



INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AGENCY

P.O. Box 1192, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N8 • Phone (867) 669-9141 • Fax (867) 669-9145

Website: www.monitoringagency.net • Email: monitor1@yk.com

June 17, 2016

Violet Camsell-Blondin
Chair, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board
#1-4905 48th St, Yellowknife, NT
X1A 3S3

Dear Ms. Camsell-Blondin,

Re: Agency Comments on the Phosphate Response Plan

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency (Agency) has reviewed the Phosphate Response Plan (Response Plan) and does not have any major concerns with the responses to the low action level exceedance described in the plan.

The Agency does not support defining a medium action level, until we have a better understanding of how phosphate drives phytoplankton community changes. Two reports (updated Koala Watershed Water Quality Model, and the Aquatic Ecology Synthesis) identified in response to the low level exceedance and described in the Response Plan are meant to help validate the conclusions drawn regarding the ecological implications of the action level exceedance (p. 3-1).

Recommendation: The Agency supports the proposed response to the action level exceedance. It does not support setting a medium action level until the above reports outlined in the Response Plan have been submitted and considered.

Should you have any questions concerning these comments, the Agency would be pleased to discuss these at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Jaida Ohokannoak
Chairperson

Cc: DDEC – April Hayward
Tlcho Government - Sjoerd van der Wielen

Yellowknives Dene First Nation – Alex Power
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation – Lauren King
North Slave Metis Alliance – Shin Shiga
Kitikmeot Inuit Association – Jared Ottenhof
Government of the Northwest Territories – Laurie McGregor
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada – Jennifer O'Neil