

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

ECCC File: 6300 000 046/001
NWB File: 8BC-ABH2125



August 26, 2025

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: 8BC-ABH2125 – Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) – Arctic Bay Harbour Development Project –Water License Application Reviewed

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) by DFO regarding the above-mentioned Water License Application.

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 emergencies preparedness and responses. This work includes reviewing proponent characterization of environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures. We provide advice to decision-makers regarding a proponent's characterization of environmental effects, the efficacy of their proposed mitigation activities, and may suggest additional mitigation measures. Any comments received from ECCC in this context does not relieve the proponent of its obligations to respect all applicable federal legislation.

The following comments are provided:

1. Topic – Disposal at Sea Permit Application

Reference(s)

- Application for Water Licence Renewal
 - Page 16 – 16. Other Authorizations - Disposal at Sea Permit

Comment

ECCC notes that the proponent states that a disposal at sea permit is in place for the project however the permit is only valid until 2026. If dredging and disposal at sea are still required



and or planned for this project a current DAS permit is required for the duration of the project.

Permit Application Status – Arctic Bay Harbour

- A new ocean disposal permit application is currently open and under review, treated as a new application (received July 2024).

For this application to be considered **complete**, the following elements are required:

- Submission of a fully completed application form with all necessary information;
- Payment of the applicable application fees;
- Publication of a public notice in a manner that reaches the affected community.

Supporting Studies

- Dredged material characterization is valid for five years. The dredged material characterization must be no older than five years.
- An environmental impact assessment is also valid for five years and may be reused for subsequent permit applications during that time. A review of the assessment should be done with each renewal request, to ensure that the project is the same as the original.

Permit Duration and Renewals

Ocean disposal permits are valid for one year but may be renewed annually up to four times, provided dredging occurs each year. Thus, an initial permit may be followed by up to four renewals.

ECCC Recommendation(s)

For further reference, please consult our website: [Disposal at sea - Canada.ca](https://disposalatsea-canada.ca). Should there be any requests or questions please contact *Immersion en Mer RPN / Disposal at Sea PNR (ECCC)* (immersionpn-disposalatseapn@ec.gc.ca) and cc ECCC Environmental Protection Operations Directorate at eanorthnu@ec.gc.ca.

If you need more information, please contact Kelvin Mok at 647-951-8836 or Kelvin.Mok@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Kelvin Mok
Environmental Assessment Officer

cc: Eva Walker, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)