

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

ECCC File: 6300 000 022/002  
NWB File: 8BD-BGP----



August 18, 2022

via email at: [licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca)

Richard Dwyer  
Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Richard Dwyer:

**RE: 8BD-BGP---- – Qulliq Energy Corporation – Baker Lake Geothermal Project – Water Licence Application**

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

ECCC is providing technical, science-based information and knowledge based on our mandate pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. These comments are intended to inform the assessment of this project's potential effects in the receiving environment and on valued ecosystem components. 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. Communication Plan**

Reference(s)

- Section 4.3 – Chain of Command, Emergency Response Plan, Baker Lake Geothermal Project, Hamlet of Baker Lake, NU

Comment

Section 4.3 provides a chain of command for emergency activities due to a spill on site. From the information provided in the plan, it is difficult to determine how efficient a coordinated response could be implemented in the event of a larger incident (which may require an integrated incident command structure involving the local fire department, Proponent, Inuit community, and other authorities).



#### ECCC Recommendation(s)

ECCC recommends that the Proponent provide a communication plan, with clear roles and responsibilities defined, in order to ensure that an efficient and timely response may be implemented in case of an emergency.

## **2. Clerical Clarification**

#### Reference(s)

- Section 3 – Progressive Reclamation, Abandonment and Restoration Plan, Baker Lake Geothermal Project, Hamlet of Baker Lake, NU

#### Comment

Section 3 of the Abandonment and Restoration Plan states that “waste material will be properly disposed of in Baker Lake or will be transported south to an accredited facility”. This statement suggests the Proponent will dispose of waste into Baker Lake itself, instead of at the waste disposal facility within the Hamlet of Baker Lake.

#### ECCC Recommendation(s)

ECCC recommends that the Proponent further clarify that the waste material will be properly disposed of in the waste disposal facility in the Hamlet of Baker Lake, and not in the lake itself.

If you need more information, please contact Stephinie Mallon at [Stephinie.Mallon@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Stephinie.Mallon@ec.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

*[original signed by]*

Stephinie Mallon  
Environmental Assessment Officer

cc: Jody Small, Acting Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)