



February 4, 2026

Mayor Ray Ruben
Hamlet of Paulatuk
P.O. Box 98
Paulatuk, NT X0E 1N0

Dear Mayor Ruben:

Re: N7L3-1619 - Hamlet of Paulatuk, Updated Municipal Water Licence Renewal Application Package

The Inuvialuit Water Board (IWB) acknowledges receipt of the updated Municipal Water Licence Renewal Application package, submitted on behalf of the Hamlet of Paulatuk by Dillon Consulting Ltd, on January 15, 2026. This information is a response to the IWB's information request of October 15, 2025. The IWB completed an internal review of the updated Water Licence Renewal Application package and, as a result, requires further information and / or clarification to continue with the water licence application process.

Please provide the following information and / or clarifications as soon as possible as this information was a component of the initial information requested October 15, 2025:

A. Questionnaire for Municipal Undertaking:

1. Page 7, Section 2: Water Supply. In the updated questionnaire submitted on January 15, 2026, the field under the question "What is the capacity of the water storage facility? m³" was left unanswered.

Provide the capacity of the water storage facility in m³ based on the most recent information available. The water treatment plant has a capacity for treating water in cubic meters which would be acceptable for this response.

2. Page 7, Section 2: Water Supply - In the updated questionnaire submitted on January 15, 2026, the response to question, "What is the rate of withdrawal from the facility? (m³/day)," Response indicates 19 m³.

Clarify whether this value is 19 m³/day. If so, update the information under this question to reflect the unit: m³/day.

3. Page 9, Section 3, Water Treatment: Under Description, it states "Raw water is generally of high quality, see attached results." The initial submission of the Municipal Questionnaire on October 2, 2025, included Appendix A, Water

Chemistry - Raw Intake, which contains raw water quality results from the year 2019.

IWB October 15 request: "Is there current results available, e.g. year 2025 or 2024, for the water quality of the raw water prior to treatment and distribution? If available, include in Appendix A, the raw water quality data prior to treatment and distribution".

Recent results under Appendix A are not included with the updated Municipal Questionnaire submitted on January 15, 2026. If recent raw water quality data is not available, please provide a **response in letter format** stating:

"The most recent raw water quality information is from 2019 and is included in Appendix A. No additional raw water quality data are available after 2019."
NOTE: Environmental Health Officer – Inuvik - H&SS may have this information

4. Page 9, Section 3: Water Treatment - under Description, it states "Raw water is generally of high quality, see attached results". The initial submission of the Municipal Questionnaire on October 2, 2025, included Appendix B: Bacteriological Results from the year 2020.

IWB October 15 request: "If available, include in Appendix B, current (for example year 2025 or 2024) Bacteriological Results of the raw water prior to treatment & distribution."

No response has been provided, and the current bacteriological results available under Appendix B are not included with the updated Municipal Questionnaire submitted on January 15, 2026. If recent bacteriological results of raw water quality are not available, provide a **response in letter format** stating:

"The most recent available bacteriological results of raw water quality are from 2020 and are included in Appendix B. No bacteriological results of raw water quality are available after 2020".

5. Page 17, Section 8: Bottom of the page, please do not leave this field blank, complete as following:

Prepared by: Print the name of the current SAO or a/SAO

Title: SAO

Signature: Signature of the current SAO or a/SAO

Completion Date: Current date signed by the current SAO or a/SAO

Note: This information was requested on October 15, 2025 and is a requirement of the application for the IWB to continue with the application renewal process.

6. Page 18, Section 9: The List of Attachments are not included in the updated questionnaire submitted on January 15, 2026. List all attachments in the Updated Questionnaire.

Note: Refer to the questionnaire initially submitted on October 2, 2025, as some updates are required in Columns 3 and 4.

7. Initial submission of Questionnaire on October 2, 2025, includes Appendix C "Haz Mat Database" for the years 2016 to 2020.

IWB October 15, 2025 request: "Is there a current Haz Mat Database for the Hamlet of Paulatuk, such as for the years 2021 to 2024? If available, include in Appendix C, the recent "Haz Mat Database".

No response has been provided, and the recent Haz Mat Database under Appendix C is not included with the updated Municipal Questionnaire submitted on January 15, 2026. If recent "Haz Mat Database" is not available, provide a **response in letter format** stating:

"The most recent available "Haz Mat Database" covers the period from 2016 to 2020 and is included in Appendix C. No "Haz Mat Database" is available after 2020".

8. IWB's October 15, 2025 additional information request, under Part B: Questionnaire for Municipal Undertaking, Items 6, 7, and 8, regarding Appendix J: Sewage and Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Abandonment and Restoration Plan (S&SWDF) - the requested information has not been addressed in the updated Questionnaire submitted on January 15, 2026.

