



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

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November 7, 2003

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Our file: 4782-0481

Via Facsimile

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RE: NWB3ARV – Hamlet of Arviat Water License

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*.

The Hamlet of Arviat has applied for a water license to obtain water for municipal use from Wolf Creek. The water is pumped into a lined two-cell reservoir where it is chlorinated prior to distribution to the community. Two sewage lagoons currently operate in parallel, with exfiltration into a wetland. As the existing lagoons are at capacity, Community Government & Transportation plans to expand the sewage lagoon through the addition of another cell adjacent to the existing lagoon. It is anticipated that this will provide enough capacity for the next twenty years.

Environment Canada requires the following information in order to facilitate the review of this application:

- The application includes a design concept for a third sewage lagoon. Environment Canada requests clarification as to when the new lagoon will be built, as well as any additional information that has been submitted regarding the new system (such as technical specifications) when such information becomes available.

Environment Canada recommends that the following conditions be applied throughout all stages of the project:


- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of any chemicals, wastes or sediment into any water body. According to the *Fisheries Act*, Section 36(3), the deposition of deleterious substances of any type in water frequented by fish, or in any place under any conditions where the deleterious substance, or any other deleterious substance that results from the deposit of the deleterious substance, may enter any such water, is prohibited.
- The water license application states that the Hamlet practices burning of combustible wastes. Environment Canada recommends that the burned area be covered with suitable cover material at least annually.
- Environment Canada recommends that the proponent segregate hazardous wastes, including batteries and waste oil, from the general waste stream and ensure that any hazardous wastes are disposed of at an approved facility.



- Environment Canada recommends that the waste oil storage area be cleaned up to prevent further discharges into the environment. Any waste oil that isn't going to be disposed of on site should be sent to an approved facility for disposal. If waste oil is to be stored for long periods prior to disposal, EC recommends that the barrels be housed within secondary containment, such as self-supporting insta-berms, a bermed area with an impermeable liner, or other similar preventative device.
- Environment Canada recommends that if not already in place, the Hamlet develop a spill contingency plan outlining a clear path of response in the event of a spill. This plan should be updated to include the creation of the third sewage lagoon once it is operational. All spills are to be documented and reported to the NWT Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.
- Environment Canada recommends that a spill kit be located near the waste oil storage area in order to assist with the rapid response to any spills which may occur.
- Signage should be erected indicating the location of the solid waste landfill facility.
- The DIAND Inspection Report included with the application indicates that there is considerable ponding around the perimeter of the landfill. The runoff currently flows out of the landfill via a ditch into a pond. Environment Canada recommends that a berm or other preventative device be constructed to prevent this runoff from entering other watercourses until it is proven to be non-deleterious.
- Environment Canada recommends that signage be erected indicating that the wetland area is used for sewage treatment, and that the area should be avoided by pedestrians and motorized vehicles.

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.meloche@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,



Colette Meloche
Environmental Assessment Specialist

cc: (Mike Fournier, Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)