



P.O. Box 119
GJOA HAVEN, NU X0B 1J0
TEL: (867) 360-6338
FAX: (867) 360-6369

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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYIT
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File No.: 3BC-HMP0712/TR/H1

September 6, 2011

Dr. Pascal Lee
Mars Institute
NASA Research Park, PO Box 6
Moffett Field, CA, 94035-0006, USA

pascal.lee@marsinstitute.info

Subject: Licence No. 3BC-HMP0712 “Haughton Mars Project” Qikiqtani Region, Nunavut; Submission of HMP-2011 Spill Contingency Plan

Dear Mr. Lee;

On July 15, 2011, the Nunavut Water Board (“NWB” or “Board”) received from Mars Institute an updated “HMP-2011 Spill Contingency Plan” (Plan) as a requirement of Part H, Item 1 of water license 3BC-HMP0712. The submission was distributed for information, and comments were received from Environment Canada (EC) on July 28, 2011 and August 17, 2011, and from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) on August 15, 2011.

EC notes that the Plan should:

- Assign responsibilities to company staff and/or contractors and outline a clear path of response;
- Provide a list and phone numbers of agencies/persons to be contacted in the event of a spill;
- State that **all spills** are to be documented and reported to the NWT-NU 24hr Spill Line (867) 920-8130;
- Include the use of secondary containment with an impervious liner for storage of all barreled fuel rather than relying on natural depressions to contain spills;
- Ensure drip pans, food-plains and secondary containment of adequate size and volume are used when refueling equipment on site in order to help prevent spills from occurring.

In its submission, AANDC notes:

- It is recommended and encouraged that all fuel be contained in some sort of secondary containment (i.e., insta-berms). The use of drip pans when refueling is also encouraged;
- The locations of the spill kits should be included in the Plan;

- The correct contact information for AANDC should be stated as follows: AANDC Manager of Field Operations, phone: (867) 975-4295, fax (867) 975-6445;
- The licensee must contact the AANDC (Manager of Field Operations) in the event of any spill (small or large);
- Detailed maps and pictures should accompany any future plans.

The Spill Response Plan was found to be generally meeting the reporting requirements of licence 3BC-HMP0712. The NWB has, therefore, approved the Plan under Board Motion No. 2011-11-L21, dated August 29, 2011.

However, the Licensee is requested to address the identified deficiencies and submit an Addendum to the Spill Response Plan with the 2011 Annual Report. The Addendum should include:

- Clear path of response in the event of a spill;
- An appropriate topographic map of the area with detailed description of the facilities;
- “**All spills**” of oil, fuel, or other deleterious materials, **regardless of size**, are to be reported to the NWT-NU 24hr Spill Line (867) 920-8130;
- Contact information for AANDC shall be: Manager of Field Operations, phone: (867) 975-4295, fax (867) 975-6445; and
- 24 Hour NWT/NU Spill Response Form.

The Licensee is also recommended and encouraged to use secondary containment measures when refueling equipment on-site.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 Ext. 30 or k.kharatyan@nunavutwaterboard.org, at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

Karén Kharatyan
Technical Advisor

cc: Distribution List – Qikiqtani