

7.0 Public Engagement G99L3-004

There have been no recent formal public engagement meetings with the community.

Recommend that the community plan a public education and consultation process.

This could include factsheets delivered to each residence followed by a telephone call-in program on the community radio station. A more formal information meeting may be appropriate and the notice and suggested meeting purpose and content are given here.

7.1 Notification of Public Review Process

re Water Licence G99L003-04, Tsiigethchic Charter Community NT

Purpose of this Notice

An application to renew the Water Licence for municipal water supply for Tsiigethchic Charter Community Hope NT is being submitted to the Gwich'in Land and Water Board. This letter is to alert you to this renewal application and to inform you that you may provide comments to us or to the Gwich'in Land and Water Board. The period to receive comments for this application will close on _____.

Current Process of Water Supply

Water is drawn continuously from Ts'oh Vàn by pump to the Water Treatment Plant. This water is filtered for sediment and then treated by nanofiltration (remove solids greater than 0.001 microns) and chlorination. Water is dispensed from holding tanks in the water treatment facility and delivered to homes, institutions and businesses in Tsiigethchic by truck. Water from the truck is dispensed via a hose from the truck to a receiving port of the holding tank inside the residence or building. Wastewater is transferred from holding tanks inside buildings to a truck that transfers the liquid waste to the Wastewater Treatment System at E-Lake Lagoon. The quality of the source water is routinely tested for nutrients, sediment and metals to standards of the Canadian Water Quality Standards. The quality of delivered water is routinely tested for sediment and coliform bacteria.

Changes since the 2010 Licence Renewal

In 2015 updates to the instrumentation for the pumps and monitors at the water treatment facility were installed and personnel have received training toward certification in the operation of this modern facility funded by the Federal and Territorial governments. In 2015, the nanofiltration filters were changed and the computerized instrumentation was updated.

Changes to the Water Licence

No changes to the supply or distribution of water are planned. The sanitary landfill area is anticipated to expand westward from its current site; this expansion will be subject to an environmental design and approval process. The current licence is for the five year period from 2015 to 2016 and was extended to 206 SEP 30. This application to renew the water licence will request a ten year renewal cycle.

Documents are available for your review at the on line Registry for the year 2015 at <www.mvlwb.ca/Boards/glwb/Registry> or in person at the Municipal office during usual business hours.

7.2 Public Information Meeting Tsiigehtchic Charter Community

Open House and Discussion Forum Water Licence Renewal Application Community Hall DATE 12 to 1 pm -- drop in, posters, brief presentation 1 to 5 pm -- drop in, posters 5 to 7 pm -- drop in, posters, formal presentation, discussion forum Notice posted: DATE
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Residents of Tsiigehtchic are dependent on clean, safe drinking water supplied from the water treatment facility in use since 2003 and last modernized in 2015. The permit to draw water is administered by the Gwich'in Land and Water Board under the provisions of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, the Northwest Territories Waters Act and Regulations. The current licence to use water for municipal purposes, the off-stream storage of water in a reservoir and to dispose of municipal wastes expires on 2016 OCT 31. An application to renew the water licence has been submitted to the Gwich'in Land and Water Board.

The Public Information Meeting will help us understand where our water comes from, how it is filtered, treated, delivered; and, how the quality of the water that we drink is maintained and monitored. Two other related topics that will be addressed are: sewage disposal and solid waste management. We get water from the Ts'oh Vàn and dispose of our waste into the E-Lake Lagoon. Wastewater is processed by natural processes of the wetlands and ponds through which the wastewater passes. This is an environmentally safe, effective and economical means of handling our waste. Questions to be considered are: do waste contaminants enter the ecosystem through surface water, ground water, the atmosphere and might they harm human or wildlife downstream.

Topics for Community Discussion

Water Supply

- water treatment facility opened in _____
- water quality monitoring (source water, drinking supply)

Sewage Disposal

- routine pickup from households
- how, where disposed
- life span of current facility

Solid Waste Disposal

- size and capacity of current site
- types of material accepted
- handling of hazardous wastes (e.g.: car batteries, anti-freeze, waste oil)
- life span of current facility

Ideas for Discussion

- benefits of recycling (cans, glass, cardboard)
- improved salvage opportunities
- routine maintenance of household water tank (frequency, technique)