Oct 16, 2025
Joseph Monteith
Water Resource Officer
Crown–Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)
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Subject: Response to Water Licence Inspection Report – Sewage Disposal Facility, Resolute Bay (Licence No. 3BM-YRB2126)

Dear Mr. Monteith,

On behalf of the Nunavut Airports Division (NAD) of the Government of Nunavut's Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, we acknowledge receipt of your Water Licence Inspection Report dated July 6, 2025, regarding the Sewage Disposal Facility at Resolute Bay Airport. We appreciate CIRNAC's oversight and the valuable observations and recommendations provided to ensure ongoing compliance with the water licence requirements.

NAD takes these findings seriously and is committed to exercising due diligence to ensure the Sewage Disposal Facility operates in full compliance with the conditions of Water Licence No. 3BM-YRB2126. Below is a summary of the corrective actions and commitments NAD is undertaking in response to the inspection report:

1. Calculation of Waste Deposits:

The annual wastewater volume is calculated based on the total amount of potable water trucked to the airport facilities. As the sewage truck is not equipped with a flow meter, this accepted method ensures accurate annual reporting to the Nunavut Water Board.

2. Monitoring Posts:

Four monitoring stations required under the licence will be properly labelled and signposted by summer 2026, in accordance with Part B, Item 5 of the water licence.

3. Annual Reporting:

NAD's annual water licence reports for previous years have been submitted. The 2025 report will be completed and submitted to the Board by March 31, 2026, in line with the licence schedule.

4. Repairs to Lagoon Berms:

NAD is coordinating with the local contractor ATCO Frontec to repair the two identified damaged berm sections at the beginning of the 2026 summer season. This will help maintain structural integrity and prevent further erosion.

5. Decanting Notification:

In compliance with Part D, Item 5, NAD will provide a minimum of 10 days' advance notice prior to any decanting of the lagoon in summer 2026.

6. Spill Reporting:

Any overflow or spill incidents will be reported to the Spill Line within 24 hours, and actions will follow NAD's approved Spill Contingency Plan (SCP).

7. Effluent Control and Environmental Protection:

The 3 km wetland area downstream provides effective natural treatment before the effluent reaches the sea. NAD will continue to ensure that waste is prevented from entering the environment outside the permitted discharge criteria.

8. Puddling and Erosion Control:

Sewage discharge will be directed through a metal chute to minimize berm erosion and avoid puddling, addressing one of the key issues identified during the inspection.

NAD reiterates its commitment to responsible operation, maintenance, and monitoring of this facility and to ensuring regulatory compliance with all water licence conditions. We value the constructive role CIRNAC plays in protecting the northern environment and will continue to collaborate closely to maintain high standards of environmental stewardship.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Darrin Nichol
Director, Nunavut Airports Division
Government of Nunavut – Department of Transportation and Infrastructure

cc: Nunavut Water Board (NWB)
Jeremy Fraser, Manager of Field Operations, CIRNAC
Aurangzeb Alamgir, Manager Facilities Engineering, Nunavut Airports Division
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