



Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Affaires autochtones et Développement du Nord Canada  
PO Box 1500  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3

File: N7-1-1835

September 18, 2013

Ron Wallace  
Interim Executive Director  
NWT Water Board  
Suite 302, Professional Building  
125 Mackenzie Rd.  
Box 2531  
Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0

Mr. Wallace,

**Re: N7-1-1835 – Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway, Public Hearing**

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada has participated in the water licencing process for the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway (ITH). During this process AANDC identified concerns relating to a number of the management plans submitted by the Developer. AANDC believes that these management plans should form part of the water licence and require NWT Water Board (Board) approval.

During the Pre-hearing Conference, AANDC received a strong commitment from the Developer to provide a number of updated plans including:

- Sediment and Erosion Control Plan;
- Spill Contingency and Response Plan;
- Waste Management Plan;
- Explosive Management Plan;
- Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Plan;
- Emergency Management Plan; and
- Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (AEMP)\*

\*AANDC notes that an AEMP is in addition to but should be compatible with monitoring requirements under the Water Licence Surveillance Network Program (SNP). AANDC has attached several examples of SNP's issued by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board for highway related projects in the North Slave area. AANDC suggests the Board include a similar requirement in the licence issued for this application.

In addition, the Developer will also provide several safe handling practices related to re-fuelling and fuel management.

The Developer further accepted that these plans would form part of the water licence and require Board approval, which means that parties will have an opportunity to comment on the content of submitted plans and provide recommendations to the Board.

In light of this commitment by the Developer, AANDC does not intend to intervene at a public hearing for this project. Should a public hearing for this project still be held, the Department would be interested in attending and, if deemed necessary by the Board, participating.

Note that AANDC will be reviewing the information on water withdrawal quantities that the Developer is providing on September 20, 2013 and may submit a follow-up letter to the Board specifically on this topic.

Thank you for providing AANDC with the opportunity to participate in this licencing process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Conrad Baetz at [Conrad.Baetz@aandc.gc.ca](mailto:Conrad.Baetz@aandc.gc.ca) or 777-8901, or the undersigned at [Robert.Jenkins@aandc.gc.ca](mailto:Robert.Jenkins@aandc.gc.ca) or 669-2574.

Sincerely,



Robert Jenkins  
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment  
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada