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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALURIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

Licence No: **3BM-GJO1828**

August 20, 2026

Jennifer Wakegijig
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Hamlet of Gjoa Haven
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut X0B 1J0

Madeline Cole
Acting Manager, Municipal Works
Government of Nunavut - TIN
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

Email: CAO@gjoahaven.ca

Email: mcole1@gov.nu.ca

RE: NWB Technical Review of 2025 Annual Report for Water Licence No: 3BM-GJO1828 issued to the Hamlet of Gjoa Haven

Dear Ms. Wakegijig and Ms. Cole,

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) has completed a technical review of the 2025 Annual Report submission for the above stated Water Licence. On April 26, 2026, the Board acknowledged receipt of the 2025 Annual Report, and provided them to the Kitikmeot distribution list for information. No comments have been received to date.

The Hamlet of Gjoa Haven held a public meeting with senior officials from the Government of Nunavut on March 26, 2026. During this meeting the Nunavut Water Board was made aware that the Licensee may be exceeding the water use allowed by the terms and conditions of the Water Licence. It appears that the total water use may sometimes be exceeding 300 cubic meters per day, which is the trigger for a type A Water Licence, even if occasional. The NWB also notes that some terms and conditions of the Water Licence may not be fulfilled by the Licensee.

- Water usage is being calculated by truck volumes instead of direct source metering;
- Water use may be exceeding the licensed threshold of 170 cubic meters *per* day;
- Water used in the recirculation line for heating may not be included in total usage calculations;
- Quarry operations are not included in the scope of the Licence; and
- Water use for dust suppression is not included in the scope of the Licence.

The Licensee is reminded that the Water Licence limits the maximum water use to 62,000 cubic metres per annum or 170 cubic metres *per* day.

Part H, Item 3 of the Water Licence requires the Licensee to measure and record, in cubic metres, the daily, monthly and annual quantities of water extracted for all purposes at Monitoring Program Station GJO-1. GJO-1 is the raw water supply intake at Swan Lake.

Further, the NWB is aware that the Hamlet of Gjoa Haven has developed 4 new quarry sites to replace the existing, soon-to-be-depleted quarries.

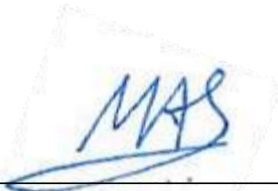
In their Application to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Hamlet has identified¹ that *“Aggregate extractions at the four quarries will also follow the mitigation measures and conditions of approval as part of permitting and with requirements of the Nunavut Water Board Water Licence.”* It is also mentioned that water use for dust suppression will be 5 m³/day under the existing Water Licence.

The NWB would like to inform the Licensee that the existing Water Licence does not specify water use and waste disposal related to quarry operations, and dust suppression. These activities can be included in the Licence via an amendment.

The NWB recommends that the Licensee correctly meter the water withdrawn from the source and, if exceeding 300 cubic meters *per* day, apply for a type A Water Licence. Please keep in mind that the processing of a type A Water Licence (amendment or renewal) can approximately take up to a year, so the Licensee is advised to submit their application to the Board, at least 12 months prior to the expiry of the current Water Licence.

The Licensee is also advised to complete a hydrological or water balance study to ensure that Swan Lake can support the exceeding water demand. This study shall be included in the future application. A secondary water source shall be considered and discussed in the application as a contingency measure.

The NWB strongly recommends that the Licensee makes all efforts to comply with Licence terms and conditions or submit an amendment application, including amongst others the items discussed above. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 (extension 33) or ali.shaikh@nwb-oen.ca, at your earliest convenience.



Mohammad Ali Shaikh
Nunavut Water Board,
Technical Advisor

Cc: Distribution List – Kitikmeot

¹ NIRB Application for Screening #126226 Hamlet of Gjoa Haven - Municipal Quarry Project