



Ministère de l'Environnement

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- Missing information about specific caribou herds (E.g., Bluenose East, Bathurst, and Ahlak)
- Lack of information gathered about the current data collection, research objectives, and goals of the GN-DoE.
- Use of expressions such as "the Inuit tree of life..."

These concerns were elaborated at a March 1, 2010 meeting of technical staff. At that meeting NPC staff asked for a written description of DOE concerns. This letter constitutes our response to that request, as well as our formal request to have the report removed from the website and otherwise not distributed until such time as the concerns, described below, are addressed. Further, I also request that the interactive map presented on the website be updated, as at present it is incomplete and contains inaccuracies.

It is correct that DOE provided some digital data to the consultant. As you will see in our attached review it is unclear how these data were merged with other data sources. The metadata is often incorrect or indicated as "no data" and shape-files have been merged into new ones without specification of how or why. I have attached a spreadsheet identifying several examples of what is wrong with the digital information.

My staff can again provide the consultant with the correct data, but clearly the consultant will have to fix how the data they have has been compiled and interpreted. I note that our staff did not review information on birds or marine mammals. However, given the errors and concerns in the sections we did review, it seems possible that there may also be errors and/or omissions in the sections on birds and marine mammals as well.

I hope that the details of our review will help the NPC in following up with the authors of the report to make the necessary corrections so that the report and website maps can serve as a more useful basis for land use planning.

Sincerely,



Simon Awa
Deputy Minister

cc. Markus Weber, Deputy Minister of Executive Affairs, GN
Joe Kunuk Chief Executive Officer, NTI
Bernie MacIsaac, A/Regional Director General, INAC

Attachments:

- DOE Review & Tracked Changes of Wildlife Report
- DOE Review of Wildlife Data in Report
- DOE Review of Wildlife Layers on Website