



Water Resources Division  
Resource Management Directorate  
Nunavut Regional Office  
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Your file - Votre référence  
3AM-CHE----  
Our file - Notre référence  
GC Docs # : 111546901

April 11, 2023

Richard Dwyer  
Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0  
E-mail: [Licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:Licensing@nwb-oen.ca)

**Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's (CIRNAC)  
Completeness Check on Amendment/Renewal Application for the Municipality  
of Chesterfield Inlet, Type A Water Licence No. 3AM-CHE----**

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for the March 22, 2023 invitation to review the completeness of the Government of Nunavut, Community and Government Services (GN-CGS) application for amendment and renewal of water licence 3BM-CHE1523 to 3AM-CHE---- submitted on behalf of the Municipality of Chesterfield Inlet.

CIRNAC has examined the application pursuant to its mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*. Please find CIRNAC information requests below.

## **1. Abandonment and Reclamation Plan**

Part G, item 1 and 2 of the water licence no. 3BM-CHE1523 states:

*"1. The Licensee shall resubmit as a stand-alone document, for review by the Board, its Abandonment and Restoration Plan within ninety (90) days of the date of issuance of this Licence.*

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*2. The Licensee shall submit to the Board, for approval in writing, an updated Abandonment and Restoration Plan, as referred to in Part G, Item 1, at least six (6) months prior to abandoning any facility or upon submission of the final design drawings for the construction of new facilities to replace existing ones. Where applicable, the updated Plan shall include information on the following:*

- a. Water intake facility;*
- b. the Water treatment and Waste disposal sites and facilities;*
- c. abandoned Water and Waste facility;*
- d. petroleum and chemical storage areas;*
- e. any site affected by Waste spills;*
- f. leachate prevention;*
- g. an implementation schedule;*
- h. maps delineating site facilities;*
- i. consideration of altered drainage patterns;*
- j. type and source of cover materials;*
- k. future area use;*
- l. Hazardous Wastes; and*
- m. a proposal identifying measures by which restoration costs will be financed by the Licensee upon abandonment related to Water use, Waste deposit to Water, or appurtenant undertakings related to Water use and/or deposit of Waste to Water, subject to the act and regulations.”*

**Comment:**

CIRNAC reviewed the information provided in the amendment/renewal application as well as the Nunavut Water Board FTP website and was not able to locate a previously submitted Abandonment and Restoration Plan as prescribed by the Licence.

**Information Request:**

(IR-01) CIRNAC recommends that a conceptional Abandonment and Restoration Plan be provided to the Nunavut Water Board prior to the approval of this application.

**2. Geotechnical/ Engineering Inspection**

Part F item 6 and 7 of water licence 3BM-CHE1523 state:

*“6. An inspection of all engineered facilities related to the management of Water and Waste shall be carried out by an Engineer at a minimum of once annually, and before commissioning any engineered facility related to the management of Water and Waste. The Engineer’s report shall be submitted to the Board within sixty (60) days of the inspection, including a cover letter from the Licensee outlining an implementation plan to address each of the Engineer’s recommendations.*



*7. An inspection of all engineered facilities related to the management of Water and Waste shall be conducted by a Geotechnical Engineer in accordance with the Canadian Dam Safety Guidelines, at least one (1) year prior to the expiry of the Licence, during the open Water period (June/July/August). The Geotechnical Engineer's report shall be submitted to the Board for review within sixty (60) days of the inspection, including a cover letter from the Licensee outlining an implementation plan to address the Engineer's recommendations."*

**Comment:**

CIRNAC reviewed the information provided in the amendment/renewal application as well as the Nunavut Water Board FTP website and was unable to locate an inspection report completed by a Geotechnical or Municipal Engineer in the last 5 years, since the issuance of the licence.

**Information Request:**

(IR-02) CIRNAC requests a copy of the most recent geotechnical/ engineering inspection report for the municipal facilities in Chesterfield Inlet, as it relates to the Water Licence.

**3. Submission of Updated Plans**

On March 29<sup>th</sup> CIRNAC met with Government of Nunavut- Community and Government Services (GN-CGS) to clarify statements made in the following documents regarding CIRNAC's role in the monitoring and maintenance of municipal facilities:

- 2022 Compliance Plan
- 2022 Environmental Emergency Contingency Plan
- 2022 Operations and Maintenance Plan: Sewage Disposal Facilities
- 2022 Operations and Maintenance Plan: Solid Waste Disposal Facilities
- 2022 Operations and Maintenance Plan: Water Supply Facilities

GN-CGS committed to submitting revised plans that clarify the statements of concern.

**Comment:**

GN-CGS provided an update to the Compliance Plan and the Environmental Emergency Contingency Plan but the three Operation and Maintenance Plans still require further clarification.

As expressed GN-CGS on March 29<sup>th</sup>, CIRNAC will not accept plans for review which imply that CIRNAC's annual water licence compliance inspection will be used as a monitoring/ maintenance indicator for inspection by a GN-CGS municipal or geotechnical engineer.



**Information Request:**

(IR-03) CIRNAC requests that the Operations and Maintenance plans be updated and submitted for review for the Sewage Disposal facility, Solid Waste Disposal facilities and Water Supply facility prior to the approval of this application.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (867) 975-4282 or [Christine.Wilson3@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:Christine.Wilson3@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)

Regards,

Christine Wilson,  
Industrial Coordinator