



September 11th, 2014

Damien Côté
Executive Director
Nunavut Water Board
PO BOX 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Mr. Côté:

I am writing you today to bring a matter to your attention that requires your assistance. As you know, many of the communities in Nunavut do not have current water licences. In an effort to work with the Territory to ensure all communities do have current water licences and to help facilitate this process I have kept an open dialogue with Mr. Ralph Rudiger, Director of Community Development, Community and Government Services.

As such, it has come to my attention through communication with Mr. Rudiger that the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) is not proceeding through the licencing process for the communities of Taloyoak, Kimmirut, Hall Beach, and Cape Dorset until a letter from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) is sent to NWB revoking or releasing the communities from an 'Inspectors Direction'.

Though AANDC appreciates the collaboration from NWB on this matter I wish to convey to you that the activities required under the "Inspectors Direction" are being addressed by the communities and that the inspectors will continue to work with the communities to achieve compliance. AANDC would like to convey to the NWB that though there are compliance issues within communities, proceeding with the licencing process and ultimately issuing water licences for the communities would better serve all parties considering the communities mentioned above all have expired water licences and are operating, using water and depositing waste without water licences and will continue to do so until the NWB issues them water licences.

In closing I would like to emphasise that any enforcement action against a community should not be seen as reason to withhold processing or issuing a water licence. Doing so not only prevents communities from meeting compliance obligations with respect to getting a water licence but also prevents communities from upgrading infrastructure as they cannot apply for amendments when a license is expired.

Sincerely,

(Sent by Email, Original on file)

Erik Allain,
Manager, Field Operations
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada