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Department of Environment

Ministère de l'Environnement

August 15, 2008

Phyllis Beaulieu Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board

via Email to: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

RE: NWB FILE # 3BC-FXB – Université Laval – Foxe Basin Research Project

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

Thank you for your correspondence of July 22, 2008, in which the NWB requested comments on whether the water use and waste deposition as described in Université Laval's water license application for the Foxe Basin research project constitutes "domestic use" pursuant to section 13.7.1 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) and consequently whether the project is exempt from the requirement for a water license.

The Department of Environment (DOE) believes that the issue of domestic use and water license exemptions is best addressed through the development of the Nunavut Water Regulations. Government of Nunavut representatives on the Nunavut Water Regulations Development Group (NWRDG) will be available to discuss this issue in the context of the water regulations at future meetings of the Group.

We thank the NWB for the opportunity to provide comments on Université Laval's water license application. Please contact us if you have further questions.

Yours sincerely,

## Original signed by

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