

contaminated soil areas in the S1/S4 valley. Another road to access the lower airstrip borrow area will also be needed. Other roads and the airstrip will have to be maintained operational by repairing seasonal damage caused by spring run-off.

4.10 Excavation of Contaminated Soil

For this project, the establishment of contaminated soil levels were recently revised and are now based on the DEW Line Clean Up Criteria (DCC). These generic criteria used to clean up other DEW line sites managed by the Department of National Defence (DND) are listed in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Dew Line Clean up Criteria (DCC) for Contaminated Soil		
Contaminant	Soil Concentration (ppm)	
	Tier I	Tier II
Arsenic (As)	---	30
Cadmium (Cd)	---	5
Chromium (Cr)	---	250
Cobalt (Co)	---	50
Copper (Cu)	---	100
Lead (Pb)	200	500
Mercury (Hg)	---	2
Nickel (Ni)	---	100
Zinc (Zn)	---	500
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)	1	5

At Resolution Island, all soils exceeding the CEPA criteria (> 50 ppm PCBs) are to be containerized and temporarily stored on-site for future off-site shipment. All Tier II contaminated soils (PCB, lead, mercury, and cobalt) are to be excavated and disposed on site in an engineered lined landfill. The Tier I contaminated soils (PCB, lead) will also be excavated and disposed in an engineered non-hazardous landfill. Soils contaminated by petroleum hydrocarbons (HC) will be excavated and treated or disposed on site depending on type of HC contamination.

4.11 Construction of Engineered NH Waste Landfills

Engineered unlined landfills were constructed on site and will continue to be operated for the disposal of non-hazardous waste materials such as demolition debris, empty and clean drums, bagged creosote-treated timbers and Tier I contaminated soils. At the end of the project these sites will be covered by granular material and graded to promote surface water runoff. Monitoring wells will be installed around the site to monitor groundwater quality.

4.12 Construction of an Engineered Lined Landfill

An engineered lined landfill will be constructed and operated on site for the disposal of Tier II contaminated soils and debris and soils contaminated by heavy hydrocarbons such as lubricating oils and grease (*i.e.*, which are not easily biodegradable). A bottom geomembrane liner will be installed to prevent leachate migration to underlying soils. At the end of the project this site will be covered by a geomembrane liner and sufficient granular material to promote freezeback and to prevent water infiltration into the waste material and thereby promote surface water runoff. Thermistors will be installed in the site to monitor freeze back and monitoring wells will be installed around the site to monitor groundwater quality.

4.13 On-site Treatment of Hydrocarbon Contaminated Soils

The soils contaminated by light hydrocarbons, such as gasoline and diesel fuel, will be excavated and treated on site by bioremediation. Landfarming will likely be used as the biotreatment method. The excavated soils will be placed on a treatment pad, amended with nutrients and moisture, and tilled on a regular basis to introduce oxygen and thereby promote biodegradation. The runoff and drainage water will be recovered, tested, and treated (if required) prior to discharge.

4.14 Disposal of Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials are defined as follows: Hazardous materials are wastes or materials that are designated as hazardous under *Nunavut Territorial or Federal legislation*, or as "dangerous goods" under the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act* (TDGA). The *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA) regulates material containing PCBs at greater than 50 parts per million (ppm). Specifically identified hazardous materials at Resolution Island include: batteries; asbestos; fuel tank bottom sludges; solvents; PCB containing liquids; fuels and lubricating oils; alcohols and glycols; and heavy metal-contaminated liquids. The requirements for disposal of these hazardous

materials are presented in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Hazardous Material Requirements for Disposal	
Hazardous Material	Disposal Requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> liquids containing organic compounds with chlorine concentration > 1,000 ppm liquids containing organic compounds with heavy metal contamination such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cadmium (Cd) > 2 ppm - Chromium (Cr) > 10 ppm - Lead (Pb) > 100 ppm liquids containing PCB concentrations > 2 ppm and < 50 ppm batteries 	Temporary on-site storage and off-site shipment to a licensed treatment/disposal facility.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> asbestos 	Double bagged and landfilled on site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fuels lubricating oils alcohols and glycols fuel tank bottom sludges 	On-site incineration.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> explosives 	Removed and disposed off-site by a permitted explosives contractor.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> liquids containing PCBs > 50 ppm 	Temporary on-site storage and off-site shipment to a licensed treatment/disposal facility

