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May 24, 2019 City of Iqaluit Attn. Amy Elgersma Acting CAO PO Box 460 Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A0H0

RE: Chief Medical Officer of Health Direction: City of Iqaluit compliance with Public Water Supply Regulations – seeking supplemental source water approval – in response May 10, 2019

Dear Ms. Elgersma,

Thank you for your letter dated May 10, 2019 outlining general quality control measures to address section 6(a) of the Public Water Supply regulations and supplementing Lake Geraldine should the lake fail to supply the City of Iqaluit's needs. The items listed in your letter provide information about the City's proposed contingency in broad strokes, namely, pumping from Apex River, failing that the City will then implement a reverse osmosis system.

Please share at your earliest convenience with the Regional Environmental Health Officer, Azreer Gill, the detailed plan for the proposed pumping from the Apex River to Lake Geraldine, this should be inclusive of disinfection of ancillary services, proposed timelines, testing and monitoring for conformity with the Public Water Supply Regulations and best practice and should be available to share with our Department.

I would also request at your earliest convenience a detailed plan of the second proposed contingency: use of the R/O unit.

For instance, when will the unit arrive in Iqaluit, will there be a trial run of the unit, details on where the unit will be located, details specific to whether the unit will supply, fully or partially, the City, where the unit will hook on to the distribution system or will water be made and transported to the reservoir, any plans for secondary reservoir construction, if this activity will involve blending water from the R/O unit with Lake Geraldine in the distribution system and if so how will quality and quantity be assured, will reverse flow be implicated, who will maintain the unit, will trained staff be readily available – these are but a few items that come to mind in my analysis of what you have put forward.



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Long-term supply options: you have also identified that Sylvia Grinnell as presently undergoing a concept design study for long term supplemental supply along with unnamed lake. It is essential for Health to be kept abreast of the consultative processes with respect to these options and be privy to any reports or assessments associated with their review. It is also essential that the Department of Health sit on any working group or committee that is struck or ongoing to ensure we are kept up to date and informed. Your contact is Azreer Gill and you can reach him at 867-975-4817 or agill@gov.nu.ca

As promised our Department has reached out to Health Canada to solicit a third party review of both Dr. Andrew Medeiros and Colliers assessment of the Apex River and the City's proposed plan. Unfortunately the expertise for such a review does not reside with Health Canada. I note that you have referred, in section d) of your letter, that a professional has been retained to assess the ability of the Apex River to support the requested withdrawals. This is indeed in keeping with my letter dated April 26, 2019. In our consultations with Health Canada they have suggested that the focus of this independent consultant be providing a value engineering assessment of both Colliers findings and Dr. Mederios' work. This would evaluate the discrepancy and provide an assessment without bias. Please let me know if you think this approach has merit.

The Department of Health continues to provide support to the City of Iqaluit in our joint efforts to ensure an adequate supply of safe drinking water that is sustainable for Iqaluit's future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Patterson, MD, CCFP, MPH

Chief Medical Officer of Health

Department of Health

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Government of Nunavut

Médecin-hygiéniste en chef

Ministère de la Santé

Gouvernement du Nunavut

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