

ABANDONMENT AND RESTORATION PLAN

Iqaluit Airport Monitoring Wells, Nunavut

NWB Licence # 1BR-IAG1924

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Abandonment and Restoration Plan is to provide information regarding the current status of the project and to propose decommissioning of the three monitoring wells installed on behalf of Transport Canada in 2019 at Iqaluit Airport, Nunavut.

1.1 Site Description and Project Status

Prior to July 1, 1995 Iqaluit Airport was owned by the Government of Canada and operated by the Department of Transport. From July 1, 1995 until April 1, 1999 the airport was owned by the Government of Northwest Territories and operated by the Arctic Airports Division of the Department of Transportation. Since April 1, 1999 the airport has been owned and operated by the Government of Nunavut.

As part of responsible airport operations, onsite fire training exercises are undertaken by airports to provide appropriate aircraft firefighting services. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were a key ingredient in the Aqueous Film-Forming Foams (AFFF) used in fire-training exercises at firefighting training areas. Transport Canada proactively undertook PFAS sampling to detect offsite PFAS concentrations surrounding the fire training area at Iqaluit Airport. The planned monitoring well installation and sampling work is now complete and the results were shared with the Government of Nunavut and submitted to the Nunavut Water Board.

2.0 SCHEDULE

Decommissioning of the monitoring wells will be completed following the Nunavut Water Board approval of this restoration plan. Decommissioning would need to take place prior to October 15th to allow for access to the monitoring wells, prior to deep snow cover. All restoration work will be completed prior to the date of expiry of the water licence.

3.0 DECOMMISSIONING

Transport Canada plans to decommission the monitoring wells according to the requirements under Nunavut Water Board Licence #1BR-IA1924 and all applicable territorial laws. The wells are located on airport property, an industrial/commercial site where the ground was previously disturbed prior to the project commencement. The area of impact at each monitoring well is <1m².

The following tasks will be undertaken as part of the decommissioning:

- Abandonment and restoration of all monitoring wells and disturbed areas to the conditions before well installation took place. Monitoring well abandonment will include the removal of well casing materials, and the removal of PVC. If the PVC cannot be removed, the ground will be manually dug out and the PVC will be cut as low as possible below ground surface and identified with signage. If, having encountered artesian flow, work would include the capping of holes with a permanent seal. Holes will be backfilled with bentonite, to stop the flow of surface water below ground followed by clean, local, material to surface.
- Dispose of well casings and PVC at the local approved landfill facility.

No special or hazardous waste will be produced during the decommissioning.

Following the completion of work, and prior to March 31st 2021, TC will provide a description of the work completed and photos of the restoration to the Nunavut Water Board.

ANNEX I – SITE DRAWING

