

Washagamis Bay (Rat Portage) First Nation (Band No. 235)

Date of Visit: No visit – refused to participate in this study

Site Address: General Delivery

Box 625

Keewatin, ON P0X 1C0

Phone No.: 807-543-2532

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Tribal Council Affiliation: Bimose Tribal Council

Operator: N/A

Location: The Washagamis Bay (Rat Portage) community is located approximately 15 km southwest of Kenora

Population: 160 people in the community (November 2000 – INAC)

No. of Units: 60 housing units (CAIS)

1.0 Description of the Community Water Supply

Based on the CAIS report, water to the houses in the Washagamis Bay (Rat Portage) community is treated as follows:

- 112 people use piped water
- 48 people have no service

- 42 houses are serviced by a communal water system; and
- 18 houses have no service.

2.0 Description of the Community Sewage System

Based on the CAIS report, sewage from the houses in the Washagamis Bay (Rat Portage) community is treated as follows:

- 112 people use piped sewage
- 48 people have no service

- 42 houses are serviced by a communal sewage system; and
- 18 houses have no service.

Reason for No Visit

Based on information supplied by Mel Barbar, Tribal Council Advisor, an inspection at the community facilities could not be scheduled. Therefore, no visit was made.

3.0 Overall Assessment for Communal Water Treatment Supply

The questionnaire developed by PWGSC required OCWA to undertake a risk assessment of the Water Source, Design, Operation, Reporting, and Operators. To properly assess these areas, a revisit to the water treatment facilities would be required.

OCWA was requested to undertake the evaluation without a visit to the site. With the available information, OCWA has undertaken the requested assessment of the facilities.

The ranking system used is as follows:

- 0 = Not enough information to assess
- 1-4 = Low Risk
- 5-7 = Medium Risk
- 8-10 = High Risk

For more detailed information on the Risk Assessment used see the Terms of Reference, Appendix B.

SECTION Water	SECTION RANKING Water	RISK Water
A. Water Source		
Biological	0	No lab
Chemical	0	No lab
Physical	0	No lab
Overall Ranking for Water Source	0	No lab
B. Design		
Biological	1	No exceedances
Chemical	6	Manganese exceedance
Physical	6	High hardness
Risk to Public Health	1	No risk
Condition of Laboratory Equipment	0	Not inspected
Overall Ranking for Design	4	
C. Operations		
Reservoir Cleanliness	0	Not inspected
Emergency Plan	0	Unknown
Overall Ranking for Operations	0	
D. Reporting		
Ranking for Laboratories and Testing	0	Not inspected
Ranking for Boil Water Advisories	0	Unknown
Overall Ranking for Reporting	0	
E. Operators		
Overall Ranking for Operators	0	No data

SECTION Water	SECTION RANKING Water	RISK Water
F. Statistical Data		
Overall Ranking for Individual Wells	0	
Overall Ranking for the System	0	No visit

4.0 Communal Water Treatment Supply

4.1 Water Source

No data is available.

4.2 Design

The following table summarizes the treated water data available from Health Canada, which does not meet GCDWQ:

Date	Location	Exceedances	Result	GCDWQ limit
Aug. 17, 1998	Elders Centre	Manganese	0.444 mg/L	0.05 mg/L
		Dissolved Organic Carbon	5.0 mg/L	5.0 mg/L
		Hardness	311 mg/L	80 to 100 mg/L

AO = aesthetic objective, OG = operational guideline

4.3 Operations

No data is available.

4.4 Reporting

Period	Frequency	Regularity	Exceedances
Oct. 12/99 to Sept. 11/2001	2 - 4 times/month from different locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 month missing in 1999 ▪ 8 months missing in 2000 ▪ 4 months missing in 2001 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No exceedances

4.5 Operators

No data is available.