



INAC, Nunavut District
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

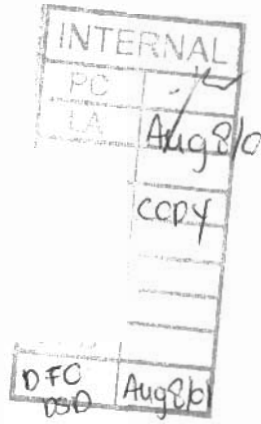
tel.: (867) 975-4275
fax.: (867) 979-6445
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NWB3PON9904

July 26, 2001.

Rhoda Katsak
Senior Administrative Officer
Hamlet of Pond Inlet
P.O. Box 180
Pond Inlet, NU X0A 0S0



re: Decant from the municipal sewage disposal facility

Public Registry

During the June 26, 2001 Water licence inspection, the Inspector pointed out to Hamlet staff that mid-summer was the ideal time to proceed with a decant of the sewage lagoon. Indeed, biological activity and treatment are then likely at their peak, and sufficient time still remains prior to freeze-up to allow for an extended discharge. Although no formal decant notice was provided by the Hamlet at that time, the Inspector was under the impression that both decant notification and approval had, at least informally, been given.

In regards to the latest developments, and in particular to the July 25, 2001 Community Government and Transportation (CG&T) letter, it must be mentioned that due to a crowded inspection schedule, the Inspector is often unable to share all recent operational matters with water management. Therefore, the response to CG&T's decant plans issued from the INAC Regional Office essentially relied upon the Water licence, which indicates that unauthorized discharges (those not approved under the Water licence) are to be considered as spills. As such, since the emergency discharge from the sewage lagoon will not proceed like a decant as strictly stipulated by Water licence conditions, it may be considered as an unauthorized discharge.

However, considering this summer's extensive communication with Hamlet staff, and in light of the degrading structural integrity of the sewage lagoon berm(s), the Inspector believes that the proposed decant plan suitably addresses the issues at hand and so need not be deemed a spill.

Accordingly, the Inspector approves CG&T's decant plan but wishes to make the following recommendations:

- The discharge lines should ideally be directed to areas already impacted by sewage waste seepage.
- The annual sewage effluent sample required under the Water licence ought to be relocated from Surveillance Network Program (SNP) station PON-3 to a point along the path of this summer's discharge.
- Nunavut Water Board approval will be required before sewage wastes can be directed to the old sewage lagoon.

Please feel free to contact me at (867) 975-4298 or lavallecp@inac.gc.ca should any questions/comments arise.

Sincerely,



Philippe Lavallée
Water Resources Officer
INAC, Nunavut District

c.c. - Nunavut Water Board
 - CG&T, Iqaluit (Doug Sitland)
 - EC Environmental Protection, Iqaluit (Wade Comin)