Hazardous materials may be encountered during sorting of landfill contents and demolition debris. Hazardous materials will have to be collected and sorted using protective clothes, materials and equipment suitable for this task.

4.15 Temporary Storage of CEPA Soils

CEPA soil was and will have to be excavated, screened (if required), containerized and/or stored in a dedicated temporary storage facility at Resolution Island. Excavation will be conducted using either heavy machinery when access is possible or manually with hand excavation tools. CEPA soils are/will be stored in steel containers according to Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

requirements³. Storage containers will be identified, labelled, and staged on a platform at the beach area prior to off-site shipment.

4.16 Disposal of Non-Hazardous Materials

Non-hazardous materials expected to be encountered include demolished building materials, metal, empty drums (shredded), creosote treated timbers, concrete, and other debris. These materials are to be disposed on site in one of the non-hazardous engineered landfills. If required, creosote treated timbers may have to be bagged before disposal.

4.17 Landfill Closure

The Resolution Island site has 8 identified landfill areas that were previously used for the disposal of domestic waste, abandoned machinery and equipment, structural remains, drums and other material (3 beach dumps, furniture dump, northslope dump, PCL dump, maintenance and airstrip dumps). For those landfills requiring closure, surface debris (*i.e.*, drums and scrap metal) will have to be shredded prior to closure. Closure of the existing landfills will include placement of granular fill over the landfill and grading of the landfill area to restore natural drainage. Three (3) new non-hazardous landfills were created to accommodate the disposal of non-hazardous waste, demolition debris and asbestos; two near the summit area and one at the lower site.

4.18 Development of Granular Borrow Areas

Several sources of granular borrow material were identified. Whenever possible, existing sources of borrow material are used during clean up. Use of alternate sources will be minimized. After site clean up, all borrow areas will have to be re-graded to match surrounding topography.

4.19 Migration Barriers

Migration barriers will have to be constructed to prevent movement of residual contaminated soils into the ocean. These barriers will have to be installed at the S1/S4 valley, the S1/S4 beach area and the furniture dump. They will consist of silt fences, followed by trenches filled with sorbent booms.

³

Resolution Island Removal and Disposal of PCB-Contaminated Soils Project - Environmental Impact Statement, prepared by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, September 2000.

4.20 Site Grading

Site grading operations will have to focus on shaping and grading disturbed areas to blend in with natural contours. Disturbed areas include:

- ⇒ contaminated soil excavation areas;
- ⇒ existing and new landfill areas;
- ⇒ debris areas;
- ⇒ areas disturbed during demolition operations;
- ⇒ granular borrow and road construction areas; and
- ⇒ any area disturbed during the construction and operation of the construction camp, equipment storage and maintenance facilities.

During grading operations, natural drainage will have to be restored if such operation is possible. This will apply to areas which can be restored by excavation or placement of fill material. It should be recognized that Resolution Island is deficient in fill material, therefore granular fill material will be saved for priority tasks. Areas not to be disturbed include:

- ⇒ the operating SRR facilities which comprise helipad, satellite ground terminals and fuel storage tanks;
- ⇒ areas susceptible to permafrost degradation.

4.21 Winterization and Demobilization

After each clean up season, heavy equipment, materials and the construction camp is/will be winterized to prevent deterioration from harsh weather conditions that occur during non-operational seasons. Following the completion of clean up activities, most equipment, remaining fuel and supplies will have to be removed from the Resolution Island site. Some supplies will have to be kept on site and the construction camp may have to be kept operational for further post-construction monitoring activities.

