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10 May 2012

EC file: 4703 001 131
NWB file: 2BE-BEL1114

Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
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Via email: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

**RE: 120410 2BE-BEL1114 Amendment Application – Canadian Orebodies Inc. –
Qikiqtani Region**

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned amendment application as submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Canadian Orebodies Inc. is proposing to amend water license 2BE-BEL1114 for their Belcher Islands Haig West Project. The proposed amendment includes an increase of water use; up to 160 m³/day for camp and drilling use, an increase from the originally permitted 10m³/day.

Based on a review of the proposed amendment, EC provides the following comments for the NWB's consideration:

General

- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of chemicals, sediment, wastes, or fuels associated with the project into any water body. According to the *Fisheries Act*, Section 36 (3), the deposition of deleterious substances of any type in water frequented by fish, or in any place under any conditions where the deleterious substance, or any deleterious substance that results from the deposit of the deleterious substance, may enter any such water, is prohibited.
- EC does not foresee any major issues with the increased water use as long as there are proper measures in place to cope with the increase in waste water. For example, with respect to drilling, will additional sumps be created or do the current sumps have enough capacity to deal with the increased waste water? Should additional sumps be needed, are there enough suitable locations available?

Comments previously submitted on behalf of EC regarding water license 2BE-BEL on 1 June 2011 would still apply. If there are any additional proposed changes to the project EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact the

undersigned 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)
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