



Demande de la CNER faisant l'objet d'un examen préalable #126476

Remediation of the Former Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWs)

Type de demande : New

Type de projet: Mesures correctives

Date de la demande : Wednesday, July 8, 2026

Period of operation: from 2026-11-01 to 2031-10-31

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DÉTAILS

Description non technique de la proposition de projet

Anglais: Who: Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) as owner of the Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS) and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) as owner of the Pioneer Bundle Sites (Cape Isachsen and Kristoffer Bay), through Public Services and Procurement Canada as contracting managers, have retained an experienced and qualified team of consultants and will be tendering for contractors for the proposed undertaking. What: The proposed undertaking is the full-scale remediation of the Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS). The Isachsen HAWS is a former weather station and is occupied by 22 permanent structures, an airstrip, former water and sewage infrastructure, fuel storage and distribution facilities, power generation equipment, two on-site waste disposal areas, fuel tanks, thousands of empty/partially empty drums, other abandoned equipment, and debris. The remediation scope involves the demolition of on-site buildings, off-site removal and disposal of hazardous materials, borrow development, construction of an on-site landfill, collection and disposal of all non-hazardous waste in the on-site landfill, and placing aggregate to cap the existing waste disposal areas. The Isachsen remediation has been bundled with two smaller sites on Ellef Rignes Isand: Cape Isachsen and Kristoffer Bay. These sites are former oil exploration sites and contain a minor quantity of non-hazardous surface debris. Their locations (within 75 km of Isachsen) makes it cost-effective to bundle them with the scope of work for Isachsen. Their remedial scope involves removing all surface debris. Why: The Isachsen HAWS site is being remediated because it has been abandoned after being not needed for program requirements once weather reporting was automated and the site was de-staffed in 1978. The buildings are in an advanced state of decay and there are thousands of empty fuel drums, 30 old fuel tanks, old construction equipment, unstable and eroding landfills and other waste materials. Previous investigations have identified several site elements which would pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment if left without proper decommissioning. On-site disposal of non-hazardous waste has been identified as the safest and most efficient means of remediation. Non-hazardous wastes will be disposed of in an engineered landfill to be constructed at Isachsen of a similar design to other approved arctic non-hazardous landfills. Hazardous wastes will be abated and removed from the site for safe disposal at facilities outside of the territory. Removal of non-hazardous waste from Isachsen would require air transportation since there is no other means of access, and is not practical or safe. The Cape Isachsen and Kristoffer Bay sites are also being remediated to remove legacy waste debris and restore the sites to their natural condition as much as possible. Where: The remediation activities will take place at each respective site, located on Ellef Ringnes Island. Temporary camp facilities will be installed at the Isachsen HAWS site to support the clean up efforts at the site and Cape Isachsen and Kristoffer Bay which are a half-hour flight by helicopter. When: The remediation program is planned to start during the summer of 2027 and be completed in the fall of 2030.

Français: Qui: Environnement et Changement climatique Canada (ECCC), en tant que propriétaire de la Station météorologique du Haut-Arctique Isachsen (HAWS) et Relations Couronne-Autochtones et Affaires du Nord Canada (CIRNAC), en tant que propriétaire des sites du Pioneer Bundle (Cape Isachsen et Kristoffer Bay), par l'entremise de Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada en tant que gestionnaires de contrats, ont retenu une équipe de consultants expérimentés et qualifiés et feront appel d'offres pour des entrepreneurs pour l'entreprise proposée. Quoi: L'entreprise proposée est la réhabilitation à grande échelle de la station météorologique du haut arctique Isachsen (HAWS). Le HAWS Isachsen est une ancienne station météorologique occupée par 22 structures permanentes, une piste d'atterrissage, d'anciennes infrastructures d'eau et d'égouts, des installations de stockage et de distribution de carburant, des équipements de production d'énergie, deux zones d'élimination des déchets sur place, des réservoirs de carburant, des milliers de fûts vides ou partiellement vides, d'autres équipements abandonnés et des débris. Le champ d'action de la réhabilitation comprend la démolition des bâtiments sur place, le retrait et l'élimination hors site de matières dangereuses, le développement emprunté, la construction d'un site d'enfouissement, la collecte et l'élimination de tous les déchets non dangereux dans la décharge sur place, ainsi que la pose d'agrégats pour plafonner les zones existantes d'élimination des déchets. La réhabilitation d'Isachsen a été regroupée avec deux sites plus petits sur l'île Ellef Rignes : le cap Isachsen et la baie Kristoffer. Ces sites sont d'anciens sites d'exploration pétrolière et contiennent une petite quantité de débris de surface non dangereux. Leur emplacement (à moins de 75 km d'Isachsen) rend rentable de les intégrer à l'ensemble des travaux pour Isachsen. Leur périmètre de remise en échec consiste à retirer tous les débris de surface. Pourquoi: Le site HAWS d'Isachsen est en cours de réhabilitation parce qu'il a été

