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Nunavut Regional Office P.O. Box 100 Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

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June 17, 2005

Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU, X0E 1J0

Via electronic mail to: licensing@nwb.nunavut.ca

Re: City of Iqaluit - Municipal wastewater treatment information

As per Item 2(a) of the May 31, 2005, Nunavut Water Board Technical and Pre-Hearing Meeting Decision, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Environment Canada (EC), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), and the Government of Nunavut - Department of Environment (GN-DOE) have developed a framework outlining the information required following the City of Iqaluit's (the City's) decision on its preferred option for sewage treatment.

The Pre-Hearing Decision requests that the regulators contemplate two separate options for the ongoing treatment of municipal wastewater. These include:

Option 1: Continued use of the existing sewage lagoon, pending further consultations on sewage treatment options, and:

Option 2: Upgrade of the sewage treatment facility and decommissioning of the current sewage lagoon.

As per the request in the Pre-hearing decision, INAC, EC, DFO, and GN-DOE have developed the following recommendations for the information required under each of the contemplated scenarios. These lists comprise our requests based on the material that is currently available, and does not preclude additional requests as new information is made available.

Option 1 Information Requirements

In the Option 1 scenario, it is envisioned that the existing sewage lagoon is to be the sole source of municipal wastewater treatment for the foreseeable future. The proposed development of an alternate method of wastewater treatment is not contemplated.

- A. Implementation of the recommendations of the February 2005 Dam Safety Inspection by Concentric Associates and earlier dam safety inspections and reviews, as appropriate for ongoing long term use. The preparation and content of the recommended Operations and Safety Manual should give due consideration to fish habitat concerns and protection measures.
- B. Completion of a new Dam Safety Inspection during the non-freezing, snow free months of 2005, preferably during Spring/Summer 2005.
- C. Monthly sampling of municipal effluent at the SNP stations, as per the protocols and criteria established by the Water Licence.
- D. Development of an 'Accidental Sewage Release Contingency Plan' to act as a lagoon-specific spill contingency plan.

Option 2 Information Requirements

In the Option 2 scenario, it is envisioned that an alternate form of wastewater treatment will be developed, and the existing sewage lagoon will be reclaimed to an acceptable standard for use as a long-term contingency facility for the primary system (i.e. scheduled downtime or temporary shutdowns).

- A. Implementation of the recommendations of the February 2005 Dam Safety Inspection by Concentric Associates and earlier dam safety inspections and reviews, as short term and/or intermittent use. The preparation and content of the recommended Operations and Safety Manual should give due consideration to fish habitat concerns and protection measures.
- B. Completion of a new Dam Safety Inspection during the non-freezing, snow free months of 2005, preferably during Spring/Summer 2005.
- C. Monthly sampling of municipal effluent at the SNP stations, as per the protocols and criteria established by the Water Licence.
- D. Submission of a revised schedule for the commissioning of a Wastewater Treatment System.
- E. If the lagoon is to remain an component of the new Wastewater Treatment System, the provision of a plan for the conversion/upgrading of the existing lagoon for its new purpose, including management of sludge/solids presently in the lagoon. This plan should give due consideration to fish habitat concerns and protection measures.

- F. If the lagoon is not to remain an component of the new Wastewater Treatment System, the provision of a plan for the decommissioning and reclamation of existing lagoon, including the management of sludge/solids presently in the lagoon.
- G. As already noted in Item 2(a) of the Pre-hearing decision, provision of a Sludge Management Plan.

We hope that the information contained herein meets your needs at this time. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the undersigned if you have any questions or concerns, or require further clarification.

Best regards,

Stephanie Hawkins

Qikiqtani Regional Coordinator, Water Resources

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Derrick Moggy

Habitat Management Biologist

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Colette Spagnuolo

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