

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 6200 000 008/015
NWB File: 3AM-GRA1624



May 31, 2021

via email

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1L0

Dear Mr. Dwyer:

RE: License 3AM-GRA1624 – Rankin Inlet Sewage Leak Repairs

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted by the Government of Nunavut, Community and Government Services regarding the above-mentioned notice of sewage leak repair, and intent to discharge sewage directly to the marine environment.

Environment and Climate Change Canada is the lead for the administration and enforcement of the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. These provisions include general prohibition subsection 36(3), which prohibits the deposit of any deleterious substance in water frequented by fish or to a place, which a deleterious substance may flow into water frequented by fish, unless authorized by regulations made either under the *Fisheries Act* or under another Act of Parliament. Deleterious substances include any substance that, if added to water, would degrade, alter, or form part of a process of degradation or alteration of the quality of water so that it is rendered deleterious to fish or fish habitat or for human consumption of any fish from that water. The full definition of “deleterious substance” can be found in the *Fisheries Act* section 34 (1) at <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/F-14/FullText.html>.

In the case of an unauthorized release, which is likely to be detrimental to fish or fish habitat, or of an imminent danger of such an occurrence, the person responsible for the deposit must (per subsections 38(5), (6) and (7) of the *Fisheries Act*):

- immediately notify an inspector, a fishery officer, a fishery guardian or an authority prescribed by a regulation;
- take all reasonable measures to mitigate impacts and prevent further damage; and
- submit a written report as soon as possible after the occurrence or learning of the danger of an occurrence to an inspector, fishery officer, fishery guardian or an authority identified in a regulation.

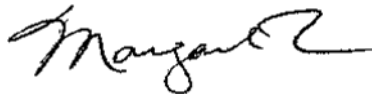


ECCC's environmental notification system uses a federal-provincial/territorial 24-hour call line as the first point of contact. In the event of an environmental emergency or unauthorised deposit, the person responsible and/or anyone discovering the emergency is to call the Northwest Territories / Nunavut spills line phone number at 1-867-920-8130 or email spills@gov.nt.ca.

Environment and Climate Change Canada is responsible for enforcing the general prohibition. In order to do this, enforcement officers carry out their duties according to the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for Habitat Protection and Pollution Prevention Provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. As such, when violations are found, enforcement action is taken on a case-by-case basis with careful consideration of the criteria outlined in this policy. If alleged violations of the *Fisheries Act* are discovered by enforcement officers, they will take action consistent with the Compliance and Enforcement Policy.

If you need more information, please contact Anna Graham at Anna.Graham2@Canada.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret', followed by a stylized flourish.

Margaret Fairbairn
Regional Director, Environmental Assessment – Prairie and Northern Region

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