

Summary of Public Consultation Events & Issues

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) have carried out an extensive consultation process in relation to the remediation of the FOX-C DEW Line site at Ekalugad Fjord, Nunavut. Various local groups, communities and individuals have been consulted on both the site investigation and remediation work plan.

A summary of these consultations follows:

May 2004: initial meetings with Hunters & Trappers Organizations, Hamlet Councils, Qikiqtani Inuit Association representatives and the public in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq to briefly introduce the project, especially the planned site investigation.

July 2004: initial meeting with Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) & Nunavut Water Board (NWB) representatives to introduce project and obtain feedback on regulatory approval requirements and submissions.

August 2004: transported Hunters & Trappers and Hamlet representatives from Qikiqtarjuaq to the site during investigation work to illustrate work being carried out and to familiarize them with the site and specific issues.

December 2004: presented the results of site investigation and preliminary remedial design options to regulators. A summary of comments and concerns is attached.

December 2004: community public consultations in Clyde River & Qikiqtarjuaq; results of the site investigations and preliminary remediation work plans were presented. A summary of comments and concerns is attached.

December 2004 Qikiqtaaluk Environmental was contracted to review the Site Specific Risk Assessment (SSRA) and to interview Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq elders about the project and project area.

February 2005: presented summary results of site investigation and preliminary remediation options to NIRB. NIRB has drafted a “checklist” of submission requirements and provided these to DIAND/PWGSC to be included with the Ekalugad regulatory submission.

February 2005: presented a brief overview of the project to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (FOC) representatives with specific focus on aquatic and marine elements. Based on the discussions, a Barrel Removal & Culvert Installation Protocol has been completed. This document is included in this submission.

March 2005 (tentative): PWGSC to present the government contracting process to Inuit businesses.

March 2005 (tentative): meet with potential contractor bidders to familiarize them with the remedial project specifics.

DIAND has made a concerted effort to identify and address concerns raised by members of the public and pertinent regulators through a variety of means.

A document summarizing comments and concerns noted during the December 2004 public meetings in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq (FOX-C Public Consultation Issues Summary) is attached; in this document, all issues have been categorized by type, and DIAND has identified how these issues will be handled. The final Remediation Work Plan was modified to incorporate comments and to address community concerns, wherever possible.

A second document identifying issues relayed to departmental representatives during the December 2004 presentation to the regulators (Environment Canada, DIAND Land Administration personnel, FOC and NWB) is also attached.

A second meeting that focused on similar project-related issues was held with the Nunavut Impact Review Board in February 2005.

While the scope of comments and concerns has covered a wide variety of types, a few issues have consistently been identified as areas of significant concern that require detailed discussions and effective solutions. The following table identifies some of the major concerns raised by the public and/or regulators throughout the consultation period, as well as DIAND's planned responses to address each of these issues in turn.

Category	Residents' Concerns	DIAND's Response
Health and Safety	Locals ingesting contaminated fish from site water bodies	Site Investigation work plan was modified to include tissue analysis of fish taken from site waters. It was determined that fish present at the site do not contain contaminants at levels above other fish populations in the eastern arctic.
Environment	The location of site landfills	There was some concern that leachate from site landfills would impact on adjacent water bodies. DIAND demonstrated that the landfills are being sited a considerable distance from water bodies and will be adequately engineered using proven northern technologies.
Waste Management	The potential for wastes remaining at the bottom of the lake	2004 site investigation focused on sampling water and sediments in lake. No contaminants were identified. DIAND does not believe further action is required at this time. See attached letter for further details.
Waste Management	Barrels remaining in the river and glacial stream	All barrels will be removed during the remediation project. To ensure that this is done in a consistent, environmentally responsible manner a site specific Barrel Removal Protocol has been completed and is attached.

Business Opportunities	Jobs for locals	DIAND will implement a contracting process that increases the credibility of the project within the communities.
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Please refer to attached documents for specific comments and responses.

DIAND also provided funding and invited Qikiqtaaluk Corporation to comment on the SSRA. QC did a thorough review of the assessment and provided a number of conclusions in the form of a report. DIAND has officially responded to these conclusions in the form of a letter.