



Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Pêches et Océans Canada

# 1 Arctic Road  
P. O. Box 1871  
Inuvik, Northwest Territories  
X0E 0T0

February 21, 2011

Your file / Votre référence  
N2010X0022

Our file / Notre référence  
11-HCAA-CA6-00008

Mr. Donald Arey  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
P.O. Box 2100  
Inuvik, Northwest Territories  
X0E0T0

Dear Mr. Arey:

**Subject:** DFO as RA - Response to Other RA (Lead)

With respect to the Unipkat I-22 Sump Remediation on Arvoknar Channel, for which your department is the responsible authority under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is also a responsible authority for the project. It is our understanding that your department had agreed to take a lead role in the conduct of the environmental assessment, including the management of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry, and the preparation of the screening report to be signed by all RAs. We have been provided the draft report to review and approve before it is finalized. We have also been provided with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry (CEAR) Reference Number with respect to environmental assessment of this project.

DFO has determined that a Section 35(2) Authorization will be issued for the harmful alteration, disruption and destruction (HADD) of fish habitat related to the removal of material from a sandbar within Arvoknar Channel. An application for authorization has been submitted to DFO by the proponent. This activity should be included within the screening report project scope, including the Project Boundary, the Site Backfill, and the Post-Remediation Monitoring sections. The proponent's proposal for the use of frozen river sediment as a source of backfill for the excavation has been attached to this letter for inclusion within the screening document. In addition, the Application for Authorization has been attached to this letter.

On Dec. 21, 2010 DFO provided expert advice relative to fish and fish habitat to contribute to the environmental assessment under CEAA that should be incorporated into the screening report. This advice is outside of the scope of the Section 35(2) Authorization stated above. The letter has been attached for your reference.

After taking into account implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, including the authorization to be completed, we have concluded that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse effects on fish and fish habitat.

We await completion of the screening report for our review and approval and completion of the environmental assessment process before determining a course of action.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me directly by phone at (867) 777-7515, by fax at (867) 777-7501, or by e-mail at [Amanda.Joynt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Amanda.Joynt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

Yours sincerely,

*(original signed by Amanda Joynt)*

Amanda Joynt  
Fish Habitat Biologist

Attachment(s):

1. IEG Proposal to use Frozen River Sediment as a Source of Backfill for the Unipkat I-22 Sump Remediation on Arvoknar Channel – Jan 25, 2011
2. IEG Addendum of supplementary information submitted on Feb. 18, 2011.
3. IEG Application for *Fisheries Act* Authorization
4. DFO Letter of Advice – Dec. 21, 2010

c.c.: Sam Bird – IEG  
T. Stein – DFO  
K. Austin – DFO  
L. Dow – DFO  
J. Malone – FJMC  
C. Inglangasuk – EISC  
L. Dow – DFO  
V. D'Amours-Gauthier – NWTWB  
S. Lambert - EC