



Nunavut Regional Office
Operations Directorate
Water Resources Division
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

File # 9545-2-3.3BC.PROA
CIDMS #324288

8 April 2009

Via Email

Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0E 1J0

**Subject New Water License Application, NWB File #3BC-PRO, CASP
University of Cambridge, Provenance of Clastic Sediments in
the Sverdrup Basin – Canadian Arctic Islands Project,
Qikiqtani Region**

Dear Phyllis,

Please be advised that on behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, I have completed a review of the new water license application submitted by CASP, University of Cambridge to the Nunavut Water Board for approval.

A Technical Review Memorandum (attached) is provided for the Board's consideration.

Should you have any questions regarding this submission, feel free to contact me at 867-975-4555 or David.Abernethy@inac-ainc.gc.ca.

Regards,
David W. Abernethy

Cc. Kevin Buck, Water Resources Division Manager

Technical Review Memorandum

Date: Apr. 8/09

To: Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board

From: David Abernethy, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Water Resources Division, Iqaluit, NU

Re: **New Water License Application, NWB File #3BC-PRO, CASP University of Cambridge, Provenance of Clastic Sediments in the Sverdrup Basin – Canadian Arctic Islands Project, Qikiqtani Region**

A. Description

On Feb. 9/09 the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) acknowledged receipt of a new Type B water license application submitted by CASP, University of Cambridge (CASP) as per Section 11 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*. The NWB has placed this application on their public registry and made it available for review on Mar. 27/09, requesting written representations from interested parties by Apr. 27/09.

The following documents were reviewed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC):

- Cover email dated Mar. 10/09;
- Water License Application Form;
- Exploration / Remote Camp Supplementary Questionnaire;
- Map – Proposed CASP base camps;
- Non-technical summary, English and Inuktitut; and,
- Spill Contingency Plan.

CASP is applying for a water license that will expire on Jun. 1/14. The proposed undertaking will comprise of geological survey work on the Ellesmere and Cornwallis Islands during summer months by a team of approximately six (6) people. The project will be supported by two (2) temporary base camps, located at Canon Fiord (79°50' north latitude, 82°30' west longitude) and Notch Lake (79°30' north latitude, 83°10' west longitude) on Ellesmere Island's Fosheim Peninsula. At the end of each field season, these temporary camps will be dismantled and all materials returned to the Polar Continental Shelf Project storage facilities in Resolute Bay.

B. Results of Review

The following comments / recommendations are provided to the Board for consideration in the approval of the submitted water license application.

1. Water License Expiry Date

- INAC recommends that the expiry date for any approved water license occur after the typical field season (i.e., Nov. / Dec.).

2. Camp Greywater Disposal

- CASP has indicated in Item #21 of the Supplementary Questionnaire that camp greywater will be returned downstream from each base camp and that only biodegradable non-biological products will be used. INAC is of the opinion that no camp greywater should be released directly into water sources. The Proponent should direct all wastewater (greywater and sewage) into a sump positioned in an area that will not allow the release of untreated effluent into nearby water sources.

3. Solid Waste Disposal

- CASP has indicated in Item #s 21 and 22 of the Supplementary Questionnaire that combustible solid wastes will be burnt on-site and the ashes produced will be returned to Resolute Bay for disposal. Due to the proposed undertaking's limited scale of operation, INAC recommends that all solid wastes be brought to an approved disposal / treatment facility. There should be no open burning of plastics, wood treated with preservatives, styrofoam, electrical wire, asbestos, or demolition wastes.
- CASP should confirm that the Hamlet of Resolute Bay will permit the use of its municipal landfill for the disposal of solid wastes produced by project activities.

4. Spill Contingency Plan

- The submitted Spill Contingency Plan is considered to be appropriate for the scale of Canadian Arctic Islands Project. It is noted that only small amounts of fuel will be used at the two (2) temporary base-camps, a total of 60 L in kerosene and methylated spirits.

- INAC recommends that this plan be revised to include certain points addressed in the GNWT *Environmental Protection Act R-068-93 Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations*.

These are as follows:

- The name, address, and job title of the owner or person in charge, management, or control;
 - The name, job title, and 24-hour telephone contact number for the persons responsible for activating the Spill Contingency Plan;
 - A site map of the project area that references the two (2) temporary base-camps; and,
 - The date the Spill Contingency Plan was prepared.
- The Proponent should review their Spill Contingency Plan annually and provide revised versions, if necessary, to the NWB at the time of Annual Reporting submissions.