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September 5, 2003

Jim Wall  
Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0E 1J0

*Via email*

**Re: The Hamlet of Hall Beach  
Decommissioning of Old Sewage Lagoon**

The July 11, 2003 proposal from the Government of Nunavut Community Government and Transportation (CG&T) department, regarding the draining and subsequent use of the old sewage lagoon as a solid waste landfill, was of insufficient detail as to allow technical comment on the integrity of project design. Among the potential concerns involved in the conversion of the lagoon into a subsequent landfill sight are the stability of the sludge base, drainage and contouring, interaction of landfill leachate with underlying sludge, thermal stability of the lagoon/landfill combined system, as well as monitoring and contingency planning issues. The initial plan for drainage of the lagoon, incorporation of sludge into permafrost, and establishment of a thermocouple and monitoring program are, in contrast, of comparative technical simplicity and consistent with existing water and wastewater management practices.

It is therefore recommended that, if the CG&T is to proceed with this project in the near future, that the initial drainage and monitoring of the lagoon be dictated and constrained under an approved abandonment and reclamation plan. It is further recommended that the proposal for conversion of the site to a solid waste landfill be considered under a separate application, and accompanied by the relevant supporting technical documents.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

**Original signed by:**

Stephanie Hawkins

Qikiqtani Regional Coordinator, Water Resources  
INAC - Nunavut Regional Office  
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