



Environment Canada
Environnement Canada

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July 18, 2001

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Our file: 4703-001

Nunavut Water Board

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Licensing Administrator
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Re: Comments on Application for Water License NIRB01WN082/NWB2NAD - BHP Diamonds Inc. and Falconbridge Limited - Mining Exploration and Campsite Nadiurdjuk and Dewer Lake, Baffin, NU.

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the above noted water license NIRB01WN082/NWB2NAD. The comments provided for the above water license have been made under Section 36 of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA) and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA).

BHP Diamonds Inc. in collaboration with Falconbridge Limited have proposed to construct a 20 person camp near Nadiurdjuk Lake. The camp will serve as the base in order to carry out the reconnaissance prospecting and mapping over a 4 week period beginning July 5th and completing August 3rd, 2001. All exploration activities will have helicopter support however all-terrain vehicles will also be used.

Comments and Recommendations

The proponent neglected to:

- state that "all spills" are to be documented and reported to the NWT Spill line (867) 920-8130;
- provide a list of all hazardous materials that may be used during the program;
- provide a map indicating the location of camp in relation to water;
- include the estimated volume of proposed sump for camp activities;
- include locations for all fuel caches in relation to water for aircraft, and camp uses.

The following conditions should be applied throughout all phases of the project.

- The proponent shall ensure that any chemicals, fuel or wastes associated with the proposed project do not enter waters frequented by fish. All sumps, spill basins and fuel caches should be located in such a manner that the contents do not enter a waterbody.
- EC encourages proponents, when storing barreled fuel at a location, to use a secondary containment rather than relying on "natural depressions". Self supporting insta-berms are available from various suppliers within Canada.

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- No disturbance of the bed or banks of any definable watercourse is permitted. Special efforts must be made to avoid bed and bank disturbance during the spring.
- Ensure the treatment of hazardous and solid wastes at an appropriate disposal facility ie. Iqaluit or Rankin Inlet;
- Environment Canada recommends the use of an approved incinerator.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4639 or by email at lawrence.ignace@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,



Lawrence Ignace
Environmental Assessment Specialist

cc: (Paula Pacholek, Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Yellowknife)