

North Warning System Office
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Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
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Attention: Cynthia Ene

FOX-3 LEGACY FUEL SPILL REMEDIATION PROJECT

Reference: Nunavut Water Licence 3BC-FOD0919, Type “B”

1. The North Warning System (NWS) Office wishes to advise the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) of the current status in remediating two outstanding spills at FOX-3, Dewar Lakes, Nunavut, as follows:

- a. A JET-A1 fuel spill of unknown quantity discovered on 08 July 2009 by the previous NWS operation and maintenance (O&M) contractor, Nasittuq Corporation (Nasittuq), originating from a 3 mm crack in the apron-to-summit pipeline. Nasittuq initiated a clean-up of this spill, however these efforts had not been completed by 01 August 2014 when they surrendered care, custody and control of the NWS to the current O&M contractor, Raytheon Canada Limited (RCL); and
- b. A JET A-1 fuel spill of approximately 917 litres resulting from a helicopter crash which occurred on 13 May 2013. Similar to paragraph “a.” above, Nasittuq initiated a clean-up, however the effort was not complete prior to 01 August 2014.

2. The terms and conditions of Canada’s contract with Nasittuq held them liable for the clean-up of these spills even though they were no longer the NWS O&M contractor. As a due diligence measure, NWSO contracted with the Environmental Sciences Group (ESG) in summer 2016 to delineate both spills and prepare an assessment report. The report confirms that up to 600 m³ of impacted soil still remains to be excavated and treated. In December of 2016, Canada reached a negotiated settlement with Nasittuq in which Canada assumed liability for these two spills. NWSO intends to complete the remediation efforts this summer by mobilizing a contractor to FOX-3 with the following scope of work:

- a. Prepare a land farm to receive and remediate contaminated soil as per engineered specifications and drawings;



- b. Excavate all contaminated soils. Confirmatory soil sampling will be conducted during excavation to ensure all contamination is removed according to the CCME commercial standard for coarse-grained soil;
- c. Back-fill and grade excavated areas;
- d. Till contaminated soil until remediated to the CCME commercial standard for coarse-grained soil. Confirmatory sampling will be conducted during tilling to ensure the remediation target is met or exceeded; and
- e. Decommission the land farm.

3. To date, both of these spills have been entered into the Federal Contaminated Sites Inventory (FCSI) under a single federal site identifier: 24931. Funding has been secured and Defence Construction Canada (DCC) has been contracted to manage the work. DCC has engaged an environmental engineering firm to prepare specifications and drawings for the land farm. The plan is to mobilize a contractor to FOX-3 to implement the work by 15 August 2017. Provided the contractor mobilizes as planned, all work including decommissioning of the land farm is anticipated to be complete by 15 September 2017. As a contingency, the land farm specifications will include preservation instructions for the winter of 2017/18, so tilling can continue into summer 2018 should the contaminated soil require more tilling or the project start later than anticipated.

4. O&M of FOX-3 is governed by water licence 3BC-FOD0919. An update on the status of this clean-up will be provided in the annual report for this site under Section 8.0 – Progressive Reclamation Work Undertaken. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Scott Charland by phone at 819-939-4973, or email at scott.charland@forces.gc.ca.

Major I. Creighton
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