

CORAL HARBOUR AIRPORT COMMUNITY ROAD WASHOUT REHABILITATION PROJECT, NU

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The Nunavut Department of Community and Government Services (CGS), has retained an Engineering firm (Tetra Tech EBA Inc.) to provide design and construction administration services for the Coral Harbour Airport Community Road Washout Rehabilitation Project located at Coral Harbour, Nunavut. Upgrades are needed to the watershed road drainage crossing structures, allowing the road to pass a 100-year storm event. Generally, this includes replacement of the 8 – culvert stream crossing with a new bridge, rehabilitation of the abutments of the existing bridge, and replacement of culverts near the community fuel tank farm.

The Airport Road has washed out four times in the past nine years during spring freshet. The last occurrence was in the spring of June 2012, when snowmelt and heavy rain caused the road to washout in two places northwest of the fuel storage facility tank farm. The community was without access to the airport for approximately one week and the flooding also damaged the fuel tank farm's resupply pipeline. The airport and fuel tank farm are the community's lifelines; medevac services, food deliveries, and other basic provisions rely on the airport and heating and power rely on fuel. The residents' health and safety will be at risk if the community becomes isolated from these facilities.

The proposed plan includes:

- Replacement of the existing eight culverts at Crossing #4 with the bridge currently in place at Crossing #7. The bridge will be founded on new bin-wall abutments;
- Construction of a new, 30 m long bridge at Crossing #7, founded on a pre-cast concrete sill and protected by an earth-filled abutment protected by rip-rap;
- Removal of the twin 1.2 m diameter culverts at Crossing #5 and the 1.2 m diameter culvert at Crossing #6, followed by re-installation of these three culvert at Crossings #9 and #9a to improve the hydraulic capacity of the East Basin;
- Removal of the existing culvert crossing at Crossing #10 to protect the existing fuel line to the Hamlet and forcing the flow in the East Basin through Crossings #9 and #9a; and
- Construction of temporary access roads around all crossings involved in the upgrades during construction to maintain 24-hour access between the Hamlet and airport.

The present plan anticipates a 4-6 week construction schedule to be initiated soon after the arrival of the shipment of bridge components, which are tentatively expected to be delivered in late July/August, 2016. Although construction could be extended into the fall, Tetra Tech is still recommending to complete the works before the end of September, while temperatures are above freezing.

This Supplementary Information Report provides additional information on the Project, including available environmental baseline information and an assessment of the potential environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures that will be used to minimize potential effects.