

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
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Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 6200 000 022/005
NWB File: 3AM-COR----



February 25, 2022

via email at: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

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

Dear Richard Dwyer:

RE: 3AM-COR---- – Hamlet of Coral Harbour – Type A Water License Amendment and Renewal Application – ECCC Final Statement

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned Type A Water License Amendment and Renewal Application. ECCC would like to thank the Board, Hamlet of Coral Harbour (the Proponent) and other parties for the opportunity to participate in this review process.

ECCC is providing technical, science-based information and knowledge based on our mandate pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. These comments are intended to inform the assessment of this project's potential effects in the receiving environment and on valued ecosystem components. Any comments received from ECCC in this context does not relieve the proponent of its obligations to respect all applicable federal legislation.

This final statement outlines ECCC's assessment of the project's outstanding technical comments, which were presented to NWB on December 7, 2021 and included in our Final Written Submission.

The status of ECCC's remaining technical comments are as follows:

ECCC# 1 – Commitment 2: Monitoring Ambient Conditions

ECCC recommended the Proponent record ambient (precipitation, wind speed and direction, air temperature, pH, temperature of receiving water body) and notable (eg: algal growth) conditions at the time of sampling in order to support the interpretation of results, that the field measurements be set out in the monitoring plan(s) and results provided in the annual water licence reports.



During the Technical Session, the Proponent stated they would trial the proposed changes in the 2022 sampling season, and incorporate the changes into the QA/QC Plan in 2023 if they were deemed valuable and necessary.

As stated in the Final Written Submission, ECCC-1 is considered resolved. ECCC noted that, if after the trial the Proponent decides not to adopt the recommendation, then a rationale should be provided to justify that decision.

The Hamlet of Coral Harbour submitted the updated QA/QC Plan to NWB on February 17, 2022, which ECCC reviewed. Section 3.3 (Field Sample Log) of the updated QA/QC Plan lists the information to be recorded during sampling events, but does not specify what field measurements are to be taken. ECCC notes that field pH and field temperature should be measured in order to support the interpretation of SNP monitoring results.

ECCC recommends that Section 3.3 (Field Sample Log) and Appendix B (Sampling Log) of the QA/QC Plan specify that field pH and field temperature should be measured and recorded during SNP sampling events.

ECCC# 2 – Commitment 3: Inclusion of field and travel blanks

During the initial technical review, ECCC recommended the QA/QC Plan be updated to: (1) Define field blanks and travel blanks, in consultation with the analytical laboratory; (2) Incorporate at least one travel blank per sampling event; and (3) Ensure that the QA/QC samples represent at least 10% of the total samples collected.

During the Technical Session, the Proponent stated they would trial the proposed inclusion of field and trip blanks in the 2022 sampling season, and incorporate the changes into the QA/QC Plan in 2023 if they were deemed valuable and necessary.

On February 17, 2022, ECCC reviewed the Hamlet of Coral Harbour's updated QA/QC Plan, noting the inclusion of the proposed changes. As the inclusion of field and trip blanks in the updated QA/QC Plan addresses this recommendation, ECCC considers this recommendation resolved.

If you need more information, please contact Jennifer Sabourin at Jennifer.Sabourin@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Corinna Watt, Acting Regional Director
Environmental Protection Operations Directorate, Prairie Northern Region

cc: Jody Small, Acting Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)