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March 7, 2010

Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board
102A 4504-49th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT
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Attention: Mr. Grant Pryznyk, Interim Chair
Ms. Jody Snortland, Executive Director

Dear Jody,

Re Additional documents

I am writing in response to your letter to Parties dated March 5, 2010 requesting any objections to additional documents for the WRRB hearing by March 9, 2010. I believe it is inappropriate to be adding more information at this time and I would ask that these documents not be included on the public registry. Some of my reasons are outlined below.

1) The deadline for intervenor submissions was March 3, 2010, prior to the production of documents listed in your March 5, 2010 letter, and prior to any knowledge that the WRRB would be reviewing these additional documents at the hearing. These documents are quite extensive in substance and in form, and their content would have substantial bearing on interveners' submissions, which are now complete.

2) If the WRRB is considering issues other than a total allowable harvest, interveners should be advised of same and afforded an opportunity to comment on what the WRRB is looking at. From a review of the list of documents, it appears that the WRRB is now looking at predator management, harvest management plans and caribou protection measures. These issues are not included in the action items under review for this hearing in the Joint Proposal and should be part of a separate review process. I note that wolf management issues were included in the original Joint Proposal but were deleted and as such, it would be wrong to reintroduce at this time. I also note the following excerpt from the document titled "A pilot project to test the use of aerial monitoring to supplement satellite collared caribou for mobile caribou protection measures" Prepared for: Déline Renewable Resources Council by: Anne Gunn and Kim G. Poole April 25, 2009:

“The Mobile Caribou Protection Measures were adapted from caribou protection measures originally developed for the Beverly and Qaminuriaq barren ground caribou herds in the late 1970s and 1980s in Nunavut (Gunn et al. 2007). The measures were conditions on land use permits and prohibited exploration work in calving and post- calving grounds for the Beverly and Qaminuriaq herds from May 15 to July 15 of any year, as well as at designated river crossings during migration, while caribou were at or near those areas.”

The document listed in the above paragraph (Gunn et al. 2007) appears to be the document you have included in your list. As the mining industry was specifically excluded from being an intervener in this hearing because the proposal was about harvesting and not relevant to mining and exploration according to the WRRB decision, it is highly inappropriate to include documents which relate to the resource industry at this time. In any event, caribou protection measures is a subject beyond the scope of this hearing.

3) The last document “Assessment of Caribou Protection Measures” is written by Ann Gunn (not INAC) and is not an independent report. As well, given that Ms. Gunn is the author of the report and an advisor to the WRRB, this document should have been produced at the outset of this hearing as she was well aware of its existence. It is highly unfair to produce this significant document at this late stage, especially when the document is an unpublished report.

As I have indicated often in this hearing, the continual provision of documents on an on-going basis has been a real impediment to meaningful review and preparation for this hearing. Submissions have been finalized and there is no time to review and comment on further documents.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen McMaster