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Department of Environment

Ministère de l'Environnement

September 10, 2009

Phyllis Beaulieu Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board

via Email to: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

# RE: NWB FILE # 3BM-BAK9904 — WATER LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

The Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment (DOE) has reviewed the water license renewal application for the Hamlet of Baker Lake. Based on DOE's mandate under the *Environmental Protection Act* we have the following comments and recommendations to make.

### **GENERAL**

It is unclear whether there is proper signage at the sewage and solid waste facilities as well as the main drinking water source. Signage should be installed to ensure public health and safety.

Efforts should be made to clean up the shoreline of Baker Lake. Fuel spills and other waste in this area can contribute to contamination of the potable water source.

A preliminary abandonment and restoration plan should be submitted for review.

#### <u>TIMELINES</u>

DOE requests that timelines be established for the decommissioning of the waste oils area, as well as for the construction of the berm between the landfill and the wetlands.

#### SPILL CONTINGENCY PLANNING

An updated spill contingency plan should be submitted for review. The applicant is referred to DOE's "Contingency Planning and Spill Reporting in Nunavut: a Guide to the New Regulations."

The NWT-Nunavut spill report form has been updated, and can be obtained from DOE website (http://www.gov.nu.ca/env/applications.shtml). This form should be included in the spill plan, and the proponent is required to use this form for reporting to the Spill Line in the case of spills. Additionally, the proponent is advised to enter spill information electronically in the form in the case of spills so the information is legible to regulators inspecting the spill.

#### LANDFILL

Hazardous wastes should be properly segregated and contained in a specific area that is lined.

The proponent should make every effort to comply with the *Canada-Wide* Standards for *Dioxins* and *Furans* and the *Canada-Wide* Standard for *Mercury Emissions* during burning.

- Municipal solid wastes that are conditionally suitable for open burning are paper products, paperboard packing and untreated wood wastes only.
- The appropriate materials should be segregated and burned in a controlled manner and at a controlled site which is separate from the working landfill so that the fire cannot spread.
- Standard burning conditions shall apply, such as burning on days where winds are light and blowing away from the community.
- Materials are burned in manageable volumes so that fires do not get out of control.
- Have applicable permits for burning.

## **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

The Operations and Maintenance Manual (1999) should be updated. Any modifications that have been made should be reflected in this plan.

Furthermore, this manual should include a Sludge Management Plan. Details of disposal methods should be included, such as: How and when will sludge removal occur? Where will the community's sewage go during the de-sludging process?

DOE thanks the NWB for giving us the opportunity to review and provide comments on the Hamlet of Baker Lake's water license renewal application. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.



Yours sincerely,

# Original signed by

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