

August 20, 2003

Jim Wall  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0E 1J0  
Fax: (867) 360-6369

**Re: Amendment to Water License NWB2SNN03095 and Land Use Permit N2003C0021**

Here are my comments.

Regards,



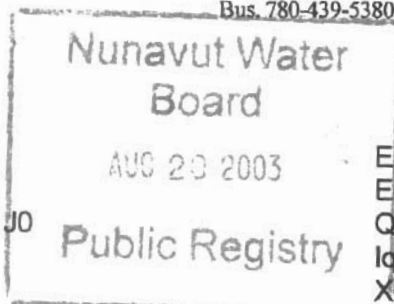
Dean Besserer, P.Geol.

030820NWB2SNN Apex Addnl Comments -ITAE

August 20, 2003

Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0E 1J0

Spencer Dewar  
Land Administration Specialist  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
Yellowknife, NT



Environment Canada  
Environmental Protection Branch  
Qimugluk Building 979 P.O. Box 1870  
Iqaluit, NU  
X0A 0H0

INTERNAL	
PC	DP
MA	
FO	
LA	
BS	
ST	
TA1	Copy
TA2	
RC	
ED	
CH	
BRD	
EXT.	

**Re: Ammendment to Water License NWB2SNN03095 and Land Use Permit N2003C0021**

As requested, please note the following clarifications:

- A kimberlite outcrop was discovered by Northern Empire Minerals Ltd. We are planning to drill test up to 8 short drill holes at the occurrence. Of these, only three are closer than 30meters to the high water mark. These holes are 10m, 15m and 25m meters from water.
- The drill hole locations are tundra covered and are relatively flat and/or have a gradual slope of up to 10 degrees.
- A Hughes 500D Helicopter or Astar BA Helicopter (both of which are on site), will be used to move the drill. No other heavy equipment is on site.
- The ground within 30m of the high water mark is not suseptable to erosion such that it is vegetated with grass and shrubs (tundra). The outcrop itself which is approximately 75m in length forms a natural rock barrier between the lake and the drill site. Disruption at the drill oite will not facilitate future erosion. Limited hand stripping has been completed at the outcrop to facilitate surface sampling. No sediment has been incorporated into the adjacent lake.
- Drill wastes will be actively pumped to a sump more than 80 metres from the high water mark. Drill pans, absorbent matting and wood will be placed under the drill. We anticipate that in the event of a waste release at the drill that drilling will immediately be stopped and the spill contained. Since a limited amount of waste is being produced when drilling, in the unlikely event of a spill, and due to the flat nature of the terrane, we anticipate that the spill will be contained and will NOT be deposited into any water body.
- All fuel, lubricants, drill additives etc. will be stored well above the high water mark with the appropriate spill kits. As well, any other potentially hazardous materials will be stored above the high water mark with the appropriate absorbent matting.
- Spill kits are on site at the drill and at all fuel storage locations.
- All spills will be documented and reported to the NWT 24 hour Spill Line.
- No deleterious substances of any type will be deposited into any water body.

Should you have any other questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at our field office in Igloolik at 867-934-8552.

  
Dean Besserer, P.Geol.