

Environment Canada
Environnement Canada

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May 26, 2004

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Nunavut Water
Board

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Public Registry

Our file: 4703 001 006

Via facsimile

**Re: NWB2SIS – Sissons Lake Project - Clean-up and Partial Demobilization of Kiggavik Camp
Proponent – Cogema Resources Inc.**

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned application. The following comments are 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*.

Cogema Resources Inc. are in year two of a two year partial demobilization of their Kiggavik exploration camp, located 80 km west of Baker Lake. These activities will necessitate the establishment of a small camp from June 15-August 15, 2004 for 5-8 people who will put the camp into long-term storage mode until the economic and political situation allow for development of the Kiggavik uranium deposit. Radioactive core will continue to be stored at this site as per guidelines provided by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

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

1. 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.
2. All sumps, pits, spill basins and fuel caches 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.
3. All sumps shall be backfilled upon completion of the project and recontoured to match the surrounding landscape.
4. Environment Canada recommends the use of an approved incinerator for the disposal of combustible material.
5. Environment Canada recommends the use of secondary containment with an impervious liner, such as self-supporting insta-berms, for storage of all barreled fuel rather than relying on natural depressions to contain spills.
6. Fuel caches shall also be inspected on a regular basis.
7. The proponent shall have a Spill Contingency Plan in place prior to establishing any fuel caches.

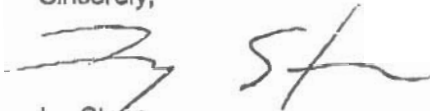
8. Environment Canada recommends the use of drip pans, or other similar preventative measures, when refueling equipment on site.
9. The proponent shall ensure that all hazardous wastes, including waste oil, receive proper treatment and disposal at an approved facility.
10. Please note as well that all material and equipment cached for this study must be removed at the end of the project.
11. **All spills** are to be documented and reported to the NWT 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Comments have also been provided by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) relative to this project's activities:

1. The proponent plans to conduct activities during the migratory bird breeding season. Paragraph 6(a) of the Migratory Birds Regulations states that no one shall disturb or destroy the nests or eggs of migratory birds. Therefore, CWS recommends that all activities be conducted outside the migratory bird breeding season, which extends approximately May 1 to 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 vicinity of the nest).
2. If activities are permitted to occur during the breeding season, CWS recommends the proponent confirm there are no active nests (i.e., nests containing eggs or young) in the vicinity of their operations before activities commence. If active nests of migratory birds are discovered, the proponent should halt all activities until nesting is completed (i.e., the young have left the vicinity of the nest).
3. Species at risk that may be encountered in this area include; Anatum peregrine falcons, listed as threatened under Schedule 1; and grizzly bears, wolverines and Tundrus peregrine falcons, listed as species of Special Concern under Schedule 3 of the Species at Risk Act. While conducting their operations, the proponent should be aware of this special status and minimize disturbance or contact with these species.
4. Environment Canada recommends that camp waste be made inaccessible to wildlife at all times. Camp waste can attract predators of migratory birds (e.g., foxes and ravens) to an area if not disposed of properly.

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) 669-4708 or by email at Ivy.stone@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Ivy Stone
Environmental Assessment

cc: Steve Harbicht (Head, Assessment & Monitoring, Environment Canada, Yellowknife, NT)
Paula Pacholek (Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Environment Canada, Yellowknife, NT)