4.22 Summary of Remedial Work Carried Out

A summary of the remediation activities carried out every year since the beginning of the project (*i.e.*, between 1997 and 2002) is as follows:

1997: Initial equipment mobilisation from Iqaluit to RI. QC sends a 20 person crew to RI for sea lift operations and basic core camp renovations. QC also provides technical support to Queen's

University ASU, and LDS (*i.e.*, currently Sinanni) for their respective field work.

1998: QC sends a 40 person crew to RI to complete camp renovations, to receive and handle new material and equipment sea lifted from Montreal to RI, to assemble a 290,000 litre fuel tank farm, to remove asbestos from abandoned buildings, to repair roads, and to provide training to Inuit in trades related to the scope of work.

1999: QC sends a 50 person crew to RI to proceed with scheduled clean up and training activities from June 15 to September 15. Activities include beach lead dump excavation and waste sorting, removal and containerization of mercury contaminated soils; off-site shipment of PCBs and other hazardous waste, furniture dump excavation, building demolition, construction/operation of a NH waste landfill, shredding and disposal of empty drums, incineration of POL products, structural steel construction to join the two maintenance buildings, roof and wall cladding, garage door installation on the joined buildings, and aluminium recycling.

2000: QC sends a 50 person crew to RI to proceed with scheduled clean up and training activities from July 5 to September 15. The main tasks accomplished include: camp renovations following polar bear damages, excavation of the furniture dump, demolition of PCB contaminated buildings and containerisation of CEPA material, removal of CEPA soil from S1/S4 building area, set up and operation of a drum staging/sorting/pumping/washing station, operation of an oil separator / water treatment system, waste oil incineration, construction of a road to Lower Lake borrow pit, relocation of the sewage line and lagoon.

2001: QC sends a 50 person crew to RI to proceed with scheduled clean up and training activities from July 4 to September 3. Activities include: excavation of CEPA PCB soil from S1/S4 building and drainage area, excavation of waste from Old Beach Dump and New Beach Dump, drainage and treatment of phenol contaminated water from beach POL tanks, clean up of the Battery Dump, installation of trial silt fence in drainage path of former Furniture Dump, drainage of fuel from beach POL tank, management and incineration of waste POL products, construction of a new road to Radio Hill, operation of a new borrow pit located behind Radio Hill.

2002: QC sends a 50 person crew to RI to proceed with scheduled clean up and training activities from July 12 to August 28. The main tasks accomplished include: excavation of CEPA PCB soil from the upper S1/S4 valley and from the PCL dump, containerisation of PCB CEPA soil from the Main PCB storage building using conveyor system (234 containers filled, hauled and staged at the lower site), removal of waste debris from Lead Beach Dump and New Beach Dump, operation of

the grease thinning and mixing system, incineration of grease and other waste POL products.

More details on the various tasks conducted at Resolution Island since 1998 can be found in Summary of Activities reports prepared by Qikiqtaaluk Corporation and Sinanni Inc. and in Scientific Investigation reports prepared by Queen's University Analytical Services Units, all submitted to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).

5.0 REGULATORY OVERVIEW

5.1 General

Except for the locations of SRR installations which are under the control of the Department of National Defence (DND), the Resolution Island site is situated on Crown Land and not on Inuit Owned Lands as defined in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NCLA). Thus, the site is under the control of the Ministry of Indian and Northern Affairs.

