



**Environment Environnement  
Canada Canada**

Environmental Protection Operations  
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EC file: 4703 003 029  
NWB file: 3BC-MBA0919

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Via email: [licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)

**RE: 3BC-MBA0919- Revised Spill Contingency Plan: Geological Survey of Canada -  
Glacier Mass Balance and Pollution Studies in the Canadian High Arctic**

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the information regarding the above-mentioned project proposal, as submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

The Geological Survey of Canada has submitted, to the NWB, a Revised Spill Contingency Plan according to conditions of the Type B Water License 3BC-MBA0919. Research camps will be located on the Meighen, Melville, Agassiz, and Devon ice caps. Hazardous materials being stored include gasoline, isosol, propane, Jet-B Av-gas and diesel fuel.

Based on the information provided, EC provides the following comments for the NWB's consideration:

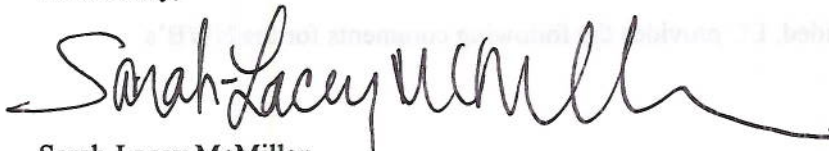
**Spill Contingency Plan**

- Copies of the spill plan must be made readily available on site and posted where crew members have access to it, and at each fuel cache and refuelling station. All staff should be familiar with operational procedures in the event of a spill and be instructed regarding these spill / clean-up procedures. The Spill Contingency Plan should:
  - assign responsibilities to company staff and/or contractors and outline a clear path of response;
  - provide a list of agencies / persons to be contacted in the event of a spill including their phone numbers. EC will be notified through the NWT 24-hour Spill Line process;
  - maintain and update as needed a list and indicate location(s), both on and off site, of equipment available to be used in the event of a spill;
  - ensure that fuel containers, including barrels, are marked with responsible party's name, product type, and year purchased or filled;

- ensure an appropriate spill kit including shovels, barrels, absorbents, pumps be consistently maintained and readily available at all locations where fuel is being stored and transferred;
- ensure that transfer operations be attended by trained personnel at all times;
- ensure that there is secondary containment or surface liners (drip pans, fold-a-tanks, etc.) under all containers or vehicle fuel tank inlet and outlet points, hose connections and hose ends during fuel or hazardous substance transfers. In addition, vehicle refuelling should not occur within floodplains and secondary containment should be of adequate size and volume to contain and hold fluids for the purpose of preventing spills.
- ensure that secondary containment with an impervious liner is used for storage of all barrelled fuel rather than relying on natural depressions to contain spills;
- ensure proper handling and disposal of contaminated materials resulting from the containment, clean-up, etc. of any spills and include the locations of disposal sites approved to accept wastes and means of storage prior to disposal; and
- state that all spills of oil, fuel, or other deleterious materials, regardless of size, are to be reported to the NWT 24-hour Spill Line (867) 920-8130. All releases of harmful substances, regardless of quantity, are immediately reportable where the release:
  - is near or into a water body;
  - is near or into a designated sensitive environment or sensitive wildlife habitat;
  - poses an imminent threat to human health or safety; or poses an imminent threat to a listed species at risk or its critical habitat

If there are any additional changes in the proposed project, EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 669-4724 or by email at [Sarah-Lacey.McMillan@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah-Lacey.McMillan@ec.gc.ca)

Yours truly,



Sarah-Lacey McMillan  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, EC, Yellowknife, NT)  
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