



Indigenous and
Northern Affairs Canada

Affaires autochtones
et du Nord Canada

Your file - Votre référence
3BC-AET1313

July 4, 2016

Our file - Notre référence
IQALUIT-#1074360

Licensing Department
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
GJOA HAVEN, NU, X0B 1J0

Sent via email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Technical Review of Cancellation Application –Research camp, Alexandra Fiord – Steven Siciliano, Department of Soil Science, University of Saskatchewan (3BC-AET1313)

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for the Nunavut Water Board's May 25, 2016 notice of the above mentioned water licence cancellation application. A memorandum is provided for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration. Comments and recommendations have been provided pursuant to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 867-975-3877 or email at Amanda.Winegardner@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca for further information.

Sincerely,

Amanda Winegardner
Water Management Specialist
Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
P.O. Box 100
IQALUIT, NU X0A 0H0

Encl.

Cc. Scott Burgess, A/Manager, Water Resources - INAC, Nunavut Regional Office (NRO)
Erik Allain, Manager, Field Operations – INAC, NRO

Canada 

Memorandum

To: Licensing Department, Nunavut Water Board

From: Amanda Winegardner, Water Management Specialist, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Cc: Scott Burgess (NRO), Erik Allain (NRO)

Date: July 4, 2016

Re: Technical Review of Cancellation Application for Licence No. 3BC-AET1313

Applicant: Steven Siciliano, Department of Soil Science, University of Saskatchewan

Project: Research camp, Alexandra Fiord (Ellesmere Island)

Region: Qikiqtani

Comments:

A. Background

On May 25, 2016, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) invited interested parties to review a water licence cancellation application for a research camp located at Alexandra Fiord on Ellesmere Island (Type B licence 3BC-AET1313) submitted by Amanda Guy on behalf of Steven Siciliano (the Licensee) of the University of Saskatchewan. The Licensee is seeking to cancel 3BC-AET1313 (expired in 2013) as their group is no longer operating a research program/camp at the site and they have removed all camp infrastructure and waste. The research camp was last used in 2013 and was occupied by approximately three people using tents and temporary infrastructure for 30 days. Scientific research at the site included measurement of gas flux and soil sampling. In 2013, 600 L of water for domestic purposes was obtained from a river draining the Twin Glacier (south side of Alexandra Fiord) and transported to the temporary camp by helicopter. Both unused clean water and greywater from camp operations was disposed of on bare soil, 100 m from the nearest water body. Toilet wastes were contained in bags and buried in the active layer, more than 100 m from the nearest water body. Other wastes were removed from site, including leftover gasoline, which was transported to other facilities in the vicinity. The Licensee advises that currently there are no plans to resume activities at the site.

B. Results of Review

On behalf of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's Water Resources Division, the following comments and recommendations are provided:

1. Submission of annual reports

Source:

- 1) 3BC-AET1313 Report on Water Licence
- 2) 3BC-AET1313 Email Distro Annual

Comment: The Licensee's 2013 annual report was submitted in 2015. While the licence is expired, the licence has not yet been cancelled and no other annual reports are found on the public registry.

Recommendation 1: INAC recommends that the Licensee use the Nunavut Water Board's "Annual Reporting Form" and submit annual reports for the years between 2013 and present. This will ensure that the years of no water use or waste disposal are recorded on the public registry.

C. Conclusion

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada suggests that a final recommendation on the cancellation of 3BC-AET1313 be obtained from an INAC inspector, who may require an inspection or consultation photographs of the site prior to issuing a recommendation.