5.2 Federal Jurisdictions

Several federal acts, regulations, and guidelines shall affect project activities to be conducted at Resolution Island. These federal jurisdictions are applicable all across Canada. In relation to the clean up of this abandoned military radar station, the most relevant ones are described as follows:

- »» The Canadian Environmental Protection Act controls hazardous substances from their production and/or import to their use, storage and/or disposal. Furthermore, this act also includes procedures to handle specified levels of PCB contaminated materials, and requirements for PCB storage facilities.
- »» The Fisheries Act protects fish and their habitat from pollution and disturbance. Fisheries and Oceans Canada is responsible for reviewing permit applications or restoration plans submitted by other agencies.
- »» The Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations describe the procedures and measures for the safe transportation of dangerous goods. The act applies to all handling of dangerous goods by any means of transport whether or not the goods originate from or are destined for any place in Canada.
- »» The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act gives provisions for undertaking, promoting and recommending policies and programs for, among others, the economical development of Nunavut.
- »» The Constitution Act recognizes and affirms the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of aboriginal peoples, including Inuit of Canada. It also enables legislation for the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). The NLCA in turn describes the terms and conditions for the developments of a territorial government within the Nunavut Settlement Area.
- »» The Nunavut Act establishes a territory known as Nunavut and it gives provisions for its government, legislature, and administering and jurisdiction power.
- »» The Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act and Regulations control shipping activities in

Arctic waters adjacent to lands and islands. These were developed to ensure the welfare of the residents of Arctic communities, and to protect the ecological balance in water, ice, and land areas.

- »» The Territorial Lands Act gives authority to administer and protect Crown lands under the direct control of the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). The following regulations are pursuant to this act:

The Territorial Land Use Regulations define regulatory measures to maintain appropriate environmental practices for any land use activities on territorial lands. These regulations require that land use permits be issued for such operations as the clean up work to be conducted at Resolution Island (use of heavy machinery, camp operation, use of explosives, construction of access roads, etc.).

The Territorial Quarrying Regulations describe fee schedule and procedures for extracting Crown owned gravel, sand, limestone, marble, gypsum, granite, clay, stone and/or other materials from territorial lands. The regulations specify applications, dimensions of quarries and requirements for permits.

- »» The Canada Wildlife Act ensures that the Government of Canada will collaborate in research and management of wildlife species normally under the responsibility of provinces and/or territories. This is particularly relevant for threatened, endangered and/or vulnerable species such as polar bear which seasonally move across various regulatory boundaries.

- »» The Migratory Birds Convention Act gives protection to designated migratory avian and their habitats. This act also regulates harvesting of certain species.

- »» The Canada Shipping Act and Regulations provide safety standards and/or pollution prevention and controls procedures for shipping activities in Canadian waters.

- »» The Navigable Waters Protection Act relates to all facilities required for navigation in Canadian waters.

- »» The Canada Labour Act and Regulations is the labour code which governs all federal employees or activities on Canadian owned or controlled land. Private provincial or territory employees are always submitted to such jurisdictions. The labour act governs minimum wages, statutory holidays, and maximum work hours.

- »» The National Fire Code (NFC) describes requirements for fire prevention, safety in buildings, fire fighting and maintenance of fire safety equipment including fire extinguishers. Furthermore, the NFC establishes the procedures for prevention, containment and fighting of fires originating outside buildings. The NFC also defines sets of standards for the storage and handling of dangerous goods, flammable liquids and combustible liquids.

- »» The Atomic Energy Control Act and Regulations define the packaging requirements and approval requirements for the transportation of radioactive materials.

- »» The Explosives Act and Regulations define explosive types, permitting, packaging, handling, transporting, and safety requirements.

Apart from these acts and respective regulations, the following guidelines and/or reports shall be used as references for the clean up work to be conducted at Resolution. These are defined, but not limited to the following:

