

NWB File No: 8AC-ALT----

July 4, 2019

Colonel Martin Gros-Jean Real Property Operations Group, 101 Colonel By Drive Ottawa, ON KIA 0K2 Andrew Tam 8 Wing Environment Management 74 Polaris Avenue, Room 305 P0 Box 1000, Stn Forces Astra, ON KOK 3W0

Email: Martin.Gros-Jean@forces.gc.ca Email: Andrew.Tam@forces.gc.ca

Re: Type "A" Water Licence 8AC-ALT---- Renewal and Amendment Application, Department of National Defence, Canadian Forces Station Alert Project, NU; Update on Next Steps and Timing of Written Public Hearing

Dear Colonel Gros-Jean and Mr. Tam,

The correspondence that follows provides updated guidance regarding the next steps and timing associated with the next stages of the Nunavut Water Board's (NWB or Board) consideration of the Type "A" Water Licence No: 8AC-ALT---- renewal and amendment application (Application), submitted by the Department of National Defence Canada (DND or Applicant) for the Canadian Forces Station Alert Project (Project). This correspondence is an update to the NWB's original guidance on next steps issued by the NWB in the Pre-Hearing Conference Decision issued for the Application on November 6, 2018<sup>1</sup> and subsequent follow up correspondence provided by the Board on May 6, 2019,<sup>2</sup> that set out the timelines and procedural steps associated with the written Public Hearing for the Application. On May 10, 2019 the Board also provided Notice of the written Public Hearing for the Application, and provided additional direction to parties wishing to file notice with the Board in respect of their interests in the Application.

As requested in the Board's previous procedural guidance, on June 18, 2019, the NWB received final written submissions from the following intervening parties (Interveners):

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NWB, 8AC-ALT---- Application for a Type "A" Water Licence PHC Decision, November 6, 2018 (PHC Decision).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Type "A" Water Licence 8AC-ALT----; Renewal and Amendment Application, Department of National Defence, Canadian Forces Station Alert Project, NU; Update on Public Hearing.

- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC); and
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

These documents have been posted on the Board's Public Registry and are available through the NWB's FTP site using the following link:

ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/8%20MISCELLANEOUS/8A/8AC%20-%20Camp/8AC-ALT----%20New%20DND/

On June 21, 2019, following the Applicant's initial review of Intervener comments, the DND indicated that much of their time this summer will be spent conducting field work in the high-arctic, and due to the limitations of communication in this region, the DND will be unable to provide a reply to Intervener comments by the deadline of July 5, 2019 set out in the Board's original procedural guidance. Consequently, DND has requested an extension to **August 23, 2019** to provide DND's reply to Intervener comments.

The Board finds this request to be reasonable. Reflecting the extension to DND's submission date, and following discussions with the Applicant, the NWB has adjusted the schedule for the written Public Hearing and closure of the Public Hearing Record for the Application (originally expected to be July 17, 2019) until after DND has provided follow up submissions in response to Intervener comments and the Interveners and Applicant have filed their final reply submissions and/or final arguments on **September 3, 2019**.

Accordingly, the Board has revised the timelines set out in the Board's previous guidance and expects parties to comply with the following updated timelines::

- All further and final responses of the <u>Applicant</u> to the information filed to date must be filed with the Board on or before **Friday**, **August 23**, **2019**;
- All parties must file any <u>final summary documents</u> for the Board's consideration and/or closing arguments with the Board on or before **Tuesday**, **September 3**, **2019**; and
- If the Interveners and/or the Applicant file additional written submissions, final responses and final summary materials as outlined above, they are also requested to provide an Executive Summary of their written submissions in English, French and Inuktitut and fully translated copies of their final summary documents in English, French and Inuktitut when they file the full submissions or as soon as possible afterward.

All further submissions will be posted on the NWB's ftp-site (<a href="ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/">ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/</a>) and in the public registry upon receipt.

As always, the Board reserves the right to revisit the revised timing set out above:

- if parties are unable to meet the revised deadlines;
- if the Board receives subsequent, reasonable requests from the parties for adjournments in response to additional information received; or
- if the Board subsequently determines a revision to the timelines is necessary.

Following the Board's receipt of all final submissions from the Applicant and Interveners, the Board will provide correspondence regarding the closure of the Public Hearing Record for the Application. Once the Board has closed the Public Hearing Record (currently anticipated to be within 1-2 days of the Boards' receipt of the parties' final submissions on September 3, 2019), the Board will remit the Application to the Panel for decision-making.

Within 30-45 days of the Public Hearing Record closing the decision-making Panel will issue Reasons for Decision and a Record of Proceedings and, if the Panel recommends the Application be granted, a water licence will also be attached (the NWB Decision). The NWB Decision will be provided to the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada for the Minister's review and approval, and the NWB Decision will also be made available on the Board's public registry.

If you have any questions regarding procedural matters related to the file, please contact Richard Dwyer, Licensing Manager, at <a href="mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca">licensing@nwb-oen.ca</a> or by phone at (867) 360-6338, ext. 27. For any Technical inquiries, please contact Derek Donald, Technical Advisor at <a href="mailto:derek.donald@nwb-oen.ca">derek.donald@nwb-oen.ca</a> or by phone at 867-360-6338, ext. 32.

Sincerely,

Richard Dwyer Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board

ML/dd/rqd

Attachment: CIRNAC and ECCC final written submissions

Cc: Alert Distribution