



Environmental Protection Operations Directorate (EPOD)
Prairie & Northern Region (PNR)
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August 13, 2014

EC File: 5200 000 006/003
WLWB File: W2014L3-0002

Ryan Fequet
Regulatory Manager
Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board
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Submitted via email

Attention: Ryan Fequet

RE: W2014L3-0002 - Type A Water Licence Application – Behchoko Municipal Water Licence – Tlicho Community Government of Behchoko

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB) regarding the Type A Water Licence Application for the community of Behchoko. EC has not identified concerns warranting a formal intervention at this time, however there are a few outstanding issues listed below that EC would like addressed. The Water Licence terms and required monitoring could adequately address these concerns by ensuring the proponent meets their commitments. EC plans on observing the formal hearings and thus will not be making a formal presentation. EC is available to provide guidance and to answer questions at any time if the WLWB deems it necessary. EC's specialist advice is provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999*, the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Summary of EC remaining concerns:

IR#5 for Community Government of Behchoko (CGB): *Confirm whether topographic data of Rae and Edzo wetlands are available, and if so, calculate hydraulic retention times and loading rates.*

- CGB has stated "the modelling has been undertaken and will be completed before the public hearing." EC plans to review the information for the wetland hydraulic retention times and loading rate calculations prior to the hearings as this information is relevant to the determination of the deposit of deleterious substances into fish bearing waters.

IR#7 for CGB: Provide map identifying proposed Surveillance Network Program (SNP) location at the end of the Rae wetland prior to entering Frank's Channel.

- EC would like the proposed additional surface water sampling stations to be added as required to the SNP, in particular the proposed additional sampling station for effluent discharge at the end of the Rae wetland prior to entering Frank's Channel. This station should be sampled during the discharge events to monitor the effluent quality as it is released to the final water way.

EC comment #6 - Signage and Fencing: EC also recommends that the signage and fencing actually be installed as per the O&M plan in order to prevent further dumping of solid waste and deceased animals into the sewage lagoon.

- EC is satisfied with the proponents response that the signage will placed as required. EC would still like to encourage the use of a perimeter fence or at minimum a gate located at the road access points for the sewage lagoons to reduced future unwanted contaminants in the ponds and surrounding areas.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4707 or Bradley.Summerfield@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Bradley Summerfield
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Loretta Ransom, Senior Environmental Assessment Coordinator, PNR-EPOD
Carey Ogilvie, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU), PNR-EPOD