- »» The Canadian Arctic Contaminants Assessment Report (CACAR) describes recent findings on the presence and transport of contaminants into the Canadian Arctic.
- »» The Second Report from the Environmental Working Group compiles achievements and agreements between NTI and DND on standards and requirements for the clean up of DEW Line sites located within the Nunavut settlement area.
- »» The Guidelines for Preparation of Hazardous Material Spill Contingency Plans describe parameters that should be considered in the development of hazardous material spill emergency plans. They also define the information that should be incorporated into a comprehensive contingency plan.
- »» The Code of Good Practice on Dump Closing or Conversion to Sanitary Landfill at Federal Establishments describes the requirements to improve operation and closing of existing dumps. It is used to give a consistent approach for the clean up of existing dumps in order to prevent contamination of water, air and soil. It also ensures that the best available control technologies are used.
- »» The Guidelines for Effluent Quality and Wastewater Treatment at Federal Establishments specify the level of treatment and effluent quality that shall be applicable to all wastewater discharged from existing and proposed federal installations.
- »» The Code of Practice for Used Oil Management defines appropriate environmental options for handling, storage, collection, recycling, transportation, reuse and/or disposal of used oils in Canada. It also helps regulatory authorities to formulate provincial and/or regional strategies for used oil management.
- »» The Canadian Environmental Quality Criteria for Contaminated Sites as determined by the CCME gives generic criteria for contaminants in soil and water (groundwater). These guidelines were defined to maintain, improve, and/or protect environmental quality and human health at contaminated sites. These criteria were developed to offer technical and scientific guidance to provincial, federal, territorial, and non-governmental agencies in the evaluation and/or clean up of contaminated sites. They shall serve as bench marks on which the degree of contamination at a site can be assessed.
- »» The Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines were also defined by the CCME for specified uses

of water.

5.3 Nunavut Territory Jurisdictions

In addition to the federal acts and regulations summarized in Section 5.2, the clean up of the Resolution Island site located in Nunavut shall comply with the following:

- »» The Environmental Protection Act (Nunavut) governs the protection of the environment from contaminants. The act defines offenses and penalties as well as the powers of environmental inspectors.
- »» The Public Health Act (Nunavut) was established to protect the general health and well-being of the communities in Nunavut.
- »» The Nunavut Wildlife Act governs the protection of wildlife and their habitats, and specifies harvesting criteria for selected species.
- »» The Fire Prevention Act (Nunavut) describes requirements for fire prevention. Among other things, the act provides procedures for the removal of fuel tanks and/or lines.
- »» The Explosives Use Act and Regulations (Nunavut) controls surface drilling and blasting to be conducted for purposes other than for mining.
- »» The Safety Act and Occupational Health Regulations (Nunavut) define the health and safety standards to be complied with in occupational environments to ensure the health and safety of the workers.
- »» The Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations (Nunavut) describe requirements for spill reporting and emergency planning.
- »» The Guidelines for Discharge of Treated Municipal Wastewater (NWT) define generic criteria for water quality effluent discharges from facilities such as the Resolution Island construction camp.
- »» The Guidelines for Removal of Materials Containing Friable Asbestos define procedures to be used when friable asbestos such as pipe insulation shall be removed.
- »» The Northwest Territories Archaeological Sites Regulations were developed to protect and conserve archaeological sites. The regulations prohibit site disturbances and removal of artifacts, and define provisions for site investigations by a certified archaeologist.

Activities associated with the clean up of Resolution Island (BAF-5) in the Nunavut Settlement Area require the provision of a Land Use Permit, a Water Licence, and Quarry Permits through the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) and INAC. The off-site shipping and disposal project was screened and public hearings were conducted by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB). The following legislation shall be complied with:

- »» The Nunavut Waters Act and Regulations specify standards for the conservation, development and use of the water resources within the Territory of Nunavut. Under this jurisdiction, the established Water Board shall provide licenses for all water usage and waste disposal activities.
- »» The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) defines titles and rights on the Nunavut settlement area based on their traditional and current use and occupation of the lands, waters and land-fast ice therein in accordance with their own customs and usages. The agreement gives provision for wildlife, outpost camps, parks and conservation areas. The NLCA also describes requirements for land, water and resource management and planning, for developmental impacts and for the establishment of a political system.

5.4 Permits

All necessary permits, authorizations, certificates and approvals related to site operations, handling, transport and disposal of hazardous material must be obtained by INAC and/or Qikiqtaaluk Corporation, the Contractor. Table 5.1 presents a partial list of these requirements where the delay corresponds to the approximate time required to obtain the said permits, certificates, licenses or authorizations after the application has been appropriately submitted.

