

Northern Division  
Environmental Protection Branch  
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Nov. 14, 2002

Our File: 4782 029

Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119,  
Gjoa Haven, NT X0B 1J0  
By Facsimile: (867) 360-6369

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Attention: Jim Wall

**Re: Hamlet of Pangnirtung - Water Licence NWT3PAN - Disposal of Fish Offal**

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC) I have reviewed the Hamlet's application to dispose fish offal to the community landfill, and the supporting information provided by the Nunavut Water Board's letter. The following comments are offered for your consideration:

In the spring of 2002 Environment Canada identified a concern with drainage containing fish offal entering a stream course draining into the ocean; this was addressed by blocking the culvert which drained the disposal area. EC supports the improvements outlined in Phyllis Beaulieu's letter of Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> with respect to disposal of offal into a pit, with layering, addition of lime, and summer covering. This should provide long-term containment and prevent the generation and release of effluent of unacceptable quality. EC recommends that the operations and maintenance manual which the Hamlet is developing be updated to reflect this practice.

Work is proposed adjacent to the landfill site to divert drainage from entering the pit; this should be carried out such that surface erosion into the adjacent stream course does not occur.

The purchase of de-boning equipment is planned for within the anticipated life of the subsurface disposal facility (two years). A contingency plan for extended disposal of offal should be considered, in the event that the equipment does not work as planned, or is not available in time. EC supports this waste reduction initiative and encourages its installation as early as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4735 with any questions or comments regarding the foregoing.

Yours truly,

Anne Wilson  
Water Pollution Specialist

cc: Steve Harbicht (Head, Assessment & Monitoring, EPB)  
Paula Pacholek (Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPB)  
Craig Broome (Head, Enforcement, EPB)