



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
8BC-EUR2131
Our file - Notre référence
GCDocs#98870504

November 8, 2021

Mr. Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0
E-mail: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

**Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's review comments
on the Quality Assurance Quality Control Program for Environment and
Climate Change Canada's Water Licence 8BC-EUR2131**

Dear Mr. Richard Dwyer,

Thank you for your October 14, 2021 email request for review and comments on the above-noted program.

Pursuant to its mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) reviewed the following documents: (1) the Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC) Program – Eureka High Arctic Weather Station, prepared by Environment and Climate Change Canada Corporate Services and Finance Branch; (2) the QAQC Approval Letter by Glen Huday, Analyst under the Northwest Territories Waters Act; and (3) Water Licence 8BC-EUR2131. As a result of this review, CIRNAC would like to provide the following comments and recommendations to the Nunavut Water Board for consideration.

1. Field (or in-situ) measurements of pH, temperature and conductivity

Comment:

Part I, Item 9 of Water Licence 8BC-EUR2131 requires that “*(L)icensee shall submit for review of the Board, within ninety (90) days of issuance of this Licence, a revised Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC) Plan that includes field and laboratory procedures*

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for sampling and analysis." and quantitative measurements of a variety of physical and chemical parameters, including conductivity and pH, are required at Stations EUR-2, EUR-3, EUR-4, EUR-5, and EUR-6.

CIRNAC notes the absence of procedures for field (or in-situ) measurements of parameters, such as pH and conductivity, in the updated QA/QC program. For QA/QC purposes, sensitive parameters such as pH, temperature and conductivity are routinely measured both in the field at the time of sampling and later in the laboratory.

Recommendation:

CIRNAC recommends that procedures for field (or in-situ) measurements of parameters such as pH, temperature and conductivity be included in the updated QA/QC program.

2. Sampling blanks

Comment:

Sampling blanks, including field blank and travel blank, are an important aspect of a QA/QC program for field sampling events. CIRNAC notes the absence of sampling blanks in the updated QA/QC program.

Recommendation:

CIRNAC recommends that both field blank and travel blank be included in each sampling event.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to participate in this review. If there are any questions, please contact me at david.zhong@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca, or Andrew Keim at andrew.keim@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

David Zhong
Regulatory and Science Advisor