

Executive Summary of the Hamlet of Grise Fiord

Water Licence # 3BM-GRI 1520.

The Hamlet of Grise Fiord is located on the southern tip of Ellesmere Island at Latitude 76°25'N and Longitude 83°01'W, within the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut. The community is approximately 320km northeast of Resolute. The current population of Grise Fiord is 175(2019). The Hamlet of Grise Fiord is responsible for the management of the water and waste management facilities. These facilities are operating under the current Licence 3BM-GRI1520 which remains active until December 8th, 2020.

The Hamlet of Grise Fiord operates the water supply facility which draws freshwater from a stream of glacier run-off. This includes two water storage tanks, a heating system, boilers, chlorination system and vehicles to deliver water. The current licence authorizes the use of 7,700 m³ of water per year. The surface runoff continues less than two months. The Hamlet fills both the tanks before the run off stops flowing. They do not have any second designated potable water source in the Community.

A consultant is working on the standardization of the new Water Treatment Plant. The design works will be started once design concept is approved. The new water plant is recommended to produce better quality of water to satisfy the National drinking water guidelines. The new plant is anticipated to be built and operational in next 3 to 4 yrs.

The sewage disposal facility consists of a non-engineered, unfenced sewage lagoon with a capacity of 19,360 m³. The lagoon is located 800 m away from the community next to the landfill. It is an earthen and unlined lagoon where sewage undergoes natural treatment before being discharged into the ocean. The Solid Waste Facility consists of a main Solid Waste area and a bulky metal area. There is no protocol in place for the management and handling of waste. The solid waste facility does not segregate hazardous waste and drums of waste oil ; and other unknown liquids are also not properly stored.

A consulting firm is currently working on the waste audit and feasibility study of the waste management site. The design work will start on the new site once it is selected and supported by the Hamlet. The decommissioning of the existing site will be implemented soon after the new site is designed, built and commissioned. The new site will have an independent cell to manage each different type of wastes. The new site is anticipated to be built and operational in next 3 to 4 years. The new site will be fenced with a control gate.

The Hamlet conducts summer sampling and submits annual report on time. They try to maintain all the water licensed facilities in compliance as best as possible. A request for a five year term for the renewal licence is recommended by the Licensee. The time period of five years will provide a realistic opportunity for the licensee to prove it can meet the long term requirements of the Licence and establish a consistent compliance record.