



Your file – 3BM-YRB0308

Our file – 2015-KIVOP-AJS-01

December 14, 2015

Todd McKay  
Director of Nunavut Airports  
Government of Nunavut  
PO Box 560  
Rankin Inlet, Nunavut  
X0C 0G0

Dear Mr. McKay:

On July 10th, 2015, I conducted an inspection of the 3BM-YRB0308 Water License. Considering that this license is now expired, the continued operation of the airport facility that involve the use of water and the deposit waste into the lagoon represents an offence under that Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act (NWNSRTA).

I would like to draw to your attention to Section 11 of the NWNSRTA which states:

*“no person shall use, or permit the use of water in Nunavut except in accordance with the conditions of a license.”*

Past inspection reports also indicate that the sewage lagoon is no longer able to deal with the volume of sewage it receives and overflows every year at regular and predictable intervals. The uncontrolled and unauthorized release of sewage to the environment also constitutes an offence under the act under section 12 of the NWNSRTA which states:

*“except in accordance with the conditions of a license, no person shall deposit or permit the deposit of waste in waters in Nunavut; or in any other place in Nunavut under conditions in which the waste, or any other waste that results from the deposit of that waste, may enter waters in Nunavut.”*

## **Determination**

It has been determined by AANDC that the Resolute Bay Airport facility requires upgrades or modifications to its waste water treatment system and that there is also a requirement to meet obligations from water license 3BM-YRB0308, regardless of the



expiration of the water license. These obligations include obtaining and maintaining a valid water license. The inspector therefore requests the following actions be taken before January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016:

1. Taking any and all reasonable measure to undertake work required to improve the performance of the effluent system for treating sewage to meet water license conditions and prevent waste from being deposited contrary to subsection 12(1) of the Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act
2. Developing plans, and providing timelines, methods and outlines of all other work related to remedying the cause and to prevent the deposit of waste, contrary to the water license and subsection 12(1) of the Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act.
3. Providing said plans, and timelines, methods and outlines of all other work related to remedying the cause and to prevent the deposit of waste, to the Inspector and the Nunavut Water Board.
4. Immediately initiating the process of applying for a Water License that will cover the scope of the current Airport activities that relate to the use of water and deposit of waste.

Failure to meet the requirements noted above will result in the Inspector initiating further enforcement action including the issuance of a Direction to undertake the necessary measures.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 867-645-2840

Atuat Shouldice  
Resource Management Officer

cc. Erik Allain, Manager of Field Operations, AANDC  
Nunavut Water Board Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board Director of Technical Services  
Bhabesh Roy, Municipal Planning Engineer, CGS