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July 7, 2005

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Via Email at licensing@nwb.nunavut.ca

## RE: NWB2NBP - Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office - North Baffin Project Amendment

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 Environment Canada's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

The Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office is proposing to continue their ongoing North Baffin project, in order to evaluate the economic mineral potential of northeastern Baffin Island. Work for this field season would consist of research, mapping, and geochemical surveys. It is assumed that a temporary camp would be established to support this work.

Environment Canada recommends that following conditions be applied throughout all stages of the project:

- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of any fuel, wastes or sediment 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 other deleterious substance that results from the deposit of the deleterious substance, may enter any such water, is prohibited.
- Environment Canada recommends the use of an approved incinerator for the disposal of combustible camp wastes. The proponent shall ensure that non-combustible wastes receive proper treatment and disposal at an approved facility.
- All sumps used for the disposal of camp wastes (sewage and grey water) shall be located above the high water mark of any waterbody and in such a manner as to prevent the contents from entering any waterbody frequented by fish. Further, all sumps shall be backfilled upon completion of the field season and contoured to match the surrounding landscape.
- The Emergency Response Plan should provide a clear path of response in the event of a spill. The Plan should include the following information:
  - Once available, map of the camp, outlining the location of fuel caches and spill kits;
  - An inventory of the contents of the spill kits;
  - Once available, a list of on-site personnel and the spill reporting structure, including contact information for these individuals.
- Environment Canada recommends that all activities be conducted outside the migratory bird breeding season, which extends from approximately June 1-July 15. These dates are



approximate, and if active nests (i.e., nests containing eggs or young) are encountered outside of these dates, the proponent should avoid the area until nesting is complete (i.e., the young have left the nest). Paragraph 6(a) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* state that no one shall disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of migratory birds.

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) 975-4639 or by email at <a href="mailto:colette.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca">colette.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca</a>.

Yours truly,

## Original signed by

Colette Spagnuolo Environmental Assessment / Contaminated Sites Specialist

cc: (Stephen Harbicht, Head, Assessment and Monitoring, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)

