

Water Register: N7L1-1817

December 9th, 2010

Pippa Seccombe-Hett
Director
Aurora Research Institute
P.O. Box 1450
Inuvik, NT
X0E 0T0

Dear Mrs. Seccombe-Hett,

RE: 2010 Mallik Annual Sump Monitoring Report (licence N7L1-1817)

Thank you for submitting the above mentioned report. The Northwest Territories Water Board (NWT Water Board) support staff reviewed the report and are seeking clarification.

According to water licence N7L1-1817, condition Part H-2, Aurora Research Institute is required to follow the *October 2005 protocol for the monitoring of drilling-waste disposal sumps, the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Northwest Territories* (protocol). After reviewing your report, the NWT Water Board support staff found that some information is lacking.

In accordance with the protocol, the licensee should submit to the Board the following information:

- the dimensions of the capped sump in metres (length and width);
- the approximate thickness of sump cap above grade;
- the degree of ponding in area extending 50 m from sump cap in all directions;
- indicate if sump cap is collapsing and estimated the percentage of the cap that has collapsed;
- in regards to the active-layer depth measurements, what was the length of the transect and the intervals of each measurements;
- was the electromagnetic surveys performed by foot on a 10 m grid covering the entire sump cap and an area of 50 m from the sump edge in all directions?
- identification and quantity of any potential risks to either health and/or the environment as a result of activity at the site.
- It is mentioned at page 3-4 that ESSIS conducted EM surveys (EM31 and EM38) on September 30th, 2009. The NWT Water Board would like to know if you meant in 2010.

If the information was already submitted in the past, please refer to the document(s) and page(s) where the NWT Water Board can find the missing information.

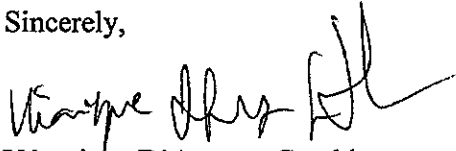
For future annual sump monitoring reports, please organize in an Excel spreadsheet the monitoring information, as specified in the protocol and attach it to the reports. An example of the file is available online at <http://www.nwtwb.com/html/links.html> under Guidelines.

Also, as recommended in the protocol, annual monitoring visits should be conducted in late summer (August or early September). It is important to maintain reasonable consistency in the timing of site visits so that inter-annual data is comparable.

The NWT Water Board appreciates your cooperation and efforts in compiling the required information. Please provide any responses at your earliest convenience, preferably prior to January 21st, 2010.

If you have any questions contact me by phone at 867-678-8619 or via e-mail at damoursgauthierv@nwtwb.com.

Sincerely,



Véronique D'Amours Gauthier
Science and Regulatory Officer
NWT Water Board
Inuvik, NT

c.c. Jan Davies- INAC (NMDO)
Elaine Little- Kavik-Axys Inc.