Water Resources Nunavut Regional Office P.O. Box 100 Igaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence 2BE-STO1015

September 11, 2012

Our file - Notre référence CIDM# 575285

Phyllis Beaulieu Manager, Licensing Nunavut Water Board P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU, X0A 1J0

Re: 2BE-STO1015 Amendment Application, Commander Resources Ltd., Type B, Qikiqtani Region

Dear Phyllis Beaulieu:

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) has performed a review of the amended water license application 2BE-STO1015 submitted by Commander Resources Ltd. to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The following advice has been provided pursuant to AANDC's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act (NWNSRTA) and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act (DIAND Act). In conducting our review, AANDC referred to the documents on the NWB's FTP-site under 2BE-STO1015.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 975-4568 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Rory.MacDonald@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca">Rory.MacDonald@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca</a>

Regards,

Sent via Email

Rory MacDonald Water Resources Technician

Cc. Murray Ball, Manager of Water Resources, AANDC Ian Parsons A/Manager of Water Resources, AANDC Andrew Keim, A/Manager of Field Operations, AANDC





## Technical Review Memorandum

To: Phyllis Beaulieu – Manager of Licensing, Nunavut Water Board

From: Rory MacDonald - Water Resources Technician, AANDC

Existing Water License: 2BE-STO1015

# Re: 2BE-STO1015 Amendment Application, Commander Resources Ltd., Type B, Qikiqtani Region

# A. Project Description

Commander Resources Ltd. holds an existing water license issued by the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) – license # 2BE-STO1015. Provisions in the existing water license address water use for a small, temporary exploration camp and diamond drilling activities within the Prospecting Permit No. 7548, held by Commander Resources Ltd. The amended application submitted by Commander Resources proposes 20 new diamond drill sites and a small temporary tent camp to accommodate up to 12 persons to carry out the drilling program in the summer of 2013. This application amendment camp site and drilling program are at a new location within Commanders adjacent prospecting permit No. 7549 – located on a small lake roughly 2.5 km west of the current NWB approved area of planned drilling.

The proposed amendment will not affect the type of water use, quantity of water used, or environmental considerations. Camp water will be taken from a small, unnamed lake about 700m x 200m in size near the Storm Camp. Water for drilling in the Seal (proposed) area will be taken from a number of small lakes proximal to the drilling site within the approved Prospecting Permit No. 7549. Care will be taken to ensure that water bodies have large enough capacity to avoid impact on lake level or flow.

Proposed domestic water usage is 2m³/day (no change from existing application). Expected water usage for the diamond drilling program at the new proposed site is 15m³/day with potential for as high as 30m³/day based on continuous drilling of 24hours/day. Wherever possible, water will be re-circulated to minimize uptake from water source. Total expected water use is proposed not to exceed 17m³/day.

Drill cuttings will be disposed of in a natural sump. If no sump is available, cuttings will be collected and disposed of in a suitable sump. Drill water will be directed towards a sump and away from surface water bodies.

The drilling will be completed using a helicopter portable diamond drill rig and should take approximately 8-12 weeks to complete. This program is to be completed either in the summer of 2013, or the summer of 2014. Future exploration, including a more extensive diamond drilling program, will depend on the results of this work.

### B. Results of Review

AANDC Water Resources Division offers the following comments/ recommendations for the Board's consideration.

- 1. General
- AANDC recommends that Commander Resources provide more detailed information regarding the proposed drilling activities (i.e. specific water sources proximal to the proposed drill site). Once water sources have been identified, please submit coordinates to the Nunavut Water Board.



# 2. Waste Management

- Non-combustible solid waste will be stored on site in sealed containers and periodically flown out and taken to an approved disposal site. AANDC recommends that the applicant identify the solid and hazardous waste or oil facility that will accept and dispose of the camp solid waste and/or hazardous waste and oil. It is recommended that the applicant obtain written authorization from an approved solid and hazardous waste facility confirming the use of their facilities for the proper disposal of solid waste and this letter should be provided to the NWB.
- AANDC also recommends that the proponent be advised that in order to transport
  hazardous wastes in Nunavut the waste generator must be registered with the
  Government of Nunavut, Environmental Protection Division and provide the final
  destination for the hazardous wastes (approved registered facility).

# 3. Spill Contingency Plan

 In addition to reporting spills to the Nunavut/NWT Spill Report Line, AANDC recommends that all spills be reported to the AANDC Manager of Field Operations at 867-975-4289 (phone) and/or 867-975-6445 (fax).

#### 4. Abandonment and Reclamation

 The Abandonment and Reclamation Plan developed by Commander Resources is satisfactory.

## 5. Fuel Management

It is recommended that there be secondary containment for all fuel stored on site at a minimum of thirty one meters (31m) from all water bodies. It is also recommended that during off-season (winter) fuel caches be surrounded by impact barriers and clearly labeled with high visibility markers during snow cover to avoid damage.

