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EC file: 4703 003 041
NWB file: 2BB-MEL0914

via e-mail: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

RE: 2BB-MEL0914 Amendment 2 – Comaplex Minerals – Kivalliq Region

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned application. The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Comaplex Minerals Corp. (Comaplex) is applying for an amendment of their Type “B” water license to allow for geotechnical drilling on either side of the Meliadine River within 31 m of water. The drilling would be along Comaplex’s proposed all-weather road route between Rankin Inlet and the proposed mine site and its purpose is to determine the structure integrity of specific water crossings along the proposed road. Up to thirty, 10 m drill holes are to be drilled over the next four years, with the majority proposed to be drilled in the summer of 2010. No in-stream drilling is planned and no additives, such as CaCl₂, will be used.

EC provides the following comments and recommendations for the Nunavut Water Board’s consideration:

- All mitigation measures identified by Comaplex, and the additional measures suggested herein, should be strictly adhered to in conducting project activities. This will require awareness on the part of Comaplex’s project representatives (including contractors) conducting operations in the field. EC recommends that all field operations staff be made aware of Comaplex’s commitments to these mitigation measures and provided with appropriate advice and training on how to implement these measures.
- The proponent shall take measures to prevent erosion of the river bed and/or banks and the resulting sedimentation of the river. Preventative measures, such as the use of silt curtains or fences, should be employed where required. Further, any material to be placed in the river shall be clean and free of fines.

Comments previously submitted by EC regarding the initial license application and previous amendments would still apply to this file. If there are any changes in the proposed project, EC should be notified, as

further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email at Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,



Paula C. Smith
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)
Ron Bujold (Environmental Assessment Technician, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)