



Environment Environnement
Canada Canada

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Our file: 4782 048

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Via Email at tech1@nwb.nunavut.ca

Dear Mr. Wall:

RE: NWB3CAP – Notification of Decanting of Sewage Lagoon in Cape Dorset

Environment Canada (EC) is in receipt of a decant notification pertaining to the Cape Dorset sewage lagoon dated March 30, 2005. Environment Canada recognizes that a decant may be necessary in order to prevent the failure of the lagoon's berms. Environment Canada recommends that monitoring be conducted during the decant to determine the quality of the effluent being released. Erosion protection measures should also be implemented at the discharge point, the location of which should be indicated on a map. Further, EC requests that an estimate of the volume of water being decanted be submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB).

Environment Canada continues to have concerns regarding the integrity of the 3-cell lagoon at Cape Dorset. On August 19, 2004, EC received a copy of an application from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) to allow for the use of the "old" lagoon for as an interim measure while repair work was completed on the 3-cell lagoon, as per an EC Inspector's Direction dated May 13, 2004. Environment Canada provided input to the NWB on this application (see comment letters dated September 1, 2004 and September 15, 2004). At this time, EC expressed its concern regarding the integrity of the 3-cell lagoon, and requested that as-built drawings of the repairs completed on the 3-cell lagoon be submitted. This information has not been received. Despite the work that was completed on the 3-cell lagoon in 2004, this lagoon is again at capacity and Cell 3 is in danger of failure. While EC is aware that discussions are underway regarding a long term sewage treatment solution in Cape Dorset, measures must be taken in the interim to prevent the deposition of deleterious substances into Telik Inlet from the existing 3-cell lagoon.

Environment Canada respectfully recommends that the NWB request as-built drawings from the Department of Community and Government Services of the Government of Nunavut for the repairs completed on the 3-cell lagoon during the period of Amendment 1 to NWB3CAP0207. Environment Canada also encourages the Hamlet of Cape Dorset and the Department of Community and Government Services of the Government of Nunavut to consult with concerned parties early in the process of designing the new sewage treatment facilities in order to facilitate the review process and prevent the existing 3-cell lagoon from being in operation longer than necessary.



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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.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Colette Spagnuolo
Environmental Assessment / Contaminated Sites Specialist

cc: (Stephen Harbicht, Head, Assessment and Monitoring, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)
(Craig Broom, Head, Emergencies and Enforcement, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)