Days on site: 600

Total Person days: 12000

Operations Phase: from 2027-04-15 to 2031-05-30

Operations Phase: from 2026-11-01 to 2031-10-31

Post-Closure Phase: from to

Activités

Emplacement	Type d'activité	Statut des terres	Historique du site	Site à valeur archéologique ou paléontologique	Proximité des collectivités les plus proches et de toute zone protégée
LUP(2026)_IsachsenHAWS V.02	Site Cleanup/Remediation	Crown	The site is a former high arctic weather station which closed in 1978.	An archeological impact assessment found no archeological value at the site.	Approximately 500km

Engagement de la collectivité et avantages pour la région

Collectivité	Nom	Organisme	Date de la prise de contact
Resolute Bay	Community members and Elders from Resolute and Grise Fiord	Held community meeting to discuss planned remediation at Isachsen	2026-01-28
Resolute Bay	Community members and Elders from Resolute and Grise Fiord	Held community meeting to discuss planned remediation at Isachsen	2025-01-29

Autorisations

Indiquez les zones dans lesquelles le projet est situé:

North Baffin

Autorisations

Organisme de régulation	Description des autorisations	État actuel	Date de l'émission/de la demande	Date d'échéance
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada	CIRNAC land use permit	Not Yet Applied		
Office des eaux du Nunavut	Water License	Not Yet Applied		
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada	CIRNAC Quarrying Permit	Not Yet Applied		

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Utilisation proposée	Length of Use
Air	Transport to site via various aircraft	

Project accomodation types

Temporary Camp

Utilisation de matériel

Équipement à utiliser (y compris les perceuses, les pompes, les aéronefs, les véhicules, etc.)

Type d'équipement	Quantité	Taille – Dimensions	Utilisation proposée
Nordberg C80 Crusher	1	6' x 4' x 7'	Aggregate Production
Nordtrack CW85 Conveyor	1	62' x 11' x 14'	Aggregate Production
Lokotrack ST2.3 Screener	1	39' x 8' x 9'	Aggregate Production
WA200-8 Komatsu Loader	1	25' x 8' x 10'	Aggregate Production, aircraft loading
HM300 Komatsu Rock Truck	2	34' x 10' x 12'	Hauling of aggregate / demolition waste
PC200LC Excavator	1	31' x 10' x 10'	Aggregate Production, demolition, grading
D7 Cat Dozer	1	18' x 11' x 11'	Aggregate production, placement and grading
Kubota Backhoe	1	16' x 5' x 8'	Structure demolition, waste handling, grading
Ford Dump Truck	2	25' x 8' x 10'	Demolition waste hauling
Mid-sized ATV	2	5' x 4' x 4'	Personnel transport
Ford F350 Pickup Truck	2	22' x 8' x 7'	Personnel transport, refueling equipment
L.A.D - Limited Access Drill	1	8' x 3' x 6'	Aggregate Production
Honda 2' Pump	2	2' x 2' x 2'	Dewatering, transfer of non-potable water for camp operations
Bobcat PL65 Light Tower	4	9' x 5' x 9'	Power supply, lighting
CAT DE100EO Generator	1	6' x 3' x 5'	Camp power supply

Décrivez l'utilisation du carburant et des marchandises dangereuses

Décrivez l'utilisation de carburant :	Type de carburant	Nombre de conteneurs	Capacité du conteneur	Quantité totale	Unités	Utilisation proposée
Aviation fuel	fuel	1	10000	10000	Liters	Aircraft Use
Diesel	fuel	1	630000	630000	Liters	Camp Operations and Equipment
Gasoline	fuel	1	12000	12000	Liters	Camp Operations and Equipment
Propane	fuel	1	5000	5000	Liters	Camp Operations and Equipment

Consommation d'eau

Quantité quotidienne (m3)	Méthodes de récupération de	Emplacement de récupération
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	l'eau proposées	de l'eau proposé
2	Pump from meltwater pond.	North of the site's runway.

