



Beaufort Delta Region
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September 18, 2015

Hamlet of Fort McPherson
P.O Box 57
Fort McPherson, NT, X0E 0J0

Attn: Bill Buckle, Supervisor

RE: Emergency decant of sewage effluent from Fort McPherson Sewage Lagoon

To: Mr. Buckle,

As per our phone call today and your email request dated September 17, 2015, it is understood that Ft. McPherson wishes to decant their sewage lagoon (the 'Lagoon'). The purpose of this decant is to lower water levels in the Lagoon to achieve and maintain the required freeboard limit as defined in Part D, section four in Water Licence G03L3-001 (the 'Licence'). It is understood that this decant must occur as there is concern that the structural integrity of the lagoon may be at risk and could lead to an eventual uncontrolled discharge.

Further, the Lagoon was sampled on August 13 2015 to provide for a decant. When the results came back from the lab, the sewage analysis was all within Water Licence discharge criteria.

Due to those factors affecting the sewage being discharged and the concern about the structural integrity of the Lagoon, it was decided to allow the emergency decant to maintain the required freeboard and ultimately prevent uncontrolled discharge, **Ft. McPherson is authorized to discharge.** This decision is based on the following:

1. An inadequate freeboard (less than 1 m) jeopardises the structural integrity of the lagoon;
2. Currently there is local runoff and precipitation which will aid with the elevated levels of Ammonia and Total Nitrogen.

The discharge is subject to the following conditions:

1. Discharge as slow as possible and in a regulated manner. This will allow for high dilution as sewage water slowly moves through the system. Furthermore, do not fully open the sewage decant control structure during the discharge;



2. **Only decant to 30cm below the permitted freeboard of 1m** (Part D, Section 4 of the licence). This will ensure the structural integrity of the lagoon.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact myself at (867) 777-8906.

Regards,

Donald Arey
A/Water Resource Officer

Cc: Gwich'in Land and Water Board: by email L.Debastien@glwb.com