

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 6200 000 024/006
NWB File: 3BM-WHA2126



July 19, 2022

via email at: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Richard Dwyer:

RE: 3BM-WHA2126– Hamlet of Whale Cove – Water License Amendment Application

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned amendment application for water license 3BM-WHA2126.

ECCC is providing technical, science-based information and knowledge based on our mandate pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. These comments are intended to inform the assessment of this project's potential effects in the receiving environment and on valued ecosystem components. Any comments received from ECCC in this context does not relieve the proponent of its obligations to respect all applicable federal legislation.

The following comments are provided:

1. Topic: WHA-3 Monitoring Results

Reference(s):

- Whale Cove Municipal Water Licence Application Executive Summary
- 2021 Water Licence Annual Report

Comment:

ECCC notes that as per the 2021 annual report, during the period of 2017-2021, SNP station WHA-3 has achieved the following effluent quality:

- CBOD – Average – 18.21 mg/L (minimum 2 mg/L, maximum 69 mg/L)



- BOD – Average – 34.25 mg/L (minimum 2.7 mg/L, maximum 117.9 mg/L)
- TSS – Average – 47.51 mg/L (minimum 6.7 mg/L, maximum 114 mg/L)

Based on these results, the lagoon is succeeding in providing effluent treatment to meet compliance limits as measured at WHA-3. Although the Proponent has stated that the wetland provides additional treatment, given the monitoring results at WHA-3, effluent quality is achieved in advance of discharge to the wetland system. In addition, monitoring station WHA-3 provides a clear point of control for effluent quality prior to discharge. Overall, sufficient rationale has not been provided for why a change in compliance location is required.

ECCC Recommendation(s):

ECCC recommends that the Proponent provide additional rationale for the change in compliance location given that the existing lagoon as monitored at WHA-3 is providing treatment to meet effluent quality criteria.

If you need more information, please contact Jennifer Sabourin at Jennifer.Sabourin@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Sabourin
Environmental Assessment Officer

Attachment(s):

cc: Jody Small, Acting Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)