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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

**NWB File No: 3AM-GRA1624
Amendment Application**

September 21, 2020

Sarah Collins, P. Eng
Government of Nunavut
Community and Government Services
PO Box 490
Rankin Inlet, NU
X0C 0G0

Email: scollins@gov.nu.ca

**Subject: Application for Type ‘A’ Water Licence Amendment, File No: 3AM-GRA1624,
Government of Nunavut, Community and Government Services.**

Dear Sarah Collins,

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) received on September 16, 2020, of an amendment application and supporting documentation (Application) from Government of Nunavut, Community and Government Services (Applicant or GN-CGS), for their municipal Type “A” Water Licence No: 3AM-GRA1624, for the Water Supply Facilities and associated Water Distribution Utilidor System, operated at the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet (Hamlet).

The Application received on September 16, 2020, consisted of the following documents:

- Application for Water Licence Amendment
- NPC and NIRB Decisions
- Topographic Map
- Diagram of Pipeline Extension to Lower Landing Lake
- 2019 Annual Report
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Rankin Inlet: Final Report, July 2020
- Rankin Inlet Wastewater Effluent Study Report, March 2020
- Nipissar Lake and Lower Landing Lake Water Balance Assessment, February 2016
- Plan for Compliance
- Executive Summary, English
- Executive Summary, Inuktitut

The Application has been placed in the Board’s Public Registry and is available from our ftp site using the following link:

Pre-licensing Requirements

On July 29, 2020, the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) issued its conformity determination stating that the project proposal was previously reviewed by the NPC, and conformity determinations issued on March 19, 2010, and June 19, 2016, still apply. *In addition, the activities were previously screened by Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB File No: 13UN037). The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of understanding that it does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3(a) and (b) of the Nunavut Agreement do not apply.*

The NWB has conducted a preliminary review of your submission(s) and determined that your Application meets the requirements allowing for public distribution in support of an initial technical assessment. Further, the preliminary review confirms that the Application is for a Type “A” Water Licence which will require a public hearing in accordance with s. 52¹ of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (NWSRTA or Act). All public hearing matters will be carried out in accordance with the Board’s *Rules of Practice and Procedure for Public Hearing*, dated May 11, 2005 (NWB Rules).

The next step in processing your Application involves a completeness review and an initial technical assessment to determine, if all of the necessary information and studies to evaluate quantitative and qualitative effects of your project on the freshwater environment have been provided.

Accordingly, by copy of this letter, the Board requests that interested parties review the Application and supplemental information for completeness and conduct an initial technical assessment, including identifying any Information Requests (IRs) that the reviewing party requests be filed to enable that party to complete their technical review of the Application. Further, the NWB invites interested parties to comment on the type of Technical Meeting / Pre-Hearing Conference to be held for the application (written, teleconference, or in person as outlined in steps 3 and 5 in the process overview set out below).

All intervening parties should provide their submissions to the NWB’s Manager of Licensing at licensing@nwb-oen.ca by **October 16, 2020 (3:00 p.m. MT)**.

Following the receipt of comments, the NWB will determine whether the Application is complete, or whether additional information and studies are required (IR’s) to evaluate all quantitative and qualitative effects of the undertaking pursuant to s. 48 of the Act. The NWB will advise the GN-CGS of the Board’s determination at that time.

¹ *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*, section 52 (1) Subject to subsection 37(2), a public hearing shall be held by the Board before it disposes of (a) any application in relation to a licence, unless the application is of a class that is exempted by the regulations from the requirement of a public hearing.

Once the Application has been deemed complete, the following general process will be undertaken. Complete details on the NWB's licensing process are available in NWB Guide 5² and the Board preserves the right to modify the licensing process, including timelines as may be required to appropriately process this Application.

1. **Notice of the Application**

A notice of the Application will be made in accordance with s. 55(1) of the Act. This notice will invite interested persons to make representation to the Board. Parties will be advised of the consequences of failure to respond as outlined in ss. 59 and 60(2) of the Act. Furthermore, the Board will distribute notice to the communities and interested parties affected by the application and shall publish the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the areas that are affected. If there is no such newspaper, the Board shall publish the notice in such other manner as the Board considers appropriate.

2. **Detailed Technical Review**

Interested parties will be invited to undertake a detailed technical assessment or review of the complete application for the undertaking. Parties (interveners and the Applicant) will be encouraged to work cooperatively to address technical issues identified during the review period. Generally, the Board provides at least thirty (30) days for a technical review in advance of a technical meeting. However, to assist the Board in expediting the technical assessment, parties are encouraged to begin their detailed technical assessment as early as possible (during and following the initial request for IRs).

3. **Technical Meeting (TM) / Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC)**

Rule 14 of the NWB Rules permits the Board, through its staff or in conjunction with staff, to hold a Technical Meeting (TM) and Pre-hearing Conference (PHC) with interested parties, either in writing, by teleconference, or in person. The Board anticipates setting a date for a TM/PHC shortly after the deadline for receiving technical review submissions. The PHC is typically scheduled to immediately follow the TM.

4. **Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC) Decision**

Following the TM/PHC, the NWB will issue a PHC decision and may outline any technical commitments of the Applicant, and the administrative and procedural requirements for a Public Hearing.

5. **Public Hearing (PH)**

Sub-section 55(2) of the Act requires that a minimum notice period of sixty (60) days be provided for a Public Hearing (PH). As with the Technical Meeting and Pre-hearing Conference, the Board has the ability to conduct its PH in writing, by teleconference, or in

² Guide 5 – Processing Water Licence Applications (April 2010).

person. Once the Board has received all information requested through this process and is satisfied that the PH should proceed, the type or place, date, and time of the hearing will be determined and a notice will be published by the Board in advance of the public hearing and in a manner that promotes public awareness and participation in the hearing.

6. **Public Hearing Decision**

Following the Public Hearing, the Board will issue a written decision with reasons (final decision) for the Application. The Board's final decision will be provided to the Minister of Northern Affairs (Minister) for consideration. Interested and intervening parties will also be provided with a copy of the of the Board's final decision. The Minister typically issues his/her response to the Board's final decision with forty-five (45) days of receipt, or if notifying the Board of an extension within the forty-five (45) days, within ninety (90) days from the date of receipt.

On this basis, the NWB is inviting interested persons to comment on the following:

- 1) Completeness of the Application based on their initial technical assessment;
- 2) Information Requests (IRs) related to the Application that must be provided to enable the parties to complete their full technical review; and
- 3) Type of Technical Meeting / Pre-Hearing Conference (TM/PHC) to be held.

All comments, recommendations and any requests for information (IRs) should be submitted to the NWB's Manager of Licensing at licensing@nwb-oen.ca no **later than October 16, 2020 (3:00 p.m. MT)**.

If you have any questions regarding the above or procedural matters, please contact Richard Dwyer, Manager of Licensing, at (867) 360-6338 or by e-mail at licensing@nwb-oen.ca. For inquiries related to Technical matters, please contact Derek Donald, Technical Advisor, at (867) 360-6338 ext. 32 or by email at Derek.Donald@nwb-oen.ca.

Sincerely,

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing

RD/dd

Cc: Kivalliq Distribution