If there are difficulties updating the main document under Appendix J, provide **the response in letter format, as follows:**

IWB additional Information request dated October 15, 2025, Part B, Item 6: Appendix J, "Sewage and Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Abandonment and Restoration Plan (S&SWDF A&RP) - Page 2, Section 2.1, paragraph 1, line 3 – Update text with the current Paulatuk population which is available on the NWT Bureau of Statistics website: <https://www.statsnwt.ca/population/population-estimates/bycommunity.php>"

Hamlet Response to IWB October 15, 2025 Information Request, Part B, Item 6:

Paulatuk is located in the Northwest Territories (NWT) approximately 400 km east of the Town of Inuvik and 855 km northwest of Yellowknife. The community is situated at the south end of Darnley Bay on the Arctic Coast as shown in Figure 1. The 2025 population of Paulatuk was 355 based on data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics (July 2025). The population has fluctuated up and down reaching a low of 303 individuals in 2006 (Bureau of Statistics, 2017a). The community is located in an area underlain by continuous permafrost and is dominated by glacial till in addition to marine sands and silt. The mean daily temperature in July is 10.8 °C and the mean daily temperature in January is -25.0 °C (Bureau of Statistics, 2017b). The Hamlet is not serviced by road access and supplies are only available via annual barge resupply or by plane.

IWB October 15, 2025 additional information request, Part B, Item 7:

Appendix J: S&SWDF A&RP - Page 8, Section 2.3.2, paragraph 1, line 1: Update text to replace "Environment and Natural Resources" with "Environment and Climate Change".

Hamlet Response to IWB Additional Information Request dated October 15, 2025, Part B, Item 7:

The most recent Environment and Climate Change (formerly Environment and Natural Resources) inspection was performed on July 16, 2019. The most recent samples collected at SNP stations 1619-2 (Effluent discharge from existing Sewage Waste Disposal Facilities before entering adjacent wetland), 1619-3 (Effluent discharge from adjacent wetland of existing Sewage Waste Disposal Facilities before entering Darnley Bay), and 1619-4 (Effluent discharge from Abandoned Sewage Lagoon before entering Darnley Bay) on June 8, 2022 and returned parameters under criteria of water licence Part E, Item 2 (<https://www.inuvwb.ca/register/paulatuk-municipal-water-licences/>).

The Hamlet has established plans and protocols to begin sampling the discharged water on a regular basis.

IWB October 15, 2025 additional information request, Part B, Item 8:

Appendix J: S&SWDF A&RP - Page 13, top paragraph, line 13: Replace ".....as per Part D, Item 14....." with "...as per Part E, Item 7....".

Hamlet Response to IWB Request dated October 15, 2025, Part B, Item 8:

As detailed in the Sewage and Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Assessment report produced by Dillon (2017), it is not believed that inadequate capacity is the cause of this overflow, however manual decanting is recommended in place of current continuous natural flow. Additionally, the construction of a berm around the lagoon is recommended to reduce surface run-off from entering the lagoon. When sludge layers reach 0.5 m in depth, dredging is recommended as an effective option to increase lagoon capacity. Once the sludge is removed, it is treated typically by dewatering using a freeze / thaw detention system and then either landfilled or composted depending on its level of contamination. Dewatered sludge should be stockpiled on site and tested for heavy metals and other contaminants. Pending the results of the tests the dewatered sludge may be used as overburden for the active landfill cells. Prior to initiating lagoon desludging operations, the Hamlet should enlist an engineer to assist with the design and oversight of the desludging and sludge dewatering plan. Further, within 60 days prior to the removal of sludge from the lagoon, a Sludge Removal Plan must be submitted to the IWB for approval, as per Part E, Item 7 of the water licence. It is understood that the Hamlet has sufficient capacity to undertake desludging and dewatering by their own forces but if this is not the case then a qualified contractor should be enlisted to undertake the desludging activities.

As per the IWB document submission standards, submit two (2) hard copies and two (2) electronic copies (USBs) of the additional information requested and / or clarifications (see above, A.1 to A.8) no later than February 27, 2026, including a cover letter and a summary table indicating how and where (e.g., page and section numbers) the

additional information (A.1 to A.8) is addressed. This will assist the IWB in processing your water licence renewal application in a timely manner.

The submitted documents including all related IWB correspondence, will be placed on the IWB Public Register. Should you have any questions regarding this correspondence, contact me at 867-678-8610 or adhikarib@inuvwb.ca or Mardy Semmler, Executive Director, at 867-678-8609 or semmlerm@inuvwb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bijaya Adhikari". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Bijaya Adhikari, PhD
Science and Regulatory Coordinator

cc: Aaron Ruben, a/SAO - Hamlet of Paulatuk