Déchets

Gestion des déchets

Activités du projet	Type des déchets	Quantité prévue	Méthode d'élimination	Procédures de traitement supplémentaires
Site Cleanup/Remediation	Déchets combustibles	13000L	Off-site disposal	Liquid contained in drums will be disposed of off-site and fuels remaining in the on-site tanks will be emptied into an appropriate container and transported off-site for disposal.
Site Cleanup/Remediation	Déchet dangereux	55 cubic meters	Containerization and disposal in the in-site landfill	This waste stream is asbestos containing materials. Following safe abatement the materials will be containerized and disposed of in the on site landfill.
Site Cleanup/Remediation	Déchet dangereux	4 cubic meters	Off-site disposal at an appropriate facility.	Hazardous wastes will be handled safely and containerized for transport according to TDG regulations.
Site Cleanup/Remediation	Déchets non combustibles	5350 cubic metres	Disposal in the on-site landfill	This waste stream includes all non hazardous site wastes from building demolition, vehicles, tanks, drums and scattered debris. Tanks and drums will be cleaned and crushed/cut up prior to disposal. The buildings will undergo hazardous materials abatement prior to demolition.

Répercussions environnementales :

Given that the Project will have a positive impact on many of the valued ecological components and valued socio-economic components upon completion, the short duration of Project activities, and the absence of other projects in the region that could interact with the Project in a cumulative manner, no cumulative environmental effects are anticipated to result from completion of the Project activities. An emergency response plan, erosion and sediment control plan, spill prevention plan, waste management plan, and wildlife management plan will be in place for the project.

Additional Information

SECTION A1: Project Info

SECTION A2: Allweather Road

SECTION A3: Winter Road

SECTION B1: Project Info

SECTION B2: Exploration Activity

SECTION B3: Geosciences

SECTION B4: Drilling

SECTION B5: Stripping

SECTION B6: Underground Activity

SECTION B7: Waste Rock

SECTION B8: Stockpiles

SECTION B9: Mine Development

SECTION B10: Geology

SECTION B11: Mine

SECTION B12: Mill

SECTION C1: Pits

See attached remedial action plan summary.

SECTION D1: Facility

SECTION D2: Facility Construction

SECTION D3: Facility Operation

SECTION D4: Vessel Use

SECTION E1: Offshore Survey

SECTION E2: Nearshore Survey

SECTION E3: Vessel Use

SECTION F1: Site Cleanup

See attached remedial action plan summary.

SECTION G1: Well Authorization

SECTION G2: Onland Exploration

SECTION G3: Offshore Exploration

SECTION G4: Rig

SECTION H1: Vessel Use

SECTION H2: Disposal At Sea

SECTION I1: Municipal Development

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement physique

See attached remedial action plan summary.

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement biologique

See attached remedial action plan summary.

Description de l'environnement existant : Environnement socio-économique

The nearest community is 500km away and the site is not near any protected areas. An archeological impact assessment was conducted and no archeologically significant site were found at Isachsen.

Miscellaneous Project Information

See attached remedial action plan summary.

Identification des répercussions et mesures d'atténuation proposées

See attached remedial action plan summary.

Répercussions cumulatives

None expected with proper mitigation measures.

