

Medical Services
Northwest Territories Region
14th Floor Baker Centre
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Edmonton, Alta
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July 8 1975

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| ACTION | | PA date | BF date |
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| INFORMATION | | | |
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Our file Notre référence

Mr. S. M. Hodgson
Commissioner
Northwest Territories
GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

150-5-3-N (N1)

Dear Mr. Hodgson:

Re: City of Yellowknife Water Supply

The attention recently focused on the supply of potable water to the city of Yellowknife has raised the question of the continuing use of the Back Bay emergency water intake. It is believed that this represents a health hazard in that water introduced into the distribution through this intake is not always chlorinated.

It is believed that the long term needs of the city will require that

- (1) There should be the provision of a reservoir in the city of Yellowknife of adequate dimensions so that it may be filled in low demand periods to serve as an emergency supply at peak demand periods. The small reservoir at present existing does not meet these requirements, or,
- (2) by twinning of the present intake pipe from the Yellowknife River which will possibly be required in the future to provide for the growth in the population.

It is realized that there may be some considerable delay before either of these alternatives can be implemented.

1. It is understood that in the meantime that when the fire pump is being tested that arrangements are made for the water to be recycled and directed back to the inlet, rather than into the water delivery system. It is recommended that unchlorinated water should not be allowed to enter the system.

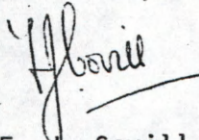
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Commissioner, Northwest Territories

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2. When a small fire is being dealt with, water from the reservoir should be used and the fire pumps should not be used.
3. If power is off at the up-river pump house, or the fire is large so that the fire pump must be used, then it is essential that a reliable chlorinating system be available with a back-up chlorinator. This will require a minimum of
 - (a) two chlorinators,
 - (b) so that either can be used for backup, while one is used for the normal chlorination purposes, and,
 - (c) both must be reliable and the reliability of the one in present use for the fire pump is questioned.

It should be stressed that as long as these interim measures are operated the degree of protection is not absolute, neither can it be regarded as a satisfactory substitute for either of the systems mentioned at "1" and "2" in the second paragraph above.

Yours very truly,



F. J. Covill, M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Regional Director

cc - Director General, Programs Management, M.S.
- Zone Director, Mackenzie Zone
Attention: Mr. Woodget