

**Inuvialuit Water Board
Reasons for Decision**

Renewed pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the
Waters Act, S.N.W.T. 2014, c.18

Water Licence Number: N7L3-1531 (Renewal)

This is the decision of the Inuvialuit Water Board (IWB) made on November 15, 2022 regarding an application made by the:

Hamlet of Sachs Harbour
P.O. Box 90
Sachs Harbour, NT X0E 0Z0

for a Renewal of Water Licence N7L3-1531.

The Hamlet of Sachs Harbour applied for Water Licence N7L3-1531 Renewal for the use of water and the deposit of waste for municipal undertakings as described in the Water Licence application, supplementary information and the record of this proceeding.

Background:

The Hamlet of Sachs Harbour applied to the IWB for Water Licence N7L3-1531 Renewal to use water and deposit waste associated with municipal undertakings. The application was filed with the IWB on September 16, 2022. The package included Schedule C - Application, Questionnaire for Municipal Undertaking and supporting information for the Water Licence Renewal. Additional documentation in support of the application was requested by the IWB and the application was subsequently accepted as complete by the IWB on September 25, 2022.

In accordance with *Waters Act* Subsection 43. (1)(a), the IWB issued Public Notices on September 29, 2022 (Inuvik Drum) and October 3, 2022 (News North) indicating that it received a Type B Water Licence Renewal Application from the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour. There was no public hearing held in connection with this application.

A copy of the Water Licence application and supplementary information was distributed to the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC), the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Departments of Lands (DOL), Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA), Health and Social Services (H&SS), Infrastructure (INF), Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) as well as the Federal Departments of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor), Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), and the Inuvialuit Land Administration (ILA), Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC), Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC), Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT), Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC), Sachs Harbour Community Corporation (SCC), and Sachs Harbour Hunters and Trappers Committee (SHTC) for a thirty-six (36) day review period (September 26, 2022 – October 31, 2022). Comments were received

from DOL and ECCC on September 27, 2022 and October 31, 2022 respectively and taken into consideration by the Board during the Water Licence Renewal proceedings.

Scope of the Licence:

Upon review of the application and evidence in the public register, the IWB has determined that the scope of the undertakings covered by the Water Licence includes the use of water to be taken from Water Lake, operation of the municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facilities, operation of the municipal Sewage Waste Disposal Facilities and any closure and reclamation activities associated with the aforementioned facilities.

Requirements of the *Waters Act*:

The IWB, as required by Section 4 of the *Waters Act*, has notified the Applicant of their obligation to comply with any and all other legislation pertinent to the activities authorized under this licence.

The IWB is in accordance with Subsection 26. (5)(a) of the *Waters Act* by ensuring that the granting of the Water Licence to the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour will not adversely affect, in a significant way, any existing Licensee, providing the conditions of the Licence are met.

The IWB does not believe that any other users or persons listed in the *Waters Act* Subsection 26. (5)(b) and 27. (2) will be adversely affected by the use of waters or the deposit of waste proposed by the Licensee provided that the Licensee operates in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Water Licence.

The IWB is of the view that compliance with the Water Licence Terms and Conditions will ensure that the waste produced by the undertaking will be treated and deposited in a manner that will maintain water quality in the area and will be consistent with applicable water quality standards in accordance with the *Waters Act* subsection 26. (5)(c)(i).

The IWB is satisfied that the effluent standards set out in the Terms and Conditions of the Water Licence are consistent with the *Waters Act* subsection 26. (5)(c)(ii) and will protect the receiving waters and environment.

The Hamlet of Sachs Harbour has provided the IWB with its Schedule C Application, Questionnaire for a Municipal Undertaking and supporting information for its consideration as required by the *Waters Act* Section 34. (1).

Decision to Renew:

Under the authority of the *Hamlets Act* the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour provides water, municipal solid and sewage waste services to its residents.

The EISC issued a decision document to the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour on September 27, 2022 stating *"The EISC has reviewed your project summary and has determined that your project does meet the definition of development as defined under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, but your project qualifies for an exemption from environmental impact screening under Exclusion Item # 1 of the EISC Guidelines."*

The water use and disposal of waste proposed by the Licensee is of a nature contemplated by the *Waters Act*.

In accordance with the *Waters Act* Section 37. (b)(i) the IWB has the authority to renew this Water Licence.

The IWB has reviewed the Water Licence application and all written comments received by the IWB. Upon consideration of the facts and circumstances, the merits of the submissions made to it and the purpose, scope and intent of the *Waters Act* and the Waters Regulations, the IWB has determined that it can renew Water Licence N7L3-1531 for the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour subject to the Terms and Conditions contained therein.

Water Licence Number N7L3-1531 contains Terms and Conditions the IWB considers necessary to ensure compliance with the *Waters Act* and the Waters Regulations and provide appropriate safeguards for the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour's water use and deposit of waste associated with municipal undertakings.

For all of the above reasons the IWB has renewed Water Licence N7L3-1531 for the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour in accordance with the *Waters Act* Sections 26. (2)(a), 27 and 37 for the use of water and deposit of wastes.

Term of the Water Licence:

The IWB has determined that the term of the Water Licence will be for five (5) years.

SIGNED, this 15th day of November 2022 on behalf of the Inuvialuit Water Board.



**Chairperson
Inuvialuit Water Board**