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Your file Votre référence
3AM-ARV----

Our file Notre référence
NU-09-0043

February 24, 2010

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut
X0B 1J0

via e-mail: licensing@nunavutboard.org

Dear R. Dwyer:

Subject: New Type "A" Water Licence and Technical Review in Renewal of the Type "B" 3BM-ARV0308

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) received a Completeness Check from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) on December 21, 2009 requesting to provide input concerning the project proposal submitted by the Hamlet of Arviat. The proposal has been reviewed to determine whether it is likely to result in impacts to fish and fish habitat which are prohibited by the habitat protection provisions of the *Fisheries Act* or those prohibitions of the *Species at Risk Act* that apply to aquatic species. Our review was limited to fish and fish habitat.

Our January 12, 2010 letter to the NWB provided the proponent with specific recommendations and requests for additional information, as applicable to their project, in relation to our regulatory mandate under the federal *Fisheries Act* and in context to our national Policy for the Management of Fish and Fish Habitat. In response to the NWB's January 25, 2010 letter, DFO is grateful for the opportunity to provide further input and submit specific additional information requests to further the review for the above noted project.

Our review consisted of:

- *Water Licence Complete Submission, Main Body," prepared by Nuna Burnside Engineering and Environmental Ltd., dated December 23, 2008, received by DFO December 21, 2009.*
- *"Figure 3, Hamlet of Arviat, Nunavut, Water Licence Submission, Major Drainage Basins" prepared by Nuna Burnside Engineering and Environmental Ltd., received by DFO December 21, 2009..*

Based on the above information and in conjunction with the review currently being undertaken by the NWB, DFO is in the opinion that the proposal could result in impacts to fish and fish habitat and requires additional information for further review. Of particular concern is draw down of the Wolf River and the intake fish screen.

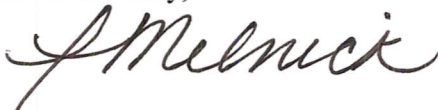
In order to provide our advice with respect to the impact to fish and fish habitat or determine our potential role related to this Type "A" Water Licence, we require, at a minimum, the following additional information on impacts to fish and fish habitat:

- A detailed assessment of the proposed volume of water to be withdrawn from Wolf River against total annual recharge and the potential ramifications of draw down.
- A detailed description of the proposed water intake. Refer to the Freshwater Intake End-of-Pipe Fish Screen Guideline (DFO 1995), which is available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/library/223669.pdf.

For more information on those sections most relevant to the review of development proposals, including 20, 22, 32 and 35 of the *Fisheries Act* and sections 32, 33 and 58 of the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca. Please be advised that any impacts to fish and fish habitat which result from proceeding with this proposal could lead to corrective action such as enforcement.

I trust that the additional information requested will be of assistance in the Nunavut Water Board's review for the new Type "A" Water Licence for the Hamlet of Arviat. If you or the proponent have any questions concerning the above, please contact me directly by telephone at (204) 983-2632, by fax (204) 983-7983, or by e-mail at Loriena.Melnick@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,



Loriena Melnick
Habitat Management Biologist
Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Eastern Arctic Area

Copy: Eric Kan – Fisheries and Oceans Canada