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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD  
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI  
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

November 12, 2021

**File No: 3AM-IQA1626**

By Email

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**Re: Water Licence No: 3AM-IQA1626, Type “A”; City of Iqaluit; Modification to the Potable Water Treatment Facility for operation of a Mobile Water Treatment Plant**

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Dear Amy Elgersma and Josip Deronja:

On October 29, 2021, the Nunavut Water Board (the NWB or the Board) received a request by the City of Iqaluit (the City or the Licensee) for a Modification (the Request) to the amended Licence No: 3AM-IQA1626 (the Licence) issued to the City. The Request is for commissioning of the Mobile Water Treatment Plant (MWTP) operated by the Government of Nunavut (GN) to treat water withdrawn from the Lake Geraldine Reservoir for the City.

The operation of the MWTP requires discharge of backwash from the MWTP’s strainers into Lake Geraldine. Although the Piping and Instrumentation Diagram of the MWTP shows chemical injection points for chlorine and coagulant, technical memo *Overview of Mobile Water Treatment Plant* dated October 31, 2021 states:

*The pre-chlorination chemical feed system will not be required for deployment at Iqaluit... and the backwash from the inlet auto-backwash strainers will not contain any forms of chlorine. If required, the pre-chlorination chemical feed can be disabled by disconnecting the chemical injection line from the inlet water pipe as a safety measure.*

In addition, the scope of the Request included constructing a non-engineered road consisting of a “a small section of gravel pathway connecting two existing roads to facilitate travel to site”<sup>1</sup>. The Request indicates that construction of any water management structures is not required for the road, and the road is not to cross any water bodies.

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<sup>1</sup> Sarah Collins (GN) to Assol Kubeisinova (NWB), RE: 821094 - Iqaluit Water License 3AM-IQA1626 - Deployment of GN MWTP Notification, dated November 10, 2021.

The Request was made due to the State of Emergency in the City of Iqaluit declared by the territorial Minister of Community and Government Services on October 13, 2021. The declaration of a State of Emergency was made under the *Emergency Management Act* resulting in the Request being exempt from the conformity and impact assessment requirements as provided for under s. 152(1)(b) of *Nunavut Project and Planning Assessment Act (NuPPAA)*.

On November 9, 2021, the territorial Minister of Community and Government Services extended the State of Emergency in the City of Iqaluit until November 23, 2021. For requests made under declared State of Emergency, to take measures to prevent an emergency or to remedy or minimize its effects, an authorization may be issued by the NWB without meeting the standard requirements of the *NuPPAA* (exempted under ss. 152(1)(b) and (c) of the *NuPPAA*) for a conformity determination from the Nunavut Planning Commission and for impact assessment by the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

*NWB's Review and Decision*

Considering the declared State of Emergency and urgency with the installation of the MWTP, this Request wasn't made available for a public review. The NWB reviewed the Licensee's request in the context of its mandate. The Board's opinion is that proposed modification generally meets the requirements of Part G of the Licence. On the basis of the Board's review, the Board accepts that the changes as proposed in the City's Request constitute modification to the Potable Water Treatment Facility that are consistent with the existing terms and conditions of the Licence and has approved the Modification through Board Motion No: **2021-A1-08**, as required by Part G, Item 2 of Licence.

The Board reviewed the Request as per its mandate, which does not include regulating the quality of drinking water and recommends that the Licensee consult with the GN Department of Health in regards to discharge of the MWTP's backwash into the Lake Geraldine Reservoir.

The Licensee shall, within three (3) months of terminating temporary treatment of water from the Lake Geraldine Reservoir by MWTP or with the 2021 Annual Report, whichever comes first, submit to the Board for review the final closure report of temporary infrastructure established for the MWTP.

The Licensee is reminded to adhere to all relevant conditions of the Licence.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the undersigned by email to [assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca) or by phone at (867) 360-6338 ext. 31.

Sincerely,

Assol Kubeisinova  
Nunavut Water Board  
Technical Advisor

Cc: Distribution List – Iqaluit