

NEW REGULATORY EFFICIENCIES SOUGHT BY BOARDS

HEADLINES:

- **NWT Water Board, NEB and MVLWB Jointly Request Changes to Regulations**
- **NWT Water Board Issues Water License**

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The NWT Water Board (NWTWB), in conjunction with the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) and the National Energy Board (NEB), have jointly requested their respective Ministers consider specific changes to the Regulations under the *Northwestern Waters Act*. The changes requested would clarify the respective roles of the three northern regulators in regard to certain aspects of oil and gas drilling operations. Rudy Cockney, Interim Water Board Chairman, commented: "We signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NEB in May 2008 and this has now led to expanded co-operation between the three Boards. We are delighted to be working co-operatively with the MVLWB and the NEB to better define the strengths and regulatory mandates of our



Rudy Cockney, Interim Chairman NWTWB, and Pradeep Kharé, Chief Operating Officer NEB, jointly sign the MOU on May 9, 2008

respective Boards. We have enhanced our joint working relationships between our boards at a time when addressing regulatory efficiencies in the north is a priority to many." He also noted that: "The NWT Board Forum process, most recently hosted by the NEB in Calgary in

May 2008, has contributed to further developing a welcome dialogue between the various northern regulatory boards. The Board Forum process has also opened new avenues for dialogue with key line agencies such as Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)."

NWTWB Issues Johnson Point Water License

The NWT Water Board has issued a water license as part of a site remediation program at Johnson Point. Johnson Point is an abandoned, former oil and gas exploration support and staging area located 270 km northeast of Sachs Harbor on Banks Island, in the Prince of Wales Strait, in the NWT.

The remediation program at the former staging site, for part of which the new license was issued, is anticipated to be completed by 2010. The project will include remediation work, demolition of a fuel tank farm, collection and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste and campsite provisions and support.

Rudy Cockney noted that: "The NWT Water Board was pleased to work in concert with several other northern regulators and agencies involved in the screening and assessment process for this important project. We are pleased that this co-operative effort led to the license being issued in a timely and effective manner."

NWT WATER BOARD

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The NWT Water Board is established under the *Northwest Territories Waters Act and Regulations*. The mandate of the Water Board is to provide for the conservation, development and utilization of waters in a manner that will provide the optimum benefit for all Canadians and for the residents of the NWT in particular. The Water Board Members are appointed for specified terms by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. The Water Board meets regularly to determine Water License terms and conditions for municipal and industrial water use throughout the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. For more information, please contact Pamela Williams, Water Board Inuvik Office at (867) 678-2942 or Liz Castaneda, Water Board Yellowknife Office at (867) 765-0106.

HIGHLIGHTS AND RECENT INITIATIVES

Boards Sign Co-Operation Agreement



Standing (L-R): Willard Hagen, Chairman, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and Rudy Cockney, Interim Chairman, Northwest Territories Water Board.

Seated (L-R): Wanda Anderson, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and Ron Wallace, A/Executive Director, Northwest Territories Water Board, jointly sign the Co-Operation Agreement MOU between the respective boards. May, 2008.