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l'Environnement

Ottawa, Ontario.  
K1A 0H3

Mr. D.B. Dewar,  
Assistant Deputy Minister,  
Medical Services,  
Health and Welfare Canada,  
255 Argyle Avenue,  
Ottawa, Ontario.  
K1A 0L3

|             |         |         |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| ACTION      | PA date | BF date |
| M 70        |         |         |
| INFORMATION |         |         |
| M 63        | M       | M       |
| M 67        | M       | M       |
| M FC        | M       | M       |

Dear Mr. Dewar:

Thank you for your letter of June 6, 1975, alerting us to the probability of press releases by the National Indian Brotherhood on the subject of arsenic in Yellowknife.

As I am sure you are aware, a committee has been organized in Yellowknife, by the Territorial Government, to coordinate environmental studies related to arsenic and heavy metals. The purpose of the group is to prepare a definitive report on the status of arsenic and heavy metal contamination in the Yellowknife area. Our Service, in cooperation with DINA, Fisheries and Marine Service, Canadian Wildlife Service, the N.W.T. Government and your Department are conducting studies on the quality of water, ambient air, stack emissions, snow contamination, soil and vegetation, fish, mammals, industrial hygiene, hair and urinalysis and a literature survey on arsenic.

Information on the snow contamination and the literature survey is presently being finalized. I am requesting the Regional Director, Northwest Region, to forward the requested information on snow, soil and emission through my office. You may find it more convenient to ask your member of the Yellowknife Arsenic Committee, Dr. A.O. Uyger, to furnish you with pertinent information.

We would be pleased to receive a copy of the National Indian Brotherhood report when you have it available.

Yours sincerely,

*L. Edgeworth*  
for L. Edgeworth,  
Assistant Deputy Minister.