



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

October 16, 2020

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

Your file - Votre référence
3AM-GRA1624

Our file - Notre référence
CIDM#1290369

sent via email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada completeness check on the Government of Nunavut-Community and Government Services amendment application for municipal undertakings–Hamlet of Rankin Inlet Water Licence 3AM-GRA1624

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for your September 21, 2020 invitation for the completeness check on the Water Licence 3AM-GRA1624 amendment application. The Water Resources Division of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) examined the application pursuant to CIRNAC's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*.

The results of this review are provided in the enclosed memorandum for consideration by the Nunavut Water Board.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (867) 975-4550 or godwin.okonkwo@canada.ca.

Sincerely,

Godwin Okonkwo
Manager Water Resources

Technical Review Memorandum

To: Richard Dwyer, Manager of Licensing, Nunavut Water Board

From: Godwin Okonkwo, Manager Water Resources, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

Date: October 16, 2020

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's completeness check on the Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services amendment application for municipal undertakings – Hamlet of Rankin Inlet – 3AM-GRA1624

Region: ☐ Kitikmeot ☒ Kivalliq ☐ Qikiqtani

A. BACKGROUND

On September 21, 2020, the Nunavut Water Board provided notification of the Government of Nunavut Community and Government Services' (GN-CGS) submission on behalf of the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet to renew their Type A water licence 3AM-GRA1624 for the use of water and deposit of waste for municipal undertakings.

The Hamlet of Rankin water source was from Char River, from which water was drawn to fill the Nipissar Lake reservoir, until an emergency amendment in 2018 that transferred the water source to pumping from the Lower Landing Lake to the reservoir. The current water licence authorizes pumping of 3,485 m³/day and includes monitoring at a compliance point GRA-6 at the Char River. The water licence 3AM-GRA1624 expires in four years.

The renewal application requests authorization to withdraw 10,000 m³/day of water from Lower Landing Lake, removal of compliance point GRA-6 from the licence as Char River will cease to be a source of water to fill the Nipissar Lake reservoir, the removal of quarterly reporting from the licence and discontinuation of adaptive management plan submission to the Nunavut Water Board for water pumping to Nipissar Lake from Lower Landing Lake.

The Licensee has also requested a ten-year licence term to 2031.

B. INFORMATION REQUESTS

On behalf of CIRNAC Water Resources, the following comments and information request are provided for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration:

1. Environmental Monitoring Program and Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan

Comment:

The most recent version of the Environmental Monitoring Program and Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan was developed on December 2008 and revised April 2010. This plan appears outdated with information including population of the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet, the name of CIRNAC, monitoring stations that do not include GRA-7, reference to an expired water licence NWB2GRA0207. The Part H water licence conditions for 3AM-GRA1624 also indicates that the Environmental Monitoring Program and Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan is to be reviewed annually and updated. The Licensee should consider updating the plan based on current information, any updates with the water source and monitoring that will be conducted under the new water licence.

Information request:

CIRNAC recommends the proponent indicate when an updated Environmental Monitoring Program and Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan will be provided for technical review.

C. COMPLETENESS OF APPLICATION

CIRNAC recommends that an updated Environmental Monitoring Program and Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan be available for review during the technical review period.

D. TECHNICAL MEETING – PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

The Nunavut Water Board invited comments on the type of Technical meeting–pre-hearing conference to be held. CIRNAC is of the opinion that either an in-person meeting or a teleconference would be effective with appropriate measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

CIRNAC looks forward to participating in any form of meetings determined to be most appropriate by the Nunavut Water Board.

E. REFERENCES

Application for Water Licence Amendment, Government of Nunavut

Community and Government Services, September 21, 2020.

Community of Rankin Inlet Nipissar Lake and Lower Landing Lake Water Balance Assessment. Golder Associates, February 2016.

Community and Government Services, Government of Nunavut: Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades, Rankin Inlet Final Report, *Process Selection and Design Concept* by Dillon Consulting, July, 2020.

Environmental Monitoring Program and Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan, Hamlet of Rankin Inlet, Department of Community and Government Services, Government of Nunavut. Prepared by Nuna Burnside Engineering and Environmental Ltd., December 2008, Revised April 2010.

Government of Nunavut – Department of Community and Government Services: Rankin Inlet Wastewater Effluent Study by Dillon Consulting, March 31, 2020.

Plan for Compliance 2020 for Water Licence 3AM-GRA1624, Government of Nunavut – Community and Government Services, 2020.

Water Licence No: 3AM-GRA1624, Hamlet of Rankin Inlet, Nunavut Water Board, May 2, 2016.