

## REASONS FOR DECISION

### WATER USE APPLICATION RE10-065 Great Northern Ski Society Mount Sima

The Yukon Water Board (“the Board”) has concluded deliberations pertaining to Water Use Licence Application RE10-065 for a Type B Licence for a recreational undertaking.

The purpose of the application is to provide the ski hill with sufficient water for snow making equipment.

Notice of this application was provided in accordance with the requirements of the *Waters Act*. In response, the Board did not receive any interventions.

The Board did not receive a request for a public hearing.

In making licensing decisions pertaining to this application, the Board took into account the *Waters Act*, *Waters Regulation*, the application, recommendations from the interveners, the Board's standard licence requirements, Mining Maps 105D/11 and 105D/10, the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act* (“YESAA”) Decision Document, Chapter 14 of the Umbrella Final Agreement (“UFA”) and Board policies.

#### Environmental Assessment

This application required an environmental assessment under the YESAA.

Prior to making licensing decisions, the Board reviewed the YESAA Decision Document that is included in the water use register. As per section 86 of YESAA, the Board is satisfied that the issuance of licence RE10-065 is not contrary to the terms and conditions included in the YESAA Decision Document.

#### UFA-Chapter 14

Map 105D/11 is included in the Kwanlin Dun First Nation and Ta’an Kwäch’än Council Final Agreements. Kwanlin Dun First Nation and Ta’an Kwäch’än Council did not intervene to the Board regarding this project.

Territorial Resources Base Map 115D/11 was reviewed for settlement land. No settlement land was indicated that could be affected by the project, however it was noted that map 115D/10 (east of 105D/11) indicates settlement land parcel KDFN C-146B approximately 5 km downstream from the project location. There are other inputs to the stream before it runs adjacent to the site-specific land selection, but the flows are unknown at this location. The Meadow Lakes Golf Course is also located between the project withdrawal point and the settlement land.

There is limited data upon which to base a decision on the significance of flow reduction. In one

report submitted with the application (Jacobsen, 2000) the author estimates the watershed drained upstream of the withdrawal point as 29 km<sup>2</sup>, and the additional contributing watershed area below up to fish bearing waters are reached (in the vicinity of the settlement land parcel) as 23 km<sup>2</sup>. Based on his calculations, he estimates the total reduction in flow at the downstream location from the snow making operation as not exceeding 25%.

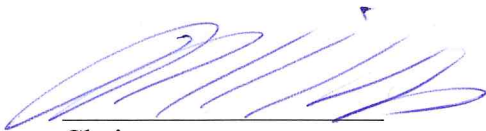
The withdrawal by the golf course is during opposite seasons from the ski hill snow making operation.

Mount Sima has been withdrawing water at this location for ten years or more, and there have been no concerns raised to the Board by KDFN or any other party.

In review of the location of settlement land in comparison to the project it could be concluded that this project will not substantially alter the quantity, quality or rate of flow of water flowing on, through or adjacent to settlement land, including seasonal rate of flow.

Conclusion

The Board has relied on the representations, warranties and undertakings provided by the Licensee in the material filed in the application. The Board has approved the issuance of Water Use Licence RE10-065.



Chairperson  
Yukon Water Board

Oct 14 2011

Date