



Environment Environnement
Canada Canada

Environmental Protection Operations
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June 20, 2008

Our file: 4703 001 085

Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
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Via Email: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

RE: NWB 2BE-TRN – Rockgate Capital Corp. – Turner Lake Project

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*.

Rockgate Capital Corporation is planning to conduct a diamond drill program near Turner Lake, approximately 55 km northwest of Bathurst Inlet, NU. The program will take place from mid June 2008 to late August 2008 and will consist of the nine drill pads, with several drill holes per pad. Approximately 4000 meters of drilling will occur during 2008. Only one temporary structure, for the purposes of core logging and to act as an emergency shelter, will be built; crews will be based out of Bathurst Inlet and shuttled to work locations.

Environment Canada supports the mitigation measures proposed by Rockgate Capital Corporation and would like to add the following comments and recommendations.

Comments and Recommendations

- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of any fuel, chemicals, wastes or sediment into any water body. It is a requirement of Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act* that all effluent discharged into water frequented by fish, be non-deleterious.
- Land based drilling should not occur within 30 m of the high water mark of any water body. Drilling wastes from land based drilling shall be disposed of in a sump, such that the contents do not enter any water body.
- If artesian flow is encountered, the drill hole shall be immediately plugged and permanently sealed.
- Drip pans should be used when refuelling any equipment on site. An appropriate spill kit with absorbent material should be located at all fuel transfer sites
- All fuel containers must be properly sealed and stacked in an upright position to prevent the possibility of spills and leaks. When storing barrelled fuel at a location, EC recommends the use of secondary containment, such as self-supporting insta-berms, rather than relying on natural depressions.
- Environment Canada recommends the use of sumps for the disposal of sludge and drill cuttings. All sumps shall be located above the high water mark of any water body and in such a manner as to prevent the contents from entering any water body frequented by fish. Further, all sumps shall be

backfilled upon completion of the field season and contoured so as to match the surrounding landscape.

- The proponent shall ensure that any non-combustible waste is disposed of appropriately at an approved facility.
- The proponent shall ensure that any hazardous materials, including waste oil, receive proper treatment and disposal at an approved facility.
- **All spills** are to be documented and reported to the NWT/NU Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.
- Update the contact numbers in the Spill Contingency Plan to include the current contact numbers for Environment Canada - Nunavut:
 - Phone: 867-766-3737
 - Fax: 867-873-8185

Environmental Protection Operations (EPO) should be notified of changes in the proposed or permitted activities associated with this application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4744 or ron.bujold@ec.gc.ca with any questions or comments.

Yours truly,

Ron Bujold
Environmental Assessment Technician

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Assessment & Monitoring, EPO)
Mike Fournier (Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, A&M, EPO)
Jane Fitzgerald (Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPO)