



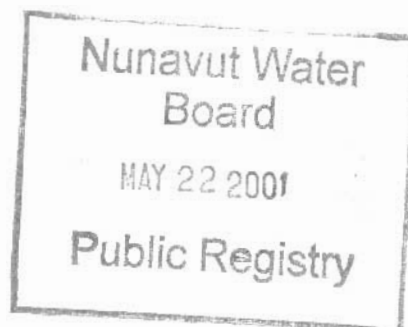
Environment  
Canada

Environnement  
Canada

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May 22, 2001

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**Re: Cape Dorset Municipal Water Licence Application - Water Licence NWB3CAP**

I have reviewed the above application on behalf of Environment Canada (EC) and offer the following comments:

Cape Dorset has not previously been licenced, and their application for a new licence identifies a number of deficiencies with the sewage and solid waste disposal facilities which the community hopes to address. Several references were made to plans and drawings as being obtainable from Dillon Consulting Ltd., however as these were not finalized they were not released by the consultant. Drawings dated August 1996 did not provide details of the proposed facilities. Accordingly, comments cannot be provided on specific plans referenced.

Environment Canada agrees that rehabilitation or upgrading of the sewage lagoon facility needs to be a priority, and recommends that treatment be implemented which will be protective of the downstream fisheries. EC will be available to provide technical comments on the plans for the sewage treatment/disposal system once they are available. Supporting information to these should include a site map which shows topography, drainages and distances to fish-bearing waters. An abandonment and restoration plan should be drawn up for the old sewage lagoon, and implemented once a new facility is fully operational.

With respect to solid waste, improvements to the disposal facility are also sought by the community, such as installation of an incinerator to eliminate open burning. In the meantime, EC recommends that improvements to management practices be made in the following areas:

- separation of all hazardous wastes, with secure storage and appropriate disposal;
- development of a basic spill contingency plan which sets out all the steps to be taken in the event of a spill, including maintenance of a stock of appropriate sorbents and clean-up materials;
- Installation of a perimeter fence at the landfill to contain wind-blown garbage.
- Previous Inspector's reports have identified problems with runoff entering the landfill, and flowing through the site. There is concern for leachate generation, and the quality of runoff which enters the marine waters. This needs to be addressed with appropriate measures such as diversion ditches or berms, and segregation of hazardous wastes.

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Environment Canada



- Bulky metal wastes have encroached below the high water mark of the ocean. EC commends the Municipality for investigating removal of these materials, and supports cleanup being done as soon as feasible. Planning for future disposal of such wastes should form part of an operation and maintenance manual for the Municipality, and include keeping a buffer zone between disposal sites and water bodies.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4735 with any questions or comments regarding the foregoing.

Yours truly,

*M. A. Wilson*

Anne Wilson  
Water Pollution Specialist

cc: Steve Harbicht (Head, Assessment & Monitoring, EPB)  
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