



Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
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Staff Report

Applicant: City of Yellowknife	
Location: Yellowknife, NT	Application: MV2009L3-0007
Date Prepared: August 22, 2011	Meeting Date: September 1, 2011
Subject: Request to change location of Surveillance Network Program (SNP) Station 0032-F1	

1. Purpose/Report Summary

To obtain a board decision on the City of Yellowknife's request to change the location of SNP Station 0032-F1.

2. Background

- May 21, 2010 – Water Licence (WL) MV2009L3-0007 was issued;
- August 8, 2011 – request to change the location of SNP station 0032-F1 received;
- August 9, 2011 – request forwarded to distribution list;
- August 17, 2011 – comment deadline; and
- September 1, 2011 – SNP modification request presented to Board.

3. Discussion

Due to safety concerns, the City of Yellowknife (City) submitted a request to change the location of SNP station 0032-F1 on August 8, 2011 (see attached). According to the City, the island which the samples are taken from has numerous deep cracks running through the area which is obscured by tall grasses and plants. The shoreline is also deteriorating. The City is proposing a new location which is approximately 300 m from the current site and is situated on the same body of water.

4. Comments

As per Part B, item 6, the Board can modify the SNP. Part B, item 6 states:

The Surveillance Network Program, Schedules, and compliance dates specified in the Licence may be modified at the discretion of the Board.

5. Review Comments

Comments were received from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Government of the Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), Environment Canada, and the North Slave Métis Alliance (see comment table). No issues were raised about the new location. NSMA had one question about using the helicopter which was addressed by the City.

6. Security

Not applicable.

7. Conclusion

Moving the location of SNP station 0032-F1 will make sampling safer. This location still meets the objective of monitoring the water quality of Lake F1 and the effectiveness of the Fiddler's Lake sewage disposal system.

8. Recommendation

Board staff recommends the approval of this request to re-locate SNP station 0032-F1.

9. Attachments

- Comment Summary Table;
- Request to change SNP station 0032-F1 dated August 8, 2011;
- Draft revised SNP; and
- Draft Approval Letter.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Plautz
Regulatory Policy Advisor

Comment Summary Table - MV2009L3-0007

Water Licence - City of Yellowknife

#	REVIEWER	TOPIC	COMMENT	Reviewer Recommendation	Company Response	Board Staff Recommendation
1	Rick Walbourne, Department of Fisheries and Oceans	Re-location of SNP station 0032-F1	DFO has no concerns regarding the re-location of SNP Station 0032-F1. The proposed relocation site appears appropriate and safety of field personnel should always be the top priority.	None required.	None required.	Noted.
2	Patrick Clancy, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), GNWT	Re-location of SNP station 0032-F1	The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has reviewed the request at reference based on its mandated responsibilities under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i> , the <i>Forest Management Act</i> , the <i>Forest Protection Act</i> and the <i>Wildlife Act</i> and has no comments or recommendations at this time.	None required.	None required.	Noted.
3	Jane Fitzgerald, Environment Canada	Re-location of SNP station 0032-F1	Environment Canada has reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned request and has no issue from a water-quality perspective with the change in location of 0032-F1 as described.	None required.	None required.	Noted.

Comment Summary Table - MV2009L3-0007

Water Licence - City of Yellowknife

#	REVIEWER	TOPIC	COMMENT	Reviewer Recommendation	Company Response	Board Staff Recommendation
4	Sheryl Grieve, North Slave Métis Alliance	Using a helicopter	<p>One question on MV2009L3-0007 under review...</p> <p>If a helicopter is being used anyways, why not one on floats, and take the water sample from the water away from shore in between the existing and proposed locations?</p>	None required.	<p>In answer to your question, there are two main reasons why landing a helicopter on the water to take samples would not be possible. First, if we have a helicopter land on the lake it will stir up the water which could introduce additional sediments into the sample. This could potentially disturb the wetland treatment process. Second, there is an increased safety hazard when sampling directly from the helicopter. As safety is the primary reason why we are relocating the sampling site, sampling from the helicopter is not viable. There will also be certain times of the year when a helicopter will be unable to land on the lake. Since we sample year-round, we need a site that can be accessed all year.</p>	Comment has been addressed.