

March 29, 2016

Mardy Semmler  
Executive Director  
Inuvialuit Water Board  
P.O. Box 2531  
125 Mackenzie Road  
Suite 302, Professional Building  
Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0

**Re: Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk  
Water Licence Application – N5L3-0714  
Type B Municipal Water Licence  
Request for Review and Comments**

Dear Mr. Semmler,

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has reviewed the application at reference based on its mandated responsibilities under the *Environmental Protection Act*, the *Forest Management Act*, the *Forest Protection Act*, *Waters Act* and the *Wildlife Act* and provides the following comments and recommendations for the consideration of the Board.

### **Topic 1: Water Licence Term**

#### **Comment(s):**

The Application for the Water Licence Renewal (*Schedule C - September 17, 2015*) has proposed a Water Licence term from July 2014 to June 2099. ENR presumes that the proposed 85 year term is likely an error.

ENR is of the opinion that a shorter term licence is required (shorter than the Legislated term of 25 years). ENR's rationale is that there are Water Licence requirements that have not been completed in the past. As such, ENR does not believe a long-term licence will ensure that proper sampling and reporting is completed. That said, the community has had trouble even renewing the existing Water Licence due to staff change over and capacity issues. Thus a shorter term licence may result in a similar situation that it currently finds itself in.

#### **Recommendation(s):**

- 1) ENR recommends that the Water Licence be set for a shorter term (e.g. five or ten years) in order to better assess and, if required, revisit monitoring and reporting requirements.

## **Topic 2: Water Licence Monitoring and Reporting**

### **Comment(s):**

ENR notes that the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk has been out of compliance due to the omission of Annual Water Licence Reports and SNP monitoring requirements in the past. With the lapse of the Water Licence in 2014, ENR has some concerns with the Hamlet's ability to meet the requirements of the Water Licence. ENR recognizes and appreciates that the Mayor and Council has made meeting Water Licence requirements a priority.

### **Recommendation(s):**

- 1) ENR recommends and encourages the Hamlet to comply with its Water Licence requirements by submitting reports on time, and completing SNP monitoring, to ensure effective water and wastewater management is occurring. ENR would like to highlight that the intent of the Water Licence is to ensure that the environment is properly protected.

## **Topic 3: Background Report**

### **Comment(s):**

Under "Section 4: Water Licence Compliance Inspections and Annual Reports", the report notes that the last Water Licence Inspection Report was filed on August 27, 2013 by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Inspectors, and that no non-compliances were noted. There exists a more recent Water Licence Inspection Report on the Inuvialuit Water Board public registry, submitted on November 25, 2015 by the ENR, Inuvik Region Inspector. The inspection report noted a number of violations pertaining to reporting, signage, Surveillance Network Program and administrative requirements.

### **Recommendation(s):**

- 1) It is recommended that the proponent modify the report to account for the most recent Water Licence Inspection Report on file, and its findings, as it offers an overall more accurate description of the water supply and waste management facilities.

## **Topic 4: Operation & Maintenance Plan**

### **Comment(s):**

Under Subsection 6.4, the report refers to the "GNWT Environment Protection" and the "GNWT Environment Protection Inspector". Under Subsection 10.1, the contact for telephone number "867-678-6676" is listed as "GNWT Environment Protection".

### **Recommendation(s):**

- 1) It is recommended that the proponent modifies the entries to indicate "GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)" and the "GNWT ENR Water Resource Officer (Inspector)" under Subsection 6.4. The contact for telephone number "867-678-6676" should be listed as "ENR Water Resource Officer (Inspector)".

## **Topic 5: Spill Contingency Plan**

### **Comment(s):**

Under Subsection 2.1, the report refers to “GNWT Environment Protection, Inuvik (ENRP)”. Under Subsection 2.2, the report refers to the “GNWT Environment Protection Inspector”.

### **Recommendation(s):**

- 1) It is recommended the proponent modifies the entries to indicate the following: “GNWT ENR Water Resource Officer (Inspector)” under Subsections 2.1 and 2.2.

Comments and recommendations were provided by ENR technical experts in the Water Resources Division and the Inuvik Region and were coordinated and collated by the Environmental Impact Assessment Section, Conservation, Assessment and Monitoring Division (CAM).

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Clancy, Environmental Regulatory Analyst at (867) 767-9233 Ext: 53096 or email [patrick.clancy@gov.nt.ca](mailto:patrick.clancy@gov.nt.ca).

Sincerely,



Patrick Clancy  
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Environmental Impact Assessment Section  
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