Table 5.1: Applicable Permits and Authorizations for the Clean Up of Resolution Island			
Authorizations or Permits	Regulatory Authorities	Activities	Permitting Agencies
Work affecting fish habitat authorization	Fisheries Act	Culvert installation, stream crossing, erosion control, drainage, effluent discharge	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Nunavut)
Water License	Northern Inland Water Act	Water use and wastewater disposal	Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Land Use Permit	Territorial Lands Act, Territorial Land Use Regulations	Camp operation, heavy equipment use, fuel storage and use, waste disposal	Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Transportation Permit	Transport of Dangerous Goods Act, IATA Dangerous Goods Act	Sea lifting, air transport of hazardous wastes	Transport Canada
Quarrying Permit	Territorial Lands Act, Territorial Land Use Regulations, Territorial Quarrying Regulations.	Extracting granular resources	Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Explosives Permit	Explosives Use Act (Nunavut)	Quarrying activities	Natural Resources, Nunavut

6.0 BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

6.1 Physiographic Description

6.1.1 Geology

The Short Range Radar Station, BAF-5 is located near Brewer Bay on the northeastern side of Resolution Island (Inuit name: Tujjaat - "a place where birds land"). The Island is located on the southeastern tip of Baffin Island, just outside of Frobisher Bay (61°35'N, 60°40'W). The Island is part of the Canadian Shield and therefore consists of barren gneiss bedrock. A few minor till deposits occur on the site (4). The Baffin Island soils can be mainly classified as cyric regosolic in nature (11). This class of soil is defined as imperfectly drained mineral soil with lack of profile development.

6.1.2 Hydrology

Within the immediate area of the abandoned military site, there are three (3) lakes which are in close proximity to the main road that links the upper site to the beach area. The former Freshwater Lake (900m long by 350m wide), formerly used as the water supply lake, is located approximately half way between the upper site and the beach area, southwest of the airstrip. The former Freshwater Lake discharges into Brewer Bay through a small creek. The second closest lake (280 m long by 80 m wide) is located at the lower site, southwest of the beach POL tanks. It drains towards the south into another lake and then into the ocean. Furthermore, a small man-made pond (80 m long by 60 m wide), located between the 2 beach POL tanks, discharges into the Brewer Bay. Finally, Lower Lake, currently used as the water supply lake, is located in a relatively undisturbed area (*i.e.*, Lower Lake borrow pit nearby was used from 2000 to 2001) at approximately 3.2 km (in a straight line) from camp and 1.6 km from the nearest traffic and construction activities. It drains towards the east and discharges into the ocean through a small stream. All three (3) lakes and the pond show no signs of aquatic life.

6.1.3 Topography

The topography of Resolution Island is rugged, and consists of slopes on the summit averaging 10%. Steep cliffs are situated along the south and southwest sides of the summit with elevations over 200 m ASL. The vegetation is limited to the location of the gullies and other low-lying valleys where soil is present and rooting possible. The summit of the Island consists of tilted bedrock with

parallel rock ridges, knolls, and shallow gullies forming a series of ledges. These are particularly prominent on the north and south slopes.

6.1.3 Meteorology

Climate at Resolution Island ranges from long cold winters to short mild summers. The daily annual mean temperature is -8.1°C . The daily mean maximum temperature from July to September is 5.3°C (12). Wind speeds reach a mean average of 27 km/hr over the year, predominantly from the northwest. The average wind speed is 22 km/hr during the months of July to September (13). The mean average precipitation is 73.5 mm and the maximum daily rainfall mean is 24.1 mm for the months of July to September. The annual mean precipitation is 372.0 mm and the majority falls as snow (12).

6.2 Biological Description

Resolution Island is located within the Northern Arctic Ecozone. The bio-diversity in the area is quite low in comparison to other regions. While there is variability of species with respect to specific habitats, many species range over large areas of the ecozone.

