

Project Description – Environmental Drilling at Iqaluit Airport in Iqaluit, Nunavut

Background

A Former Firefighting Training Area (FFTA) is situated within the Iqaluit Airport, located between the terminal tarmac and the runway. Historical assessment and remediation programs have been completed at the FFTA. Transport Canada proposes the installation of three groundwater monitoring wells between the FFTA and the airport property boundary to assess the presence/absence of contaminants associated with the FFTA. The proposed monitoring wells are centered at Latitude 63°45'4.91"N and Longitude 68°31'58.84"W.

Proposed Activity

The proposed activities at the Iqaluit Airport will include:

- Drilling 3 boreholes and completing as monitoring wells (downgradient of the FFTA);
- Collecting groundwater samples from each of the newly installed monitoring wells;
- Submitting groundwater samples and soil collected during drilling to an accredited laboratory for analysis.

Proposed Schedule

The proposed field program is anticipated to take place in fall 2019, upon receipt of all permits and approvals. The drilling activity is expected to be conducted in one day.

Environmental Impacts and Mitigations

The drilling program is not expected to result in any significant environmental effects. The quantity of water involved with this undertaking will be minimal, extracted only for sampling purposes.

Wastes generated from the drilling program would be limited to drill cuttings (soil from boreholes), purged groundwater from the sampling process, and domestic wastes (e.g., sample gloves, filters).

The following mitigation will be applied during the field program:

- Environmental drilling activities will be done in accordance with industry standards;
- Purged water and soil from drilling will be sampled for contamination and disposed of according to those results.

Fuel Use

The drill rig will have an onboard fuel tank and will be refilled with diesel fuel from a tank contained in the accompanying service truck. Refueling will follow established procedures. A draft Spill Contingency Plan (SCP) will be prepared for the Project and submitted with the applications. The Drilling Contractor selected for the project will be responsible for finalizing the SCP.