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Tuglia Ministam, Avatiliqiyikkut

Deputy Minister, Department of Environment

Sous-ministre, Ministère de l'Environnement

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Sharon Ehloak
Nunavut Planning Commission
P.O. Box 2101
Cambridge Bay NU X0B 0C0

October 13, 2011

Dear Sharon;

RE: Outstanding Data Requests

Thank you for your September 16, 2011 email regarding data and information sharing.

I recognize that the NPC has taken some steps to address our concerns about the management of information and data through the implementation of an internal directive. However, as we have consistently said, the GN is not in a position to provide raw data without a data sharing agreement being in place, and to date there is no such agreement with the NPC. Attached is a data sharing agreement between the GN and NPC. I encourage you to complete and sign the agreement and forward it to:

Lina Cimarrusti
Coordinator, Land Use Planning & Claims Implementation
Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut
PO Box 1000, Station 1360
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Fax: 867-975-7739
Email: lcimarrusti@gov.nu.ca

Once the agreement is in place the GN will proceed to provide data in a timely fashion. Where the data sharing involves other entities such as contractors, a modified version will be prepared as necessary.

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Data vs. Information

There is one issue that I would like to clarify, and that is the fact that we regard data and information as being inherently different. Data means any original data collected including numbers, observations, geographic waypoints or any other sort of data quantified and/or collected for the purposes of analysis and the production of information.

Information, also referred to as a derived product, is the *interpretation* of the data collected and this includes analyzed data, descriptive text, shapefiles, charts, graphs, pictures, or representations of data, in hardcopy or digital format. Information also includes metadata which describes and/or defines the collected data, but does not include it.

Information will continue to be provided upon request. As per our previous offers to the NPC, customized analysis of GN data to fit NPC's specific information requirements can be arranged by GN subject matter experts upon request. Any costs associated with the customized analysis and production of information will be the responsibility of the requesting party.

I would like to reiterate that the GN is committed to a land use planning process that includes an efficient and secure method of managing data, which will ultimately contribute to the development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. I look forward to getting this agreement in place and continuing to work with all parties towards effective land use planning for Nunavut.

Sincerely,

David Akeeagok
Deputy Minister