6.2.1 Terrestrial Flora

Because of the harsh environment and rocky areas with little soil development present on the Island, the flora is limited to a few species. In the areas where the soil is sufficient (4), the following species were identified:

Species	Common Name
<u>Lichens</u>	
Rhizocarpon geographicum (L.) DC.	map lichen
Thamnolia subuliformis	worm lichen
Cladonia rangiferina Web.	reindeer lichen
Umbilicaria sp.	rock tripe
Xanthoria elegans	jewel lichen

Species (continued)	Common Name (continued)
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Mosses

Distichium sp.
 Drepanocladous aduncus (Hedw.) Warnst.
 Polytrichum juniperinum Hedw. var. alpestre BSG
 Polytrichum piliferum Hedw.
 Sphagnum sp.

Poaceae (Grass Family)

Phippsia algida (Sol.) R.Br.

Cyperaceae (Sedge Family)

Carex Bigelowii Torr.	
Eriophorum scheuchzeri Hoppe	cotton grass
Eriophorum russeolum	

Juncaceae (Rush Family)

Luzula confusa Lindebl.	wood rush
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Salicaceae (Willow Family)

Salix arctica Pall. S.lat	Arctic willow
Salix herbacea L.	least willow

Caryophyllaceae (Pink Family)

Cerastium alpinum L. s.lat	mouse-ear willow
Silene acaulis L. ssp. Acaulis	moss-campion
Minuartia sp.	sandwort

Brassicaceae (Mustard Family)

Eutrema edwardsii R.Br.

Species (continued)**Common Name (continued)**Saxifragaceae (Saxifrage Family)

Saxifraga aizoides L.	yellow mountain saxifrage
Saxifraga stellaris L. var. comosa Retz.	
Saxifraga uniflora	
Saxifraga tricuspidata	prickly saxifrage

Empetraceae (Crowberry Family)

Emperum nigrum L.ssp.	
Hermaphroditum (Lge.) Bocher	crowberry

Ericaceae

Cassiope hypnoides (L) D.Don	moss heather
Cassiope tetragona (L.) D.Don ssp. tetragona	Arctic white heather
Ledum decumbens (Ait.) Lodd.	Labrador tea
Vaccinium uliginosum L.ssp. pubescens (wormsk.) Young	blueberry

Diapensiaceae (Diapensia Family)

Diapensia lapponica L.	
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6.2.2 Fauna

Polar bears are frequently seen at Resolution Island and tracks are constantly sited in the area. Arctic foxes have been sighted on Resolution Island. The surrounding area is also a migration route for whales. There are a few different species of seals in the area, along with walruses that are attracted to the 49 different species of fish occurring in the nearby marine waters.

The cliff along Brewer Bay also attracts water fowl such as the thick-billed murre and black-legged kittiwake for nesting. There have been sightings of snow buntings, glaucous gulls, ptarmigans, peregrine falcons, and ravens on the Island.

7.0 POTENTIAL PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATIVE MEASURES

The project, as a whole, has and will provide a substantial amount of employment and training opportunities for the Inuit of the Baffin Region and positive economic impacts on the local economy are expected. To date, approximately 18,000 person-days were employed as part of this project (12,000 for laborers and supervisors, 4,000 for trainees, and 2,000 for other personnel: camp operation, catering, bear monitoring, laboratory testing, and engineering). The project created positive social and economical opportunities and it is expected that final activities will also have positive social and economical impacts.

In the following section, the potential environmental impacts of remaining project activities of the Resolution Island Project are identified and assessed. Where impacts are deemed to be significant, mitigative measures are recommended.

7.1 Site Access

Transportation of work crews, small equipment and camp supplies will be carried out with a helicopter and with occasional Twin Otter chartered aircraft flights. Fuel supply and large equipment will be shipped by marine vessels. Furthermore, on-site access to construction locations will be conducted through the existing road network with heavy equipment and other vehicles including pick-ups and ATVs.

Impact: Rutting and Erosion Heavy equipment and vehicles can damage soil integrity.

Mitigation: *Vehicles or heavy equipment shall not be operated off-roads after heavy rain or melting snow conditions. Such restrictions shall apply until the soil has dried sufficiently so that excessive rutting can be prevented.*

Impact: Habitat Disturbances Seabirds are known to be vulnerable during their nesting period. Some species may be affected by low-flying aircraft and close approaches by marine vessels.

Mitigation: *Pilots shall be advised to maintain an altitude of at least 500 metres above ground or water when passing over areas where birds are concentrated. Pilots shall not be permitted to do low-level flights to observe and/or photograph wildlife.*

Impact: Habitat Degradation Large volumes of fuel are required at the site to run both equipment and generators. The fuel is to be transported to the site on a barge or supplied by tanker ships. There is the possibility of accidental spillage at the site which would result in the contamination of soils and/or water in the surrounding environment.

Mitigation: *Transportation of fuel, as well as any other hazardous materials brought to the site, shall be done in compliance with the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations requirements. Fuel will be kept in double walled steel tanks. Valves on fuel tanks should have receptacles placed beneath them to catch any leaked fuel.*

7.2 Construction Camp

A single camp that can accommodate approximately 50 persons will be operated for the duration of the project.

Impact: Aesthetic and Safety Solid waste produced at the camp may cause both an aesthetic and safety concern at the site. Animals are attracted to solid waste disposal sites and have the possibility of becoming a nuisance as well as a safety concerns to personnel.

Mitigation: *Waste bins used at the site shall be animal proof and emptied on a frequent basis. Non-hazardous combustible wastes are to be burned daily, in a forced air fuel-fired incinerator. Ash and non-combustible non-hazardous wastes should be buried within the upper non-hazardous landfill. Hazardous wastes shall be stored in a proper manner and transported from the site in accordance with the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations.*

Impact: Health Sewage disposal from the camp may cause a health problem for both humans and wildlife.

Mitigation: *A sewage lagoon located away from the camp shall be used for the disposal of sewage water. Hazardous materials shall not be discharged in the lagoon. A warning sign shall be posted near the lagoon, and the lagoon shall be secured to prevent accidents.*

- Impact:** Habitat Degradation Fuel used in equipment and camp generators is needed in large quantities and must be transported to the site via sealift, and then trucked to the upper site. Fuel spillage can result in both soil and surface water contamination.
- Mitigation:** *A spill contingency plan was prepared for fuel storage as well as any other hazardous liquids used at the site. Fuel storage is to be located at least 12 metres above the high water mark of the nearest water body, on flat stable terrain or in a natural depression and is to be stored and dispensed in accordance with the CCME Environmental Code of Practice for Above ground Storage Tank Systems and fire code requirements. Secondary containment is required for any fuel storage container with a capacity of 4,000 litres or more. Any contamination created at the site should be remediated. Fuel spills shall be reported and cleaned up immediately.*
- Impact:** Fire There is the possibility of a fire occurring at the site as a result of camp related activities.
- Mitigation:** *Adequate attention to fire safety and prevention is required by the camp operator and workers. Fire alarms and fire fighting equipment suitable for the size of the camp are maintained on-site. A Fire Emergency Plan is in place.*

7.3 Fuel Handling and Storage

Approximately 300,000 litres of Jet A1 diesel fuel are stored on-site for a 2-year project requirement. Nine (9) self-contained fuel tanks (32,000 litres each) are used for on-site fuel storage.

- Impact:** Habitat Loss/Alteration Some habitat loss or alteration may occur if a fuel spill occurs.
- Mitigation:** *Emergency spill equipment including fuel pumps, empty drums, containment booms and other sorbent materials are available on site. Enough equipment are on-site to clean up a 1,000 litre spill at the fuel tank farm or any other fuel storage locations*
- Impact:** Fire There is the possibility of a fire occurring at the site as a result of accidents (i.e., ignition sources).