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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

June 24, 2011

NWB File No: 3BM-GJO0409

Mr. Troy Beaulieu
Planning and Lands Administrator
Hamlet of Gjoa Haven
P.O. Box 200
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

SUBJECT: DEPOSIT OF WASTE INTO WATER – SWAN LAKE

Dear Mr. Beaulieu:

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB) acknowledges receipt on March 17, 2011 of your letter indicating concerns regarding the disposal of various wastes into the water body known as Swan Lake which provides potable water to the residents of the Hamlet.

The Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act (Act) defines waste as “any substance that, by itself or in combination with other substances found in water, would have the effect of altering the quality of any water to which the substance is added to an extent that is detrimental to its use by people or by any animal, fish or plant, or any water that would have that effect because of the quantity or concentration of the substances contained in it or because it has been treated or changed, by heat or other means, and includes (a) any substance or water that, for the purposes of the Canada Water Act, is deemed to be waste; (b) any substance or class of substances specified by the regulations; (c) water containing any substance or class of substances in a quantity or concentration that is equal to or greater than that prescribed by the regulations; and (d) water that has been subjected to a treatment or change described by the regulations.”

The NWB encourages the conservation and preservation of all in-land waters in Nunavut and commends the Hamlet on their efforts to maintain those same values. Compliance and enforcement of water licences and provisions of the Act fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs whose Minister appoints Inspectors for that purpose. The NWB recommends contact with the INAC inspections division, in Iqaluit, for further guidance. Your contact would be Andrew Keim at Andrew.Keim@inac-ainc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board