

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

ECCC File: 6930 000 042/001
NWB File: 7BL-AWL1722



June 13, 2023

via email at: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Robert Hunter
Licensing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Robert Hunter:

**RE: 7BL-AWL1722 – Weber Arctic Expeditions – Arctic Watch Lodge – Water Licence
Renewal Proponent Responses**

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned Proponent responses.

ECCC provides expert information and knowledge to project assessments on subjects within the department's mandate, including climate change, air quality, water quality, biodiversity, environmental preparedness and emergencies. This work includes reviewing proponent characterization of environmental effects and mitigation measures, and providing advice to decision makers on activities needed to mitigate these environmental effects. Any comments received from ECCC in this context does not relieve the proponent of its obligations to respect all applicable federal legislation.

ECCC is satisfied with the Proponent's response to ECCC's comment #2 on waste management, however additional information is required for comment #1. The following comment is provided:

1. Contingency for spills on/near water

Reference(s)

- Weber Arctic Expedition response to ECCC Review Licence 2BL-AWL1722 Renewal Application for the Arctic Watch Lodge Project in the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut

Comment

ECCC provided a comment on the original water licence renewal application regarding contingency for spills on or near water, and the following recommendation:



ECCC recommends the Proponent:

- *Clarify how the camp is refuelled without transporting fuel across streams or near shore. If it is necessary to move fuel across water or on ice, the Spill Contingency Plan should be modified to include actions to address spills in water or on ice, and appropriate equipment should be available on site;*
- *Provide appendices B to G of the Spill Contingency Plan.*

In the Proponent's response, the Proponent mentions use of a utility truck to ford rivers between the airstrip and camp. No information on prevention of erosion and sedimentation at fording sites is provided. Information on prevention of oil, grease and fuel from entering waters is not provided as well.

ECCC Recommendation(s)

ECCC recommends that the Proponent outline measures to be taken to:

- prevent erosion and sedimentation at fording sites; and
- prevent utility truck oil, grease, and fuel from contaminating the rivers during fording.

If you need more information, please contact Melissa Pinto at Melissa.Pinto@ec.gc.ca or 867-445-5384.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

Melissa Pinto
A/Head, Environmental Assessment North

cc: Anna Graham, Environmental Assessment Officer