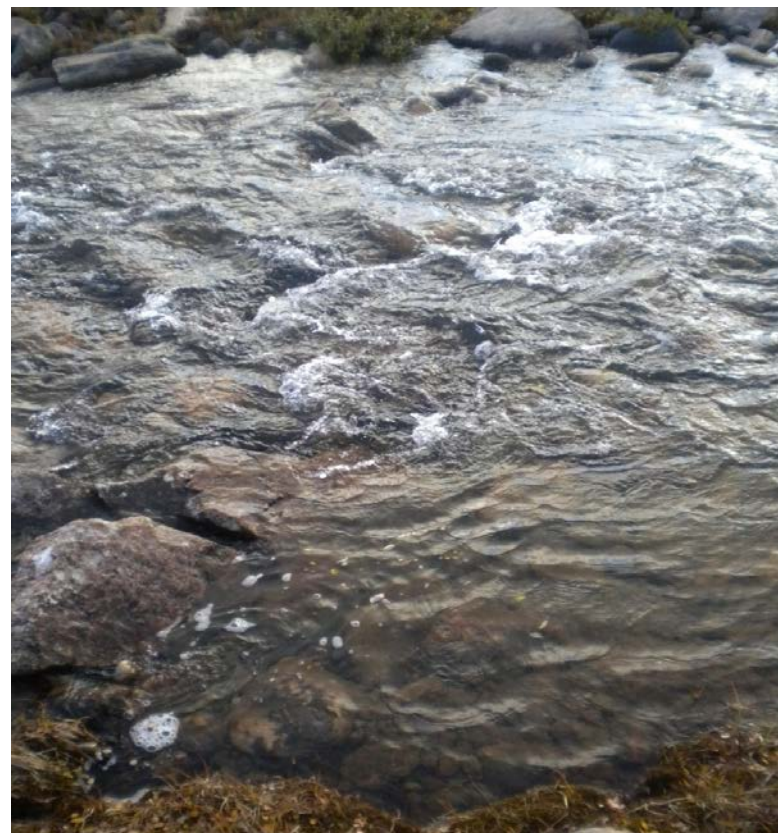
ENVIRONMENT CANADA

Jan. 28, 2015

# Overview

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- **Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER):**
  - Purpose
  - Application
  - Monitoring requirements
  - Other tools



# PURPOSE OF MMER

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- Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER) were promulgated under s.36(5) of the Fisheries Act
- Were designed to protect fish and fish habitat from effects in receiving waters due to the release of effluent from metal mines
- Allow for deposit of deleterious substances from metal mines into waters frequented by fish under specified conditions

# MMER APPLICATION

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Applies to:

- Mines, milling facilities, mines under development, new mines or re-opened mines with a total effluent flow rate of 50 m<sup>3</sup>/day or greater

MMER provides authority to:

- Deposit effluent that contains deleterious substances into water if effluent:
  - Concentration limits in Schedule 4 are not exceeded
  - Effluent pH is between 6 and 9.5
  - Is not acutely lethal

MMER applies until:

- the mine is recognized as closed

# MMER REQUIREMENTS

- Effluent water quality and toxicity testing at final discharge points
- Environmental Effects Monitoring (EEM)
- Reporting requirements:
  - Acute lethality observed
  - Schedule 4 limits exceeded
  - Effluent seepage
  - Changes in effluent characteristics
  - Change in ownership or activity
- Emergency Response Plan





# MILNE PORT AND THE MMER

- The MMER apply to all effluent coming from ore that is stockpiled on the mine site.....

**BUT**

- Milne Port is not part of the mine site.....

**THEREFORE,**

- the MMER do not apply to effluent discharges from the port site stockpile.



# OTHER APPLICABLE TOOLS

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## Federal Legislation:

- *Fisheries Act 36(3)*
- *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act*

## Territorial tools:

- Water licence
- Project Certificate



# MONITORING OF MILNE PORT DISCHARGES

- Project Certificate requires marine monitoring at Milne Inlet
- Water Licence monitoring station to be established
- EC/DFO/Baffinland discussing marine monitoring approaches





# WATER LICENCE TERM

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- *EC suggests that:*
  - Current term is adequate
  - Allows sufficient time for monitoring to inform the licence renewal process
  - Provides reasonable balance between investor interests and the uncertainties related to operational conditions and the lack of site specific data

# Thank You

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