



Sahtu Land & Water Board
REASONS FOR DECISION
Issued Pursuant to Section 121 of
The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act
And Pursuant to Section 54 of
The Waters Act

Water Licence S16L8-002 (Type “B”)

This is the decision of the Sahtu Land & Water Board with respect to an application for a Water Licence dated December 13, 2016 made by:

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
501 University Crescent
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3T 2N6

for: the undertaking of repairs to the Canadian Coast Guard Wharf in Norman Wells, NT.

With respect to this application, written notice was given to 16 organizations within the Sahtu Settlement Area and 16 outside of the settlement area in accordance with Sections 63 & 64 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. There was no Public Hearing held in association with this application.

DECISION

After having been satisfied that the project has been screened pursuant to s.124(1) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, and that any potential adverse environmental effects were insignificant or mitigable with known technology, and as such the application could proceed through the regulatory process and after reviewing the submission of the Applicant and after reviewing the written comments received by the Board; the Board, having due regard to the facts and circumstances, the merits of the submissions made to it, and to the purpose, scope and intent of the MVRMA and Regulations made thereunder has determined that: Water Licence S16L8-002 will be issued subject to the terms and conditions contained therein.

The Board's reasons for this decision are as follows:

- The Board is satisfied that appropriate consultation has been conducted and that advice has been sought and considered, in accordance with sections 63 and 64 of the MVRMA;
- It is the opinion of the Board that the terms and conditions attached to S16L8-002, pursuant to the *Waters Act*, will ensure that any potential environmental impacts resulting from this development are not significant. The effects of the Project on the environment can take place in an environmentally responsible manner provided that mitigation measures outlined in the Program's Environmental Management Plan are followed;
- The repair of the wharf will provide access to Sahtu lands for recreation and tourism, including easier and safer access for community members to their traditional fishing and hunting areas;
- It is the opinion of the Board that the term and conditions attached to S16L8-002, pursuant to the *Waters Act*, will ensure that any potential environmental impacts resulting from this activity are not significant. The effects of the Project on the environment can take place in an environmentally responsible manner provided that environmental considerations and mitigation measures outline in the Water Licence application documents are followed;
- DFO will continue comprehensive, meaningful and ongoing engagement efforts with the local community to address concerns and to improve understanding of Project activities and potential effects; and
- The use of land proposed by the Proponent is of a nature contemplated by the MVRMA.

The Proponent has been notified through a provision included in the scope of the Water Licence, that compliance with the term and conditions of this Licence has no effect on the Licensee's responsibility for compliance with the requirements of any other legislation.

The Board will provide any referenced material or documents and/or reasons for decision for any specific clause or clauses contained within the application if requested to do so in writing.

SIGNED this 19th day of April, 2017 on behalf of the SAHTU Land & Water Board.



Larry Wallace (Chairman)
SAHTU Land & Water Board