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May 13, 2002

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Pond Inlet Lagoon Remediation

On behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)'s Water Resources division, I have reviewed the Pond Inlet Lagoon Remediation Final Report, dated April 1, 2002, and offer the following comments.

Regarding the designs and technical aspects of the proposed remediation of the sewage lagoon, INAC has no concerns or comments. In this case, the proposed projects are all improvements to the current situation of the sewage lagoon.

With respect to the various options presented in the report, INAC does have a few comments it wishes to make to the Municipality of Pond Inlet for them to consider before making their final choice.

First, INAC does not believe in closing down the old lagoon. Since the lagoon site is already impacted, we believe that closing down the lagoon and impacting two new sites is impractical from an environmental perspective. Projects 3 and 4, which involve closing the old lagoon, are therefore INAC's least favored options. Also, please note that options 3 and 4 will require that the Municipality provide a fully detailed Abandonment and Restoration plan to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) for the closure of the current sewage lagoon. This plan would have to be approved by the NWB before reclamation can begin.

We would also like to repeat a concerns given by the FSC engineers in the report with respect to project 6. Increasing the depth of the lagoon may reduce the amount of sunlight that penetrates the sewage, possibly hampering treatment as a result. Since effluent from the lagoon must meet the licence requirements, this potential problem should be carefully considered by the Municipality when it makes its final decision.

Finally, the report mentions that the Municipality desires to use the strict minimum amount of cover over their liner to save costs. Although we are not objecting to this, we

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would like to point out that, should the community have to do any work in their lagoon, the thinner the cover, the greater the potential to damage the liner is. Tearing a hole in the liner may result in an unauthorized discharge should sewage effluent escape from that hole.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By: Michael Roy

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