

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate  
Prairie & Northern Region  
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ECCC File: 6200 000 009/008  
NWB File: 3AM-IGL2131



August 19, 2022

via email at: [licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca)

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

Dear Richard Dwyer,

**RE: 3AM-IGL2131 – Hamlet of Igloolik – Municipal Water License - 2021 Annual Report**

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned updated 2021 Annual Report.

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.

The following comments are provided:

**1. Topic: Monitoring Data**

Reference(s):

- Annual Report for the Hamlet of Igloolik, 2021, Appendix A

Comment:

Appendix A notes that no data for IGL-4 or IGL-5 (compliance points) was collected in 2021, but IGL-2 and IGL-3 results are provided for comparison. Sampling was completed at IGL-2 and IGL-3 on August 11, 2021. One additional sample (IGL-3-1) provides data from the emergency decant on August 30, 2021 as well. Based on the requirements of the water licence, IGL-2 monitors runoff from the solid waste facility, and IGL-3 monitors raw sewage volume at the discharge point into the lagoon. Since IGL-2 monitoring data is associated with the solid waste facility this does not provide useful data for the sewage lagoon, and the effluent quality criteria for IGL-4 and IGL-5 would not apply at this location or be a useful



comparison. IGL-3 is a station established to monitor the volume of sewage that is deposited into the lagoon and is not a sampling station that is associated with characterization of effluent quality, therefore it is unclear where this water sample was collected. In addition, the emergency decant sample is labeled as IGL-3-1, but no description is provided on the location where this sample was collected. Overall, the locations of sampling for the results provided are not clear.

ECCC Recommendation(s):

ECCC recommends the Proponent provide:

- a) Clarification on the locations of sampling events completed during the 2021 sampling year and how data at IGL-2 and IGL-3 provide comparison for overall sewage effluent quality.
- b) Clarification on where sample IGL-3-1 associated with the emergency decant was collected.
- c) Information on why IGL-4 and IGL-5 were not sampled in 2021.

## **2. Topic: Monitoring Data**

Reference(s):

- Annual Report for the Hamlet of Igloolik, 2021, Appendix D

Comment:

The inspector's report in Appendix D provides information on the current state of the solid waste facility including overflowing seacans at the hazardous waste facility, and lack of fencing resulting in windblown garbage migrating off site into a freshwater pond. It is also noted in the photos provided that there are signs of water pooling and flowing through the hazardous waste area. ECCC acknowledges that it is the intention of the municipality to make improvements to the existing site and that a contract to assess the potential options is expected to begin in 2022. However, measures should be taken to minimize water contact and flow of water through the hazardous waste facility. Water should be captured and managed such that any impacted water does not enter the environment. In addition, wastes should be contained such that they do not migrate to nearby waterbodies.

ECCC Recommendation(s):

ECCC recommends the Proponent take interim measures to address segregation and safe storage of hazardous wastes in advance of receiving the options study. Steps to be taken should include minimizing contact of wastes with water, and identifying how water collected on the site may be managed to prevent discharges to the environment.

If you need more information, please contact Jennifer Sabourin at [Jennifer.Sabourin@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Sabourin@ec.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Sabourin', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jennifer Sabourin  
Environmental Assessment Officer

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