

20 June, 2008

Ron Mongeau , SAO Mayor and Hamlet Council, Pangnirtung

Pangnirtung Nunavut

Re: Direction for emergency dumping of sewage into the Duvall River by the Hamlet of Pangnirtung for 72 hours to prevent potential health hazard

As per provisions of the Nunavut Public Health Act, which gives the Chief Medical Officer of Health the authority to take action to prevent a health hazard, I hereby require, as temporary emergency measure, the Hamlet of Pangnirtung to discharge sewage into the Duvall River. This authority will authorize an additional 72 hours for such activity, which will begin on June 20. This represents an extension of earlier authorizations given on June 10, June 12, and June 17.

Sewage trucks can no longer deliver sewage from homes and businesses to the sewage treatment plant, due to the failure of one bridge and damage to the other bridge which provides the access from the major portion of the Hamlet to the sewage treatment plant on the other side of the Duvall River. Currently, efforts are underway to allow for a temporary measure which will once more allow sewage to be delivered to the sewage lagoon.

There are no areas in the geography around Pangnirtung that would provide for a wetland or land farm to put sewage onto, and there is no lagoon or other storage location in the Hamlet.

The discharge of sewage into the river is the only viable alternative to simply allowing sewage holding tanks to accumulate and overflow in homes and businesses, which would constitute a health hazard for residents of the Hamlet.

This measure will be reviewed at the end of the 72 hour period.

Dr. Isaac Sobol, MD, CCFP, MHSc. Chief Medical Officer of Health

Cc INAC Water Inspector Bernie MacIsaac, Jim Rogers Environment Canada Craig Broome Nunavut Water Board: Dionne Filiatrault Ken Klassen, EHO