



Nunavut District Office

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March 6, 2007

Geoff Baker, C.E.T.

Manager, Engineering Services

City of Iqaluit

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**Deposit of Waste in Contravention of Water License 3AMIQA0611 – Type
“A”**

- Inspector's Direction -

I, Andrew Keim; duly designated Inspector pursuant to subsection 85 (1) *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*, responded, on February 21st, 2007 to a report of an uncontrolled release of sewage from Lower Lift Station #2, operated and maintained by the City of Iqaluit.

Upon arrival, I noted that a quantity of liquid originating from within the City's sewer lines had been released onto the foreshore and beach area prior to my arrival. The liquid smelled like effluent and discoloured the snow and ice in a manner consistent with untreated sewage.

Over the course of the next hour, I took a number of photographs of the area affected by the release and collected a number of samples of the liquid continuing to flow onto the foreshore from the Lift Station. These samples were sealed, signed and dated on site. The samples, following their collection, were taken to Canadian North and shipped to Taiga Labs in Yellowknife, NT for analysis.

By 14:00 hours on February 21st, 2007 the City of Iqaluit had collected and removed for deposit in the “old Sewage Lagoon” approximately 200 cubic meters of contaminated snow and ice from the beach front. Subsequent inspections of the area were conducted by the Inspector and no further contamination was noted.



On March 6, 2007 the results of samples collected on February 21st, 2007 were received by this office. Those results were as follows;

Sample 1

Coliforms, Total	>24,200,000	MPN/100mL
Escherichia coli	3,080,000	MPN/100mL
Coliforms, Fecal	2,200,000	CFU/ 100mL
Fecal streptococcus	265,000	MPN/100mL
Biological Oxygen Demand	1620	Mg/L

Sample 2

Coliforms, Total	>24,200,000	MPN/100mL
Escherichia coli	3,650,000	MPN/100mL
Coliforms, Fecal	1,700,000	CFU/ 100mL
Fecal streptococcus	1,120,000	MPN/100mL
Biological Oxygen Demand	1640	Mg/L

Sample 3 (blank)

Coliforms, Total	<1	MPN/100mL
Escherichia coli	<1	MPN/100mL
Coliforms, Fecal	<1	CFU/ 100mL
Fecal streptococcus	<1	MPN/100mL
Biological Oxygen Demand	<2	Mg/L

Waste is defined in federal legislation as any substance that would degrade the quality of water to an extent that is detrimental to their use by man or by any animal, fish or plant that is useful to man. The release of untreated sewage fits within the definition of waste.

As stipulated in subsection 12 1(b) of the Act : Except in accordance with the conditions of a License, no person shall deposit or permit the deposit of waste in any other place in Nunavut under conditions in which the waste, or any waste that results from the deposit of that waste, may enter waters in Nunavut.

At the time of the release of this material onto the foreshore and subsequently during the period up to and including when a final clean-up of the area was completed, the City of Iqaluit was in contravention of subsection 12 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*.

By copy of this Order and under the authority vested in me pursuant to subsection 87 (1) (ii) of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* **Geoff Baker, Manager, Engineering Services, City of Iqaluit** is directed as follows;

- To determine the cause of the release and put in place an action plan that prevents this kind of uncontrolled discharge of sewage and raw human wastes in the future. This plan may include but should not be limited by the following;



- Development and implementation of a public education strategy to pass along information to the general public regarding domestic wastes inputs
 - Delivery of spill response and control training to operational staff
 - Posting of spill plans at all lift stations, including 24 hour contact numbers
- To submit, as required by Part H (5.c) of the City's water license, a detailed report on this occurrence no later than March 21st, 2007 to me, as a designated Inspector, and to the Nunavut Water Board. A copy of the plan to prevent further releases should be attached to this occurrence report.

Failure to comply fully or in part with an **Inspector's Direction** constitutes an offence under subsection 90 (1) of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and entails, upon summary conviction, a fine of \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term of one year, or both.

Further pursuant to subsection 90 (4) of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*, each day on which the **Inspector's Direction** is not complied with shall be considered a separate offence.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 975-4289 or keima@inac.gc.ca
Sincerely,

Original signed and mailed 8/3/07

Andrew Keim
Water Resources Officer,
INAC - Nunavut District
P.O. Box 100, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

cc. Nunavut Water Board, Gjoa Haven
Wade Romanko, Environment Canada
Jim Noble, Environment Canada
Craig Broom, Environment Canada
Robert Eno, Government of Nunavut