



Environment Canada
Environnement Canada

Environmental Protection Branch
Suite 301, 5204 - 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2

June 22, 2004

Gladys Joudrey
Environmental Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 2379
Cambridge Bay, NU
X0B 0C0

Our file: 4701 001

Via facsimile

**Re: NIRB 04YN076 – PolarDARN radar for Rankin Inlet
Proponent – Dr. George Sofko, University of Saskatchewan**

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned application. The following comments are provided pursuant to Environment Canada's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Dr. Sofko has submitted an application to erect a SuperDARN (Super Dual Auroral Radar Network) station at Rankin Inlet. This facility will include 20 antenna towers with a maximum height of 12 m, 20 antenna bases, an equipment hut, power lines and a 100 m access road. This facility will be installed within 500 m of a windmill research site, within 800 m of a National Research Council (CANOPUS) site and within 800 m of a NAV Canada NDB site. The structures will be unmanned, are scheduled to be erected from August-December 2004 and are expected to be in place until 2015.

Environment Canada recommends that the following conditions be applied throughout all stages of the project:

1. The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of chemicals, sediment, wastes, or fuels associated with the project into any water body. According to the *Fisheries Act*, Section 36 (3), the deposition of deleterious substances of any type in water frequented by fish, or in any place under any conditions where the deleterious substance, or any deleterious substance that results from the deposit of the deleterious substance, may enter any such water, is prohibited.
2. The proponent shall ensure that all hazardous wastes receive proper treatment and disposal at an approved facility.
3. **All spills** are to be documented and reported to the NWT 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.
4. The proponent is encouraged to allow adequate resources to ensure the complete decommissioning post-2015 of all equipment required for this project. This includes reclamation of the access road and removal of the power line poles.

If there are any changes in the proposed project, EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 869-4700 or by email at ivy.stone@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Ivy Stone
Environmental Assessment

cc: Steve Harbicht (Head, Assessment & Monitoring, Environment Canada, Yellowknife, NT)
Paula Pacholek (Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Environment Canada, Yellowknife, NT)