



DIAND Nunavut District
Box 100
Iqaluit, NT
XOA OHO

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

January 15, 1998

B9545-5-N6L3-0779

Mr. Robert Janes
Senior Administrative Officer
Hamlet of Rankin Inlet
Rankin Inlet, NT
X0C 0G0

Dear Mr. Janes;

Re: Review of the 1996 Annual Report and 1996 Compliance Report

1. Please accept this letter as notification that the 1996 Annual Report submitted by the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet and as required by water licence N6L3-0779 has been reviewed. Deficiencies were noted and are detailed in the attached Compliance Report.
2. Compliance Reports are prepared annually in order to judge the Licensee's compliance with the terms and conditions of their licence.
3. Deficiencies noted within the Annual Reports included: late submission, incomplete SNP data collection, and lack of spill reporting (particularly when the sewage treatment plant backs up and goes into an automatic by-pass mode).
4. In addition, there are several additional areas of non-compliance that must be addressed. I refer you to the summary on page 4 and the accompanying detailed explanations in the attached report.
5. Please respond with details on how the Hamlet plans to address the areas of non-compliance.
6. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any aspects of this report at the above address or by phone at (867)-979-4405.

Sincerely,

Paul Smith
Water Resources Officer
Nunavut District

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JAN 27 1998

- cc. - Nunavut Water Board, Gjoa Haven
- DIAND Water Resources, YK
- GNWT DPW&S, Rankin Inlet (Dennis Althouse)
- RMO, DIAND, Rankin Inlet

1996 COMPLIANCE REPORT

ON

CONDITIONS OF LICENCE NUMBER N6L3-0779

HELD BY THE HAMLET OF RANKIN INLET

PREPARED BY

PAUL SMITH

INSPECTOR UNDER THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES WATERS ACT

DIAND NWT REGION

NUNAVUT DISTRICT

IQALUIT, NT

DATE: JANUARY 14, 1998
WATER REGISTER: N6L3-0779

Introduction

1. The Hamlet's licence is valid from September 1, 1993 to August 31, 1999 inclusive.
2. The Licensee is permitted to use 500,000 cubic metres of water per year.

Part A - General Conditions

3. (Part B, Item 1). The Annual Report was due on or prior to March 31, 1996. The Licensee submitted both the 1995 and 1996 Annual Reports on June 5, 1997. The Licensee has failed to meet this condition.
4. (Part B, Item 2). The Licensee has yet to collect SNP samples from 0779-4 during the term of this licence. Samples have been collected by DIAND and the Licensee has presented this information within their Annual Report, but doing so does not constitute fulfillment of the licence conditions.
5. (Part B, Item 4). The Licensee has failed to comply with this section. Warning signs were to be posted at the water supply and waste disposal facilities within 6 months of the issuance of the licence (i.e. March 1/94). To date, this has not yet been done.
6. (Part B, Item 5). New meters were reportedly installed in July of 1996.
7. (Part B, Item 6). The Licensee has failed to comply with this section. Surveillance Network Program (SNP) station signs were to be posted within 6 months of the issuance of the licence (i.e. March 1/94). To date, the Hamlet has not erected an appropriate SNP station sign at 0779-04, although DPW has placed a sign at the Nipissak pumphouse.
8. (Part B, Item 7). There were a couple of unauthorized discharges in 1996. The licence requires that the Hamlet report any unauthorized spills that occur within the municipal boundaries that they are aware of. All spills were reported by other parties. A more disturbing situation has developed since the new sewage treatment facility has been brought on-line. It uses a rotating screen (of 500 micron mesh size) to achieve primary treatment. It is marginally effective. At times the system is unable to process the incoming volume fast enough and the sewage backs up into the plant. At this point the system goes into an automatic by-pass mode and raw sewage is discharged directly to Prairie Bay. The Department of Public Works owns and operates this facility.

Part C - Conditions Applying to Water Use

9. (Part C, Item 1). All water was obtained from Nipissak Lake.

10. (Part C, Item 2). The Licensee reported using 227,102 m³ in 1996 and 197,265 m³ in 1995. Because the meters were not working properly until July of 1996, the 1995 values are most likely incorrect.

