



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada

Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program  
Arctic Region  
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Yellowknife, Northwest Territories  
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Programme de protection du poisson et de son habitat  
Région de l'Arctique  
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Yellowknife, Territoires du Nord-Ouest  
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February 6, 2025

*Your file*      *Votre référence*  
3BM-CLY1924

*Our file*      *Notre référence*  
25-HCAA-00167

**Subject: Hamlet of Clyde River Renewal & Amendment of Water Licence**

To whom it may concern,

On January 9, 2025, the Nunavut Water Board invited parties to comment on the Hamlet of Clyde River Renewal & Amendment of Water Licence (3BM-CLY1924). The Fish and Fish Habitat Program of Fisheries and Oceans Canada appreciates the opportunity to review and offers a comment below.

**Comment DFO:**

The Hamlet of Clyde River Renewal and Amendment of Water Licence briefly discusses the projects water withdrawal activities for the duration of the licence which have the potential to impact fish and fish habitat.

Direct fish mortality can occur during water withdrawal activities through entrainment/impingement. Entrainment occurs when a fish is drawn into a water intake and cannot escape. Impingement occurs when a fish is held in contact with the intake screen and is unable to free itself. In addition, excessive amounts of water withdrawn from ice-covered waterbodies can impact fish through oxygen depletion, loss of over-wintering habitat and/or reductions in littoral habitat.

**Recommendation:**

In order to comply with the Fisheries Act, it is recommended that the Proponent follow DFO's protective measures for fish and fish habitat and standard codes of practice which can be found on DFO's website ( <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html> and <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/practice-pratique-eng.html>).

Proponents are also asked to respect the NU in-water works restricted activity timing windows ([Projects Near Water - Nunavut Restricted Activity Timing Windows for the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat \(dfo-mpo.gc.ca\)](https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/practice-pratique-eng.html)) to protect fish during spawning and incubation periods when spawning fish, eggs and fry are vulnerable to disturbance or sediment.

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The proponent should refer to DFO's Interim code of practice: End-of-pipe fish protection screens for small water intakes in freshwater available at <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/codes/screen-ecran-eng.html> when using fish screens and if the water intake flow is up to 0.150 m<sup>3</sup>/s, or 150 liters per second (L/s).

For water withdrawal from watercourses, DFO recommends the proponent follow the Framework for Assessing the Ecological Flow Requirements to Support Fisheries In Canada ( <https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/348881.pdf>) and demonstrates that water withdrawal rate remains <10% of actual (instantaneous) flow and does not result in flows <30% of mean annual discharge (MAD).

In addition, the proponent should follow the DFO Protocol for Winter Water Withdrawal in the NWT (2010) and not withdraw more than 10% of under-ice water volumes ([Microsoft Word - Water Withdrawal Protocol - Jan 05.doc](#))

If the proposal meets the criteria for a site specific review, as described on DFO's website ( <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-003-eng.html>), they should complete and submit the request for review form available on the website( <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-004-eng.html>).

It is also the proponent's Duty to Notify DFO if they have caused, or are about to cause, the death of fish by means other than fishing and/or the harmful alteration, disruption, or the destruction of fish habitat. Such notification should be directed to [DFO.ARCENTriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.ARCENTriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Yours sincerely,



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