FOX-3, Dewar Lakes DEW Line Site Site Investigation Project Description Abstract

From 1955 to 1993, the Distant Early Warning - DEW Line – system provided radar surveillance of the polar approaches to North America using a chain of 42 radar stations. As the North American Air Defence System was upgraded, some of the DEW Line sites were upgraded or dismantled. The former FOX-3, Dewar Lakes DEW Line Site has been abandoned and is no longer required for any operations.

Prior to all DEW Line clean up (DLCU) activities, a detailed site investigation is undertaken to provide information to be used in the reclamation design. The FOX-3 site investigation is scheduled for July through August of 2006.

The FOX-3 site investigation activities will include the following:

- Collection of soil samples to delineate known areas of contaminated soil. Subsurface samples will be collected from test pits excavated using a mini-excavator.
- Collection of water samples. Sampling location may include surface and groundwater samples. Temporary groundwater wells may be installed in test pits.
- Collection of structural materials samples.
- Inventory of buildings and facilities on site.
- Identification of surface debris areas.
- Geophysical survey of landfills to determine lateral extent of buried waste.
- Identification of potential sources of granular material required for the clean up activities.
- Identification of potential locations for site disposal facilities, storage areas, construction camp, etc. required for clean up activities.
- Completion of topographic and location surveys.

The existing airstrip will be used to access the site and the existing roads will be utilized for vehicular traffic on site. The proposed site investigation activities are not anticipated to impact any of the existing roads, landing strips, streams, or other features and structures located at the site.

A temporary camp will be set up at the site to facilitate the site investigation activities. The outfitter contract for the camp operation will be put out for tender in the spring of 2006. Major equipment requirements will include items such as ATVs and trailers, pumps, mini-excavators, satellite phones and radios, and laboratory analytical equipment. Typically, domestic garbage is incinerated and the residual waste is buried along with sewage.

Bear monitors from nearby communities will be employed for wildlife management during the site investigation.

Upon completion of the investigation work, all excavated test pits will be backfilled; laboratory waste will be containerized and stored in an on-site building for disposal during site clean up; and camp facilities, equipment and excess fuel will be removed from the site. Surplus materials that cannot be stored safely for disposal during clean up are also removed.