11. (Part C, Item 3). Sufficient improvements have been made that noted deficiencies have been addressed. At this time that are no new concerns.

Part D - Conditions Applying to Sewage Disposal

12. (Part D, Item 1). All sewage was disposed of through the current sewage disposal facilities with the exception of sewage that is discharged directly to Prairie Bay when the system overloads and by-passes.

13. (Part D, Item 2). A new sewage treatment facility became operational in 1996. As noted above, the GNWT DPW owns and operates the facility, but the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet is, in accordance with the licence, responsible for meeting certain effluent limits (for which there are no sampling requirements). The licence limits are high enough that only BOD limits are exceeded.

14. (Part D, Item 3). The Licensee has not maintained the sewage disposal system to the satisfaction of the Inspector.

15. (Part D, Item 4). The Licensee has yet to submit a plan for the disposal of bagged and screened sewage waste (referenced above). The plan was due March 31, 1995. The Licensee was directed not to dispose of any screened sewage material until an approved plan for the disposal of sewage waste had been submitted and approved. GNWT MACA prepared some preliminary site drawings, but they were never submitted to the Board for approval. In addition, the actual sludge disposal facility being used does not favourably compare to the proposed disposal site. This is an issue that the Licensee is directly responsible for and must address.

16. (Part D, Item 6). The Licensee disposes of all solid waste at the solid waste disposal facility. However, the site is operated in an inefficient and ineffective manner. The site is too close to town to be able to burn on a regular basis and is not properly covered with granular material. In addition, the site is open to the public and uncontrolled dumping occurs all the time. Although the site is fenced, the site is so large that windblown is to be found all around the area and no effort is made to keep the fence clean and clear of debris.

Part E - Conditions Applying to Abandonment and Restoration

17. (Part E, Item 1). Not applicable at this time as no waste disposal facilities have been abandoned.

Part F: Conditions Applying to Modifications

18. (Part F, Item 1). Not applicable. No modifications have been made with the exception of the sewage treatment plant, and this was a requirement of the licence.

Part G: Conditions Applying to Operation and Maintenance

19. (Part G, Item 1). The Licensee was to have submitted, within 6 months of the issuance of this licence (i.e. by March 1, 1994) an O+M plan for the dump and sewage disposal facilities. To date the Licensee has not submitted this plan for review.

Surveillance Network Program

Part B - Sampling and Analysis Requirements

20. The Licensee was to have collected a water sample from 0779-4 during the summer of 1997. Although this falls outside of the time frame that this compliance report covers, the fact that the Licensee has not collected any SNP samples during the term of this licence (prior to the relaxation of the SNP sampling requirements) is duly noted.

Part C - Flow and Volume Measurement Requirements

21. The Licensee has met this condition.

Part D - Reports

22. The Licensee has failed to meet this requirement as the Annual Report for 1995 and 1996 were submitted late. As noted in paragraph 4, above, the Licensee has included field sampling data collected by DIAND.

Conclusion

23. The Hamlet of Rankin Inlet's compliance with the Northwest Territories Waters Act and Water Licence N6L3-0779 has been unacceptable for the following reasons:

- a. The Licensee has failed to submit the 1995 and 1996 Annual Reports within the established timeframe set forth in the licence (Part B, Item 1);
- b. The Licensee has failed to comply with the Surveillance Network Program (Part B, Item 2);
- c. The Licensee has failed to place the appropriate warning and SNP station signs (Part B, Item 4 + 6);
- d. A sewage treatment facility was installed which does not meet the effluent limits set forth in the licence (Part D, Item 2);
- e. The Licensee has failed to submit a plan for the disposal of bagged and sewage waste (Part D, Item 3);
- f. The Licensee has failed to submit an O+M Plan (Part G, Item 1);
- g. The Licensee has not collected the required sample at SNP station 0779-4, and;
- h. The Licensee has failed to submit information generated in the SNP as specified in Part B, Item 1 (and SNP Part D, Item 1).

Paul Smith
Water Resources Officer
Nunavut District