Environmental Protection Branch, 301, 5204 50<sup>th</sup> Ave., Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2

August 13, 2002

Dionne Filiatrault Senior Technical Advisor Nunavut Water Board P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0 Our File:

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Re: NWB2MEA0204 - Meadowbank Site Abandonment and Restoration Commitment - per KIA Lease Agreement - Jul 02

On behalf of Environment Canada, I have reviewed the additional documentation associated with this file. Generally, both the Environmental Terms and Conditions - Schedule "C" and the Environmental Action Plan "D" are thorough documents.

Environment Canada has two questions for the proponent. Regarding section 1.1.3 of the Environmental Action Plan "Remove Fuel Drums", does the proponent intend to conduct the crushing of the drums on top of a geotextile liner or tarp? If one can assume that there are remnants of fuel in the drums it would be best to conduct this crushing over top of something that can contain the fuel to avoid contaminating a new site. In Section 3.4 "Burned Sites", Environment Canada's concerns are in regards to the incomplete burning of materials, the proponent should create a detailed list of materials which can and cannot be burned and ensure that this is distributed to all those working on the burning activities. In addition to this, Environment Canada is uncertain of the site details, however with burning described as one of the means to eliminate materials, the proponent should be aware of the surface upon which burning is being conducted. For example, if peat is present, the proponent must be aware of the possibilities of causing a "peat fire", or if permafrost is present the proponent must consider the issues associated with degrading that underlying permafrost layer and the possible impacts that this will have on site reclamation.

Environment Canada would be interested in receiving the site monitoring reports from the proponent via the KIA.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4743 with any questions or comments regarding the foregoing.

Sincerely,

## original signed by

Paula Pacholek Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc:

Anne Wilson, Water Pollution Specialist, EPB Stephen Harbicht, Head of Assessment and Monitoring, EPB