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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File No.: 3BC-BAF0919/TR/D5

July 12, 2013

Kim E. Kalen
EnvO – North Warning System
R&CS 3-4-3
c/o National Defence Headquarters
101 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K2
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**RE: Licence No. 3BC-BAF0919, Type “B”; Request by the Government of Canada,
Department of National Defence to Carryout Open Burning of Acceptable Materials**

Dear Mr. Kalen:

The Nunavut Water Board (“NWB” or “Board”) received on August 23, 2012 from the Government of Canada, Department of National Defence (“DND” or the “Licensee”) written correspondence requesting authorization to carryout controlled open-burning of caches of untreated wood generated from activities associated with the BAF-3 Long Range Radar Station located on Brevoort Island within the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut. The authorization request is aimed at fulfilling the requirements under Part D, Item 5 of the terms and conditions under Licence 3BC-BAF0919.

On August 28, 2012, the NWB acknowledged receipt and distributed the request to interested persons and parties for a for thirty-day review and/or comment period. Comments were received from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Environment Canada (EC), and the Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment (GN-DOE). The intervening parties in their submissions recommended that alternatives to open burning should generally be considered for any type of waste involved and that if open burning is the best of all possible options, the licensee should implement adequate measures to capture and dispose of, at a suitable facility, any residual waste generated.

Following a review of the Licensee’s request and supporting information, terms and conditions in Licence 3BC-BAF0919, and submissions from intervening parties, the NWB determined that it is satisfied that the activity, as proposed by the Licensee, is unlikely to directly or indirectly impact the freshwater receiving environment, which is a requirement under section 12.1(a), (b)

of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*. The NWB has therefore, approved, under **Motion Number 2013-B1-024**, DND's request for the one-time and controlled open-burning of the materials described in DND's August 23, 2013 correspondence. The authorized activity is allowed to be carried out between the months of July and October 2013.

To assist the Licensee in ensuring that the minimum standards are followed, the NWB has included, under Appendix A, a summary of practices to be adhered to when carrying out the specific activity allowed under this authorization. Further, the Licensee must adhere to the terms and conditions in the licence as well as all guidelines¹ and regulations that are applicable to open-burning activities for acceptable waste materials.

Should you have any questions related to the above referenced authorization, please do contact the undersigned at 604-321-8185 or by email at sjoseph@nunavutwaterboard.org.

Yours truly,



Thomas Kabloona
Nunavut Water Board, Chair

TK/sj/ri

Enclosure: Comments – AANDC, EC, GN-DOE

Cc: Distribution List – Qikiqtani Region
Barb Thomson – Nasittuq Corp

¹ Environment Canada's "EC's Open Burning of Garbage Brochure" (2010); and Government of Nunavut's "Environmental Guidelines for Burning and Incineration of Solid Waste" (2010)

APPENDIX A – PRACTICES FOR OPEN BURNING

The NWB highlights several key items of this approval for carrying out of the activities, which include:

- a. The Licensee shall follow the Government of Nunavut's policy on the open burning of segregated wastes, and shall not allow the open burning of plastics, wood treated with preservatives, electrical wire, Styrofoam, asbestos or painted wood;
- b. Solid wastes that are conditionally suitable for open burning are paper products, paperboard packaging and untreated wood wastes only;
- c. Wood and other acceptable products will be kept as dry as possible before and during burning;
- d. The size of the burn pile will be minimized, and a **"hot burn"** maintained to create an efficient burn using consistent/constant feed rates to avoid over-feeding and damping the fire;
- e. Burning will only be undertaken during favorable weather conditions (i.e. will not be undertaken during periods of extreme wind or during wet rain conditions);
- f. Fires will be completely extinguished to ensure that any smoldering of material does not persist;
- g. The Burn pits are to be located on appropriate surfaces (bedrock, gravel or sand) and in areas such that impacts to surface water and groundwater drainage do not occur;
- h. The Burn pits are constructed, operated and maintained so that any materials to be disposed of are contained during the process, including ashes;
- i. Any residual waste and ashes be collected and disposed of in an appropriate, approved facility; and
- j. Surface water runoff from the Burn pit areas shall be managed to prevent any direct or indirect flow into a water body and that no additional impacts to water are created.