ON THE HAMLET OF AKLAVIK

WATER LICENCE N3L4-0570
OCTOBER 05,1992

PREPARED BY

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER

NORTHERN AFFAIRS PROGRAM

INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA

INUVIK, N.W.T.

MUNICIPAL INSPECTION REPORT HAMLET OF AKLAVIK

Introduction

An inspection of the water supply and waste disposal facilities was conducted by Steve Deschene, Resource Management Officer, on October 05, 1992.

There were no changes in the facilities or method of operation for waste disposal and water intake\distribution.

The contact people during the inspection were Richard Ross, Hamlet Foreman, Moses Gordon, Department of Public Works, and Nellie Gruben, Senior Administrative Officer.

A. WATER SUPPLY

The year round water supply is obtained from the Peel Channel of the Mackenzie River on the southwest side of the Hamlet. G.N.W.T.'s Department of Public Works maintains the intake line and treatment plant.

Water is distributed by tank truck and by a 4 inch steel summer pipeline (summer only). The water distribution maintenance and operation is done by the Hamlet.

Records of water quantities pumped from the Peel Channel are kept at the pumphouse/treatment plant and given to the Hamlet Office by DPW.

Samples were taken of raw water, above the intakes before treatment and in the pumphouse/treatment plant after treatment. Results will be forwarded when available.

The pumphouse/treatment plant needed to be cleaned. Dirt has accumulated on the floors and walls as well as on the equipment used in water treatment.

Aside from sanitation there were no problems noted with the water supply and facilities.

B. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewage pumpout is deposited at Clearing Lake, the sewage lagoon. Sewage pumpout is contracted to O.D. Hansen Enterprises by the Hamlet. There are approximately 166 buildings on sewage pumpout. The sewage lagoon was posted.

There are approximately 33 buildings that use honeybags. Honeybags are picked up

once every two days and deposited at a pit at the solid waste disposal site. It was difficult to ascertain the amount of freeboard remaining due to heavy snow cover but it is presumed to be adequate as this pit had been put in place recently. The sign post was situated at the old honey bag pit and should be moved to the new area.

The sewage pumpout chute is being used. The mouth of the chute has been enlarged with a plywood frame. This method makes dumping easier as the operator need not waste time fitting the outflow hose into the end of the chute.

There was no garbage noted in the sewage lagoon.

Samples were taken at SNP station 570-3 by the Hamlet. Results will be forwarded when available.

The Hamlet was reminded to sample SNP station 570-3 immediately after break-up and before freeze up on an annual basis.

C. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Garbage is deposited at the solid waste disposal site located 1.5 km north of the community adjacent to the sewage lagoon.

The cell for domestic garbage appeared full but again due to the snow cover a precise freeboard could not be ascertained. The freeboard should be re-inspected upon spring breakup.

There was a separate area for bulky metal waste. This area was posted.

The entrance of the solid waste disposal site was posted.

D. SURVEILLANCE NETWORK PROGRAM (SNP)

SNP station 570-3 was sampled September 29,1992.

SNP station 570-4 was sampled in 1992.

SNP stations were not inspected due to thin ice and heavy snow cover.

All other SNP requirements had been met to date of inspection.

E. POSTING

The sewage lagoon was posted to the satisfaction of the Inspector. The honey bag pit sign should be installed adjacent to the excavation. The solid waste sign is said to be temporary and should be upgraded to meet the requirements of this license.

The water supply facilities were posted.

F. OTHER CONCERNS

Aklavik was flooded during spring break-up in 1992. A sheen of hydrocarbon material was noticed on the Peel Channel just up river from the water intake. The sheen appeared to be originating from an 8000 gallon fuel tank in a residents back yard. The Hamlet has an Emergency Response Plan in the event of flooding. The Hamlet was asked to remind the residents of Aklavik to ensure that their fuel storage and other possible sources of water contamination be properly secured to minimize environmental impacts at time of flooding.

G. OFFICIAL ONSITE DISCUSSION

Moses Gordon stated that alum use will be discontinued in the near future as the degree of sediment loading is inconsequential in the winter months.

Richard Ross stated that the posting will be adjusted to reflect the present disposal areas. The heavy metal disposal area will be enlarged by moving junked cars etc. to the back of the lot.

A meeting with Nellie Gruben, Senior Administrative Officer, occurred after the inspection. It was pointed out that no major infractions have been incurred by the Hamlet of Aklavik and that a copy of this report will be forwarded to her office.

The Inspector would like to thank Richard Ross, Moses Gordon and Nellie Gruben for their assistance and cooperation.

Stephen Deschene

Resource Management Officer II