

2012 Annual Report to the Nunavut Water Board

Licensee: Department of National Defence – 1 Canadian Air Division
Licence: 3BC-ALT1015 Type “B”
Location: Canadian Forces Station Alert, Ellesmere Island,
Qikiqtani Region, Nunavut.

Report submitted by: Department of National Defence –
8 Wing/Canadian Forces Base Trenton –
8 Wing Environmental Management,
31 March 2013

Executive Summary

The 2012 Annual Report to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) is a requirement under Licence Number 3BC-ALT1015 Type “B”, Part B, paragraph 1. This Annual Report is being submitted for Canadian Forces Station (CFS) Alert, Nunavut. The Licence was issued on August 4th, 2010, to the Department of National Defence (DND) – 1 Canadian Air Division (1 Cdn Air Div), Winnipeg, Manitoba. As 8 Wing – Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Trenton, Ontario, oversees CFS Alert, 8 Wing Trenton will be filing the Annual Report on behalf of 1 Cdn Air Div.

For 2012, the daily water usage at CFS Alert was 110 cubic meters. This usage is below the 185 cubic meters daily water usage allowed by the NWB Licence. The total annual quantity of water usage was 40,359 cubic meters.

The Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual for CFS Alert, Nunavut, does not require any revisions at the time of this Annual Report submission.

Hazardous wastes were backhauled from CFS Alert in 2012 for disposal outside of the Territory of Nunavut in the Province of Ontario. Assorted hazardous wastes included: waste asbestos tiles, waste beryllium oxide compounds, and lighting ballasts containing polychlorinated biphenyl. All backhauled hazardous wastes will be properly disposed by external contractors arranged by DND. Non-hazardous domestic wastes produced from CFS Alert were directed to the designated landfills (Main Station Landfill & Millionaire’s Dump). All sewage and waste water were directed to the Sewage Terrace System.

A spill event of 300 Litres of Jet Propulsion 8 (JP-8) fuel occurred on April 24th, 2012, at CFS Alert. The Spill Contingency Plan was immediately employed by Alert staff and the spill was reported by 8 Wing Environmental Management to the Northwest Territory-Nunavut (NWT-NU) Spill Report Line (Report#12-141); Nunavut Water Board (via Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) Inspector, Mr. A. Keim; and, an Environment Canada Enforcement Officer, Mr. C. Didham, on that same day. During site clean up, 285 litres of fuel contaminated snow and ice were recovered by heavy

equipment and hand tools then placed into barrels. The recovered materials in the barrels were then incinerated at CFS Alert's incinerator facility by combustion during normal operations.

The sampling requirements for the 2012 CFS Alert Monitoring Program were fully implemented as all monitoring program stations were sampled during runoff season (June). Subsequent runoff or ground seepage sampling could not be fully conducted in July and August due to summer evaporation and the inherent polar desert climate. Only one water sample could be collected in July, and August experienced dry conditions that did not produce any water volumes for sampling and analysis. Winter conditions had returned to Alert by September ending all practical sampling at the monitoring stations for 2012. Continuous effort in timing and planning is being made to ensure a successful 2013 CFS Alert Monitoring Program to reflect DND's positive commitment to demonstrating compliance to the NWB Licence.