



Date: June 28/10

To: Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board

From: Ian Parsons, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Nunavut
Regional Office, Water Resources Division

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Re: Water License # 3AM-ARV----, Government of Nunavut, Department of Community and Government Services (GN-CGS), Hamlet of Arviat. Water License Renewal (#3BM-ARV0308) Application, July 20-22, 2010 Public Hearing

Please be advised that Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has reviewed the above referenced Type A Water License Renewal application submitted by GN-CGS to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) for approval.

A brief chronology of events is provided below along with INAC's concerns to date.

Chronology:

- Hamlet of Arviat's Water Licence #3BM-AR0308 expired December 31, 2008.
- Government of Nunavut's Department of Community and Government Services obtained the services of Nuna Burnside to apply for a renewal of the water license in December of 2008.
- The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) acknowledged receipt of the renewal application with additional documents to follow on January 16th, 2009
- The Board notes in the January letter that the application qualifies as a Type 'A' licence on a population basis of >2,000 persons and would also necessitate a Public Hearing.
- The Board requested several additional documents to complete the water license renewal application on May 15, 2009.
- The Board acknowledged receipt of the additional documents on August 6, 2009.
- The Board solicited comment from interested parties on December 21, 2009 on completeness of the application. Technical review of the water license application would continue sometime after January 11, 2010.



- INAC's February 18, 2010 comments to the Board regarding the facility and completeness of the application (#3AM-ARV----) are summarized below.
- The NWB held a Technical Meeting/Pre-Hearing Conference (TM/PHC) on March 30/31, 2010.
- INAC, Environment Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment, GN-CGS, Nuna Burnside and the NWB participated in the TM/PHC.
- During the teleconference the main concerns, of the regulatory agencies, of the water license renewal were brought forth by the NWB. As the issues were brought forth the proponent was given an opportunity to respond and clarify. At the end of the teleconference it was decided that the proponent would provide updated documents to clarify a number of issues brought forth at the TM/PHC. At this time it was agreed that the proponent would provide these documents by April 16, 2010.
- The NWB outlined the commitments made by the parties attending the March 30/31, 2010 teleconference in a letter dated May 7, 2010. Commitments were to be met by April 16, 2010 via submission to the NWB.
- In a letter dated June 3, 2010 the NWB acknowledged receipt of updated documents (i.e. commitments from TM/PHC) from the proponent.

**INAC's comments:
Sewage Lagoon**

- INAC's primary concern is the integrity of the sewage lagoon as a safe and effective way of treating sewage produced by the Hamlet of Arviat. INAC recommended that further studies were warranted but are not limited to: a geotechnical study of the berms and lagoon retention times.

INAC's concerns are based on statements made in the Operation and Maintenance plan of the Sewage Treatment Facility; where it is indicated that the Sewage Lagoon level never falls or rises, indicating that the seepage rate equals daily input (208,000L). As well as INAC inspector's sampling indicates effluent discharge over CCME guidelines at monitoring station ARV-4

**Non-Compliance Concerns:
Solid Waste Facilities including Bulky and Hazardous Wastes**

- The existing Hamlet of Arviat's solid waste facility is experiencing problems such as ponding and runoff. INAC noted that contaminated runoff from the solid waste facility should be controlled in a manner that prevents it from entering the environment including implementing preventative measures. INAC further noted



that monitoring of the effluent discharge is required at station ARV-2 as per Part H Item 2 of the Water License.

- INAC noted that separation of bulky wastes from the solid waste area outside the area designated for the solid waste facility is not in compliance with the water licence.
- The landfarm located at the bulky wastes site is not licensed.
- The existence of the hazardous waste site outside of the solid waste facility, like the bulky waste site is a non-compliance issue.

Application Completeness:

Part B Item #1 of the water license requires:

- Tabular summaries of all data generated under the Monitoring Program.
- Summary of modifications and major work carried out on water supply and waste disposal facilities
- List of unauthorized discharges
- Summary of abandonment and restoration work completed and any work anticipated for the next year.
- All items required under Part H of the water license regarding monitoring program.

Nuna Burnside, on behalf of the proponent, did address these issues in their March 23rd submission by commenting that the application was done based on records that were available. However, the proponent is required to carry out and perform the tasks that are contained in the Water License.

Nuna Burnside has since provided updated documents (June 3, 2010) that has clarified some issues. However the more technical issues of the license renewal (i.e. sewage lagoon) requiring further discussion were only addressed by stating that those issues will require more time and should be added to the license as 'conditions'.

Cc. Lou-Ann Cornacchio, Manager of Water Resources – Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Nunavut Regional Office



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