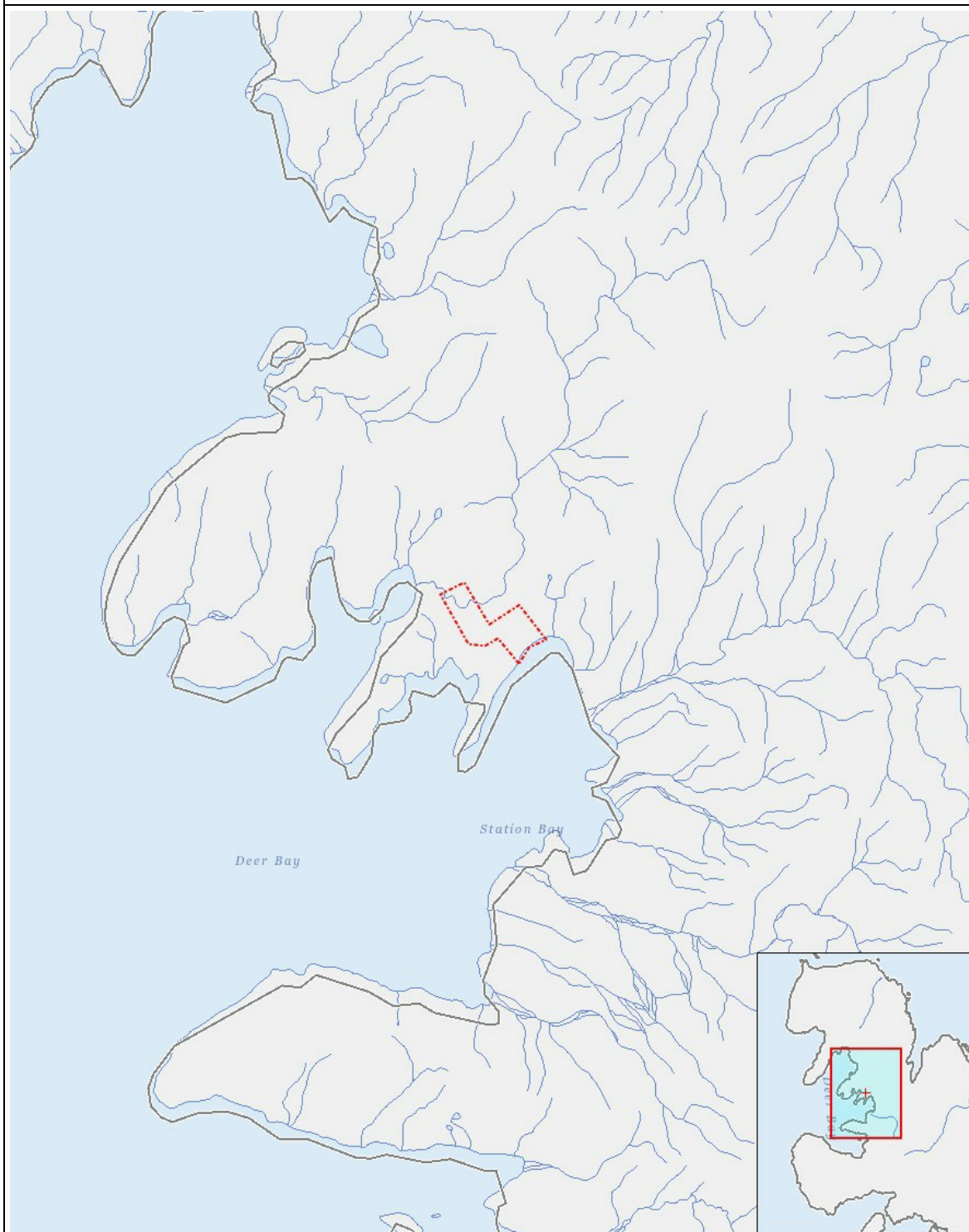
Impacts

Identification des répercussions environnementales

	PHYSICAL	Designated environmental areas	Ground stability	Permafrost	Hydrology / Limnology	Water quality	Climate conditions	Eskers and other unique or fragile landscapes	Surface and bedrock geology	Sediment and soil quality	Tidal processes and bathymetry	Air quality	Noise levels	BIOLOGICAL	Vegetation	Wildlife, including habitat and migration patterns	Birds, including habitat and migration patterns	Aquatic species, incl. habitat and migration/spawning	Wildlife protected areas	SOCIO-ECONOMIC	Archaeological and cultural historic sites	Employment	Community wellness	Community infrastructure	Human health
Construction																									
Site Cleanup/Remediation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M	M	-	N	M		M	M	M	-	-		-	P	-	P	-
Exploitation																									
Site Cleanup/Remediation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	-		-	P	P	-	-		-	P	-	-	-
Désaffectation																									
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(P = Positive, N = Négative et non gérable, M = Négative et gérable, U = Inconnue)

Site du projet



Liste des géométries de projet

1	polyline	LUP(2026)_IsachsenHAWS V.02
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