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Building Demolition and Temporary Camp at Eureka High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS), Amendment and Renewal of Water Licence and Extension of Quarry Permit

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ᐃᓚᓂᓪᓗᐃᓪᓗ ᐅᓂᓂᓪᓗ: Site Cleanup/Remediation

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Period of operation: from 0001-01-01 to 0001-01-01

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Personnel

Personnel on site: 20

Days on site: 429

Total Person days: 8580

Operations Phase: from 2021-07-01 to 2023-10-31

Operations Phase: from 2021-07-01 to 2024-10-31

Post-Closure Phase: from to

			The Eureka runway is located 1.5 km northeast of	requested from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada prior to March 31st, 20	– Fosheim Peninsula overlaps the site. The Napaqtulik/Napurtulik Proposed Territorial Park is approximately 50km west of the site.
Fuel Tank Storage Location Options	Fuel and chemical storage	Inuit Owned Surface Lands	The Eureka High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS) is located on the north side of Slidre Fjord, at the northwestern tip of Fosheim Peninsula, Ellesmere Island, NU. Since 1947, Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has owned and managed the overall operations and maintenance of the site under Land Reserve #1021. The total area of the Project is approximately 2.23 hectares. There are presently 15 primary buildings and other facilities at the HAWS. The Eureka runway is located 1.5 km northeast of	An archaeological assessment will be completed for all potentially impacted areas that haven't been previously assessed. Archaeological assessments will be conducted in spring 2021 in conjunction with other investigations. If any archaeological areas of significance are identified, they will be protected through fencing and an applied setback. A permit to conduct the archaeological assessment will be requested from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada prior to March 31st, 20	The closest community is the hamlet of Grise Fjord, which has a population of approximately 130(as of the 2011 census), and it is located approximately 400 km south of Eureka, at the southern tip of Ellesmere Island. This Inuit community is the northernmost community in Canada (ParksCanada, 2009b; Statistics Canada, 2012a).The Key Bird Habitat Site – Fosheim Peninsula overlaps the site. The Napaqtulik/Napurtulik Proposed Territorial Park is approximately 50km west of the site.

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ᓄᓇᓕᓯᓪᓐ	Hamlet of Grise Fiord Administrative Officer	Municipal Office of the Hamlet	2021-01-19
ᓄᓇᓕᓯᓪᓐ	Members of the Hunters & Trappers Organization	Iviq Hunters & Trappers Organization	2021-01-19

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Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	282m3	Disposed on-site in non-hazardous waste facility	Should hazardous waste be attached, it will be removed and disposed of appropriately.
Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	1m3	Disposed off-site at appropriate facility	Hazardous waste will be containerized and shipped off-site
Camp	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	tbd	food and paper waste to be incinerated on site within existing facility	n/a
Camp	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	tbd	Within existing treatment facility	n/a
Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	84m3	Disposed off-site at appropriate facility	Hazardous waste will be containerized and shipped off-site
Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	95m3	Disposed off-site at appropriate facility	Hazardous waste will be containerized and shipped off-site
Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	<3m3	<3m3	Hazardous waste will be containerized and shipped off-site
Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	5.5m3	Disposed off-site at appropriate facility	Hazardous waste will be containerized and shipped off-site
Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	12 Tonnes	Stored on site for future use	Not stated
Site Cleanup/Remediation	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	920m3	Disposed on-site in non-hazardous waste facility	Should hazardous waste be attached, it will be removed and disposed of appropriately.
Camp	ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐃᑦᐅᑦ ᐱᑦᐅᑦ	tbd	Non-hazardous solid waste will be disposed on-site in non-hazardous waste facility	n/a

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Impacts: • Temporary increase in ambient air concentrations of dust and greenhouse gas emissions. • Potential temporary increase in ambient noise. • Potential to affect the soil. • Potential to affect the hydrology and water and sediment quality of the site. • Increase sediment transport during the summer construction period. • Fugitive dust may suppress plant growth. • The potential to affect nesting birds. Mitigation: • Conduct regular maintenance and keep equipment in good operating condition. Appropriate exhaust emissions controls utilized. Travel distances optimized. • Work completed in accordance with the Environmental Protection Plan and applicable regulations and standards. • Refueling to occur in designated areas. • Effective sediment and erosion control measures installed prior to work start to prevent entry of sediment into watercourses and waterbodies. • Basic petroleum spill clean-up equipment kept on-site. Barriers to prevent contaminated material from entering surface waters. • Water pulling from Station Creek to be conducted during the freshet period. •

Vehicles to remain on pre-established roads/trails. • The Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan will be followed. • Station protocols followed for the control and disposal of food and refuse to ensure that local wildlife is not attracted to the site. • Training of temporary workers to avoid contact with all wildlife and their and to report sightings to a supervisor immediately. Movements of workers restricted to ensure nesting sites are not disturbed. • In the event that SARA listed birds or mammals are located in the area, construction crews will be prepared to modify, or delay, activity that might harm the protected species.

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

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

It is anticipated that all clean, uncontaminated wood waste will be burned on site and all remaining non-hazardous building demolition waste will be stored and disposed on site in a non-hazardous disposal facility. Hazardous waste (polychlorinated biphenyls [PCBs], mercury, household hazardous waste, etc.) will be appropriately containerized and shipped offsite. The non-hazardous disposal facility is currently in the design stage with details to be submitted in early 2021 as part of a separate application.

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

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Physical Environment Eureka is located on Ellesmere Island, Nunavut, which is the northernmost island in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. The Arctic Ocean surrounds the Archipelago to the north and west, with Greenland to the east and the Canadian mainland to the south. Eureka itself is on the western side of Fosheim Peninsula in northern Ellesmere Island. Eureka is located on the north side of Slidre Fjord and surrounded to the northeast and northwest by ridges that rise about 600 m above mean sea level. Eureka's climate is typical for the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. Eureka experiences a long, dark winter and a short, intense summer with continuous daylight. The winter conditions promote a strong surface-based temperature inversion. The transition to summer occurs with a rapid warming and the breakdown of the Arctic winter vortex.

Atmospheric Environment In an effort to characterize the existing air quality and noise environment within the Project area, a monitoring program was completed in August 2015. Details and results of the monitoring program as well as a description of climate and meteorology in the Project area are provided in the following sections. The weather station at Eureka (WMO ID no. 71917; latitude 79.98°N, longitude 85.93°W) has been operated by the Meteorological Service of Canada since 1947. The hourly surface observation record begins on 1 January 1953 at 01:00 LST (06:00 UTC) and observations are recorded at an altitude of 10.4 m above mean sea level. Upper-air observation data from radiosondes are available starting in 1961. Lesins et al. (2010) provide a comprehensive summary of weather observations made at Eureka from 1953 to 2007, which is briefly discussed in the following sections. Lesins et al. (2010) define the winter months as the three coldest months of the year (January, February, and March) and summer as the three warmest months (June, July, and August). Somewhat unconventionally, autumn is defined to comprise the period of September to December, which is based on the fact that the stable winter boundary layer is not fully formed until January. Spring comprises the rapidly warming months of April and May. Over the 54 year record, the average temperature at Eureka is -19.1°C, with the highest and lowest observed temperatures of 20.0°C and -54.6°C recorded 22 July 2007 and 15 February 1979, respectively. Trends in temperature across the entire observing record can be summarized as follows:

- A cooling trend from the early 1950s to early 1970s;
- A warming period from the early 1970s to early 1980s;
- A brief cooling period in the mid-1980s; and
- A warming trend up to the present day.

Eureka is typified by a polar desert climate. Annual precipitation averages only 79.1 mm per year, with the majority (60.3 mm on average) falling as snow in the autumn and winter months. Rain is typically confined to the months of July and August, where rainfall events can be intense. The maximum recorded daily precipitation events observed at Eureka in July and August were 20.8 mm (27 July 1997) and 41.7 mm (17 August 1953), respectively. Surface wind speeds at Eureka are greatest in the summer months, averaging about 17 km/h across the period from 1954 to 2007. Wind speeds in autumn, winter and spring are reduced, ranging between approximately 8 and 11 km/h over the same period. Lesins et al. (2010), however, note that the observations show a weakening trend of approximately -0.6 km/h per decade over the period from 1954 to 2007, which persists despite the slight weakening of the surface-based temperature inversion over the same period. Surface winds are primarily

out of the west in the late spring and summer (May to August), switching to the east and southeast for the remainder of the year. Although variable, Lesins et al. (2010) note that there has been no significant change in upper air wind speeds at the 500 mb level. Air Quality Spot measurements of ambient dust were made at seven pre-defined monitoring locations under existing conditions. The seven monitoring locations are summarized below:

- NM-1 – West of the main station
- NM-2 – South end of the main station at the sealift unloading location
- NM-3 – Northwest of the powerhouse within the main station
- NM-4 – North of the existing sewage lagoon within the main station
- NM-5 – North end of the main station at the dead line
- NM-6 – North of the west end of the runway at the DND facilities
- NM-7 – South of the west end of the runway at Fort Eureka

Ambient particulate matter (PM) data was collected using a DustTrak dust monitor (model DRX8533) in August 2015. Calibration of the dust monitor was completed in the field at test conditions before and after each measurement campaign with a zero filter. Calibration was valid during the period of monitoring. Spot measurements of ambient dust (i.e., particulate) levels were completed through multiple 1-minute DustTrak logs at each monitoring location at various observation periods. Levels of total PM, as well as PM less than 10 and 2.5 microns (μm) in diameter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) were measured. The dust monitoring data are summarized in Table 4.3 for total PM, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. At the time of monitoring, construction of the new multipurpose building project was underway. The ongoing activity included clearing and excavation of the footprint for the building foundation. For the purposes of establishing ambient particulate levels in the project area, the minimum recorded particulate levels are considered to represent the true ambient dust levels and the maximum recorded particulate levels are considered to represent the ambient dust levels as influenced by the ongoing project work and other operations within the Project area. Based on the monitoring results, NM-5 would be most reflective of true background and indicative of a remote wilderness environment where particulate levels are low and influenced by wind-induced dust. The monitoring data shows that levels of PM_{2.5} are high in comparison to total PM, which suggests that the PM is primarily influenced by the exhaust of passing vehicles. The fact that the lowest monitored levels of PM were observed at the monitoring location farthest from an adjacent roadway (i.e., NM-5) supports this conclusion. A comparison of the maximum monitored levels in close proximity to the ongoing activity at NM-3 to the maximum monitored levels at NM-5 shows that the effects of ongoing activity are limited to within 300 metres. If activity level is similar for future project work, local effects are expected to be kept within 300 to 500 metres. A review of an air quality effects assessment submitted to the NIRB for a nearby project (Mary River Project, Baffin Island) was completed to characterize ambient air quality in a similar environment. The Mary River Project is located approximately 1,000 km south of the HAWS in a comparable setting. The assessment of background air quality for the Mary River Project described in Air Quality Baseline Study, Baffin Iron Mines Corporation, Mary River Project (RWDI Air Inc., December 2008) measured total PM concentrations of 3.0 to 7.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ which “represent low, pristine levels that can be viewed as typical of remote Arctic areas”. Similarly, PM₁₀ concentrations of 1.5 to 3.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ were measured. PM_{2.5} measurements were not performed for the Air Quality Baseline Study, Baffin Iron Mines Corporation, Mary River Project (RWDI Air Inc., December 2008) because “based on experience in such pristine environments, where particulate matter levels in summary, the ambient particulate levels observed at NM-5 are comparable to the particulate levels identified during the literature search, which are pristine and typical of remote Arctic areas.

Noise level data was collected using a Quest SoundPro DL-2-1/1 sound level meter in August 2015. Calibration of the sound level meter was completed in the field at test conditions before and after each measurement campaign with the QC-10 acoustic calibrator. Calibration was valid during the period of monitoring. Spot measurements of ambient sound levels were completed by observing and recording the minimum and maximum slow response A-weighted sound levels within 5-minute observation periods. For the purposes of establishing ambient noise levels in the project area, the minimum recorded sound levels are considered to represent the true ambient sound levels and the maximum recorded sound level are considered to represent the ambient sound levels as influenced by the ongoing project work and other operations within the project area. The noise monitoring data are summarized in Table 4.4. The true ambient data are indicative of a remote wilderness environment where noise levels are relatively low and are strongly influenced by sounds of nature and wind induced noise effects. A review of a noise effects assessment submitted to the NIRB for the Mary River Project was completed to identify noise levels in a similar environment. The assessment of ambient noise for the Mary River Project described in Noise Baseline Study, Baffin Iron Mines Corporation, Mary River Project (RWDI Air Inc., November 2008) concluded that “average 24-hour sound exposures ranged from 25 to 30 dBA, depending on location”. The baseline monitoring locations most comparable to the HAWS environment (i.e., in close proximity to Arctic Ocean waterway inlets) had baseline monitoring results of 29 and 30 dBA. In summary, the minimum uninfluenced ambient sound levels observed in the HAWS area (i.e., natural sounds of nature at NM-2, NM-5, NM-6 and NM-7) are comparable to the sound levels identified during the literature search. With consideration of the above information, a conservative approach to establishing background sound levels was applied. An existing noise level of 35 dBA was selected for 24-hour sound levels and applied as the background value for assessing the relevance of potential changes in sound levels as a result

of Project Improvement activities at the HAWS. Geology The HAWS is situated in the Eureka Hills Ecoregion, within the Northern Arctic Ecozone. The topography in the area is rolling and ridged, and reaches altitudes of no greater than 1000 m above sea level. Underlying strata include Mesozoic and Tertiary sandstone and shale, which have large trenches cut out of them. The trenches form the sinuous, curving drainage that is apparent in the area (Phase I ESA - PWGSC, 2007). The geology of the HAWS site was observed by Columbia/Franz (2010) to be composed of silty clay, with some gravel and cobble. Hydrogeology Hydrogeologic information was obtained from Columbia/Franz (2010). Regionally, sinuous drainage formed by carving of the underlying sandstone is apparent, as well as within the study area. Water has formed gullies and seasonal creeks that drain into the Slidre Fjord of the Fosheim Peninsula, and subsequently into the Eureka Sound and Arctic Ocean. The main natural source of surface fresh water at the HAWS is Station Creek, which is seasonally flowing. It flows in early June on the west side of the main facilities at the HAWS, from north to south. Flow from the creek discharges into the salt water of Slidre Fjord and ultimately into Eureka Sound and the Arctic Ocean. The HAWS is in an area of continuous permafrost. In high, dry locations the active layer is at approximately 0.60 metres below surface and in wet, low areas permafrost is located at approximately 0.80 metres below surface. On south facing slopes, the active layer can reach a depth of approximately 1.2 metres. The water reservoir is the source of domestic water, which is also located on the west side of the main facilities. The reservoir is replenished yearly by the seasonal pumping of Station Creek. A sewage lagoon is located at the south end of the site's facilities on the shore of Slidre Fjord (Columbia/Franz, 2010). Soils Negligible chemical weathering and plant action in the arctic environment contribute to poor soil profile development. Thus, soils at the HAWS are composed mostly of sand/gravel fill, underlain by silty, sandy clays – mainly sands, silts, and clays. Specifically, these soils are composed of lithosols and regosols of the Rawmark Great Soil Group, and are typically 18% sands, 47% silts, and 35% clays. Soils include Regosolic Static Cryosols and Orthic Turbic Cryosols over top of colluvial, alluvial and marine deposