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June 23, 2006

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RE: NWB 3BC-SOP – University of BC, Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences - Soper River Project

Our file: 4703 003 / 4704 001

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned application. The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to Environment Canada's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Dr. Lee A. Grant is proposing to carry out a scientific research program to determine how the lapis lazuli deposits south of Kimmirut were formed. Work will be supported out of a four person camp located along the Soper River.

Based on the information provided at this time, EC has no major concerns with this project. However, EC recommends that the following conditions be applied throughout the project in order to help mitigate potential impacts of the project on migratory birds:

- Section 6 (a) of the Migratory Birds Regulations states that no one shall disturb or destroy the
 nests or eggs of migratory birds. If active nests are encountered during project activities, the
 nesting area should be avoided to prevent disturbance (i.e. the young have left the vicinity of the
 nest).
- CWS recommends that camp waste be made inaccessible to wildlife at all times. Camp waste
 can attract predators of migratory birds (e.g., foxes and ravens) to an area if not disposed of
 properly. Incineration of camp waste is a recommended option.
- Section 35 of the Migratory Birds Regulations states that no person shall deposit or permit to be deposited, oil, oil wastes or any other substance harmful to migratory birds in any waters or any area frequented by migratory birds.

If there are any changes in the proposed project, EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4639 or by email at colette.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Colette Spagnuolo Environmental Assessment / Contaminated Sites Specialist

cc: (Stephen Harbicht, Head, EA North, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)

