

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 CAM-F DEW Line site at Sarcpa Lake, 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:

January 2004: initial meeting with Hamlet Councils, Hunters & Trappers, Qukigtani Inuit Association representatives and the public in Hall Beach and Igloolik to briefly introduce the project, especially the planned site investigation.

March 2004: community public consultations in Hall Beach and Igloolik; presented planned site investigation work and sought ideas on overall site remediation plan.

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

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

July 2004: transported Hunters & Trappers and Hamlet representatives from local communities to the site during investigation work to illustrate work being carried out and to familiarize them with site and site-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 Hall Beach and Igloolik; 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 Hall Beach and Igloolik elders about the project and project area.

February 2005: presented summary results of site investigation and preliminary remediation work plan to NIRB.

February 2005: presented a brief overview of the project to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (FOC) representatives. No major issues were identified for this site.

March 2005: PWGSC presented the government contracting process to Inuit businesses.

March 2005: met 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 Hall Beach and Igloolik (CAM-F Public Consultation Issues Summary) is attached. 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. |
| Health and Safety | Containerized PCB's remaining in barrels in the Warehouse | Barrels containing PCB wastes were transported from site and destroyed at a location in the south. |
| 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. |
| Business Opportunities | Jobs for locals | DIAND will implement a contracting process that increases the credibility of the project within the communities. |
| Shelter | Loss of shelter at the site | DIAND has developed a policy which permits consideration for leaving shelter |

Please refer to attached documents for specific comments and responses.

DIAND also provided funding and invited Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC) 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.

Three of the four QC comments focused on the technical protocols used by the risk assessors. It was determined that these were attributable to professional differences in approach and were not weaknesses in the assessor's risk model.

The fourth comment was that DIAND should not be solely relying on the results of the risk assessment to formulate the site clean up criteria. In fact, DIAND will use these site-specific risk based criteria only where no suitable criteria is available.