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PROPOSED WASTEWATER GUIDELINES AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government has initiated a public review of proposed municipal wastewater effluent guidelines for use by the Yukon Water Board when it considers applications to construct and operate wastewater treatment systems such as sewage lagoons.

"Science and environmental standards have improved significantly since 1983 when the original Yukon guidelines were developed," Environment Minister Peter Jenkins said. "Updating the guidelines will help ensure Yukon's municipal wastewater licenses reflect those advancements."

The proposed guidelines capture the best science and current practices relevant to northern aquatic ecosystems and northern communities.

The proposed guidelines were sent to First Nations and municipal governments, as well as federal and territorial government departments, for an initial review and are now available for public review and comment.

The guidelines document is available at Environment Yukon offices in the communities, the information desk at the Yukon government administration building on Second Avenue in Whitehorse, and on Environment Yukon's website: www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/.

The deadline for written comments is Friday, Sept. 16.

Comments can be sent to Environmental Programs Branch (V-8), Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6, and attention to: Jon Bowen or alternately by e-mail to envprot@gov.yk.ca.

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Contact:
Peter Carr
Cabinet Communications Advisor
(867) 667-8688

peter.carr@gov.yk.ca

Dennis Senger Communications (867) 667-5237 <u>dennis.senger@gov.yk.ca</u>