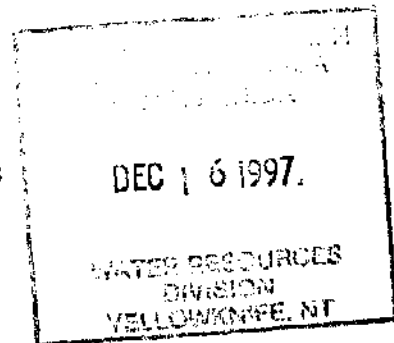


interoffice
MEMORANDUM

1191
NWB

to: Shannon Pagatto
from: Paul Smith
subject: Baker Lake - Improvements to Water Supply Facilities
date: December 8, 1997



Shannon,

In reviewing this document, a number of comments have come to mind.

1. The cover letter asks for review and approval of this report from me. I am not sure why this is so, but I also note that the NWB is not cc.'d on this letter. Perhaps a copy should be passed along to the NWB if necessary.
2. During my inspections and discussions I've had in Baker Lake over the past two years, it was made very clear to me that the present system is not desirable in that both the water supply and waste disposal are in the same water shed (i.e. Baker Lake). Concerns have also been expressed about the fact that the intake is located directly off shore from the community and that during spring runoff, all sorts of material enters the water supply. Also, during high winds, sediment is kicked up from the bottom of the lake and ends up in the delivery trucks (some of this may also be due to failures/breaks in the present line which draw water from shallower level).

None of these concerns are noted in the report, but the proposed work addresses, to a certain degree, each of these concerns (i.e. replace and increase the length of the intake line and the depth that water is drawn from). I do not know if the proposed improvements will actually alleviate the concerns as this was not a objective of the report.

The preferred option was to either relocate the pumphouse more towards the mouth of the Thelon River so as to not be subjected to run-off from the community and to be further away from the outflow of the waste disposal system or build a road to a suitable lake ca. 8-10 km away.

3. From reading this report, it is clear that the Hamlet and GNWT have decided on the course of action to improve the system by upgrading the existing infrastructure. This being the case, then I don't have any objections to the planned modifications. There are a number of different options as to how this is actually to be done, but these are questions for which I don't really have any applicable comments.

Paul Smith
Water Resources Officer
Nunavut District

cc. Henry Kablakik, Rankin Inlet