



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
918 Nunavut Drive
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 3H0

Your file - Votre référence
3AM-RUT2035
Our file - Notre référence
GCDOCS# 142181217

December 12, 2025

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0
sent via e-mail: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's Review of the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 Annual Reports for Water Licence 3AM-RUT2035 for the Hamlet of Resolute Bay in the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) examined the 2023 and 2024 Annual Report documents of all the Type A municipal licenses submitted to the Nunavut Water Board during the 2025/2026 fiscal year. This was completed pursuant to CIRNAC's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*. CIRNAC has provided comments back to the Nunavut Water Board on all of the reporting Type A municipalities. This response is to address one specific municipality – the Hamlet of Resolute Bay under Type A Municipal Water Licence 3AM-RUT2035.

On December 17, 2020, Water Licence 3AM-RUT2035 was issued to the Licensee - the GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES for water use and waste disposal activities in the Hamlet of Resolute Bay. Part B Item 1 of water licence 3AM-RUT2035 states "the Licensee shall file, with the Board for review, no later than the 31st of March of the year following the calendar year being reported, an Annual Report formulated in accordance with the requirements under Schedule B of this Licence." The Government of Nunavut has not submitted an annual report to the Nunavut Water Board since the approval process for their 15-year Type A Water License was completed in 2020. The Government of Nunavut has failed to comply with Part B Item 1 in all 4 subsequent years (2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024) since Water Licence 3AM-RUT2035 was issued.

The Government of Nunavut has, in recent years, implemented a hands off approach suggesting that because the Municipality is the named licensee they are not responsible for ensuring compliance with the issued licenses. CIRNAC is concerned that this approach is



now being applied by the Government of Nunavut to water licences, operated by employees and contractors employed by the Government of Nunavut.

CIRNAC recommends the Nunavut Water Board reevaluate the terms and conditions of the issued Type A licenses and impose further conditions on the Licensee to require compliance.

This file has been sent to the CIRNAC Field Operations unit for investigation and may result in enforcement action.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at 867-975-4550 or andrew.keim@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Andrew Keim

Andrew Keim
Manager, Water Resources

Jeremy Fraser, Manager of Field Operations, CIRNAC