



Mr. Robin Aitken
Regional Director General
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Nunavut Regional Office
P. O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

With reference to the letter direction issued to the Minister responsible for Community and Government Services and our follow-up to our meeting July 19, 2012, regarding the longstanding issue on noncompliance of water licences for five (5) Nunavut's municipalities, I wish to thank you for meeting with us to discuss municipal noncompliance water license issues and Aboriginal Affairs Northern Development Canada (AANDC) commitment to work with GN and municipalities in resolving the ongoing compliance issues with their water licenses.

The vast majority of municipal water and waste management facilities are nearing the end of their lifecycle and no longer meet the requirements for best practices in managing these programs. The GN, Municipalities, Nunavut Water Board (NWB) and AANDC must work together to develop solutions to assist municipalities in resolving the ongoing compliance issues with their water licenses.

It is our goal to assist the five municipalities to bring all operational aspects of their water licenses in compliance with their water licenses within a two-year period commencing in August 2012. Based on the direction from the consultant after consultation with the municipalities on their aging infrastructure, we will develop a short-term action plan to address aging infrastructure such as fencing, signage and sorting of

Office of the Deputy Minister
P.O. Box 1000 Government of Nunavut, Iqaluit, NU. X0A 0H0
 (867) 975-5301  (867) 975-5305



ᓄᓗᓕᓐᓂ ᓂᓗᓕᓂᓐᓂ ᓂᓗᓕᓂᓐᓂ

Nunalingni Kavamatkunillu Pivikhaqautikkut

Department of Community and Government Services

Ministère des Services communautaires et gouvernementaux

hazardous materials at existing municipal solid waste sites, which we will share with AANDC. Depending on the availability of capital funding, we expect that it may take up to five years to make temporary improvements to municipal water and waste management infrastructure to improve management of these programs.

Based on a recent study on best practices for managing municipal waste sites for all communities, the infrastructure requirement alone to bring all 25 communities into compliance will exceed \$500 million dollars. Within the GN's limited capital program and in balance with all other competing Government priorities, CGS is helping municipalities address aging water and waste management infrastructure needs over time.

CGS has had discussions with P3 Canada and Partnerships BC to investigate the opportunity for P3 delivery with respect to partnership financing for the design-build-finance-operate-maintain delivery model to construct new solid waste sites for twenty-four Nunavut municipalities. CGS has received positive feedback from preliminary discussions with both P3 Canada and Partnership BC on the feasibility of such an arrangement. The GN will start developing a business case in the fall of 2012 for submission to P3 Canada to seek partnership financing for the design-build-finance-operate-maintain delivery model for municipal solid waste programs.

CGS has also partnered with Dalhousie University to conduct long-term studies, which include risk assessment, to better understand the capability of Nunavut's wastewater facility and methods which can enhance their effectiveness.

Given that the Gas Tax program is now permanent, it will allow the GN to develop a long-term predictable plan to address municipal water and waste management Programs going forward.

Municipalities, with the help of GN, AANDC, and NAMA have undertaken actions to address some noncompliance issues with municipal water licenses:

- The GN investment of over \$185 million in upgrading municipal water and waste management facilities is underway;
- A working group (The Water Monitoring Committee) has been formed to work with the regional staff to provide support to communities in complying with their licenses.
- Annual reports were submitted by all municipalities in 2011.
- CGS is also developing a water and waste management training program through the Municipal Training Program to provide training and development to municipal operators.

Office of the Deputy Minister

P.O. Box 1000 Government of Nunavut, Iqaluit, NU. X0A 0H0

☎ (867) 975-5301 📠 (867) 975-5305



ᓄᓇᓕᓐᓂ ᓂᓴᓴᓄᓂᓪᓗ ᐱᓂᓕᓕᓕᓂᓄᓂᓪᓗ
Nunalingni Kavamatkunillu Pivikhaqautikkut
Department of Community and Government Services
Ministère des Services communautaires et gouvernementaux

- Development of strategies to address waste management at the community-level. NAM and GN members of NCIAC recognized that education and buy-in from the communities would be instrumental factors for successful waste management. Education programming in the schools to teach sorting might help divert much of the waste going to landfills and could extend the useful life of solid waste sites. The GN in consultation with NCIAC agreed that Cambridge Bay, who recently received new solid waste infrastructure and a keen citizen-base, would be an ideal location for a pilot project to implement this education strategy.

Once again, we appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to gain clarification on the the expectations of AANDC for the GN and municipalities in resolving the ongoing compliance issues with their water licenses. We look forward with your officials at AANDC in Iqaluit to cooperatively and collaboratively develop options to solve these long standing issues of non compliance.

Sincerely,

Roy Green
A/Deputy Minister
Community and Government Services

CC: Darren Flynn, ADM, Community Support
Brian Flemming, NAMA
Dionne Filiatrault, NWB
Peter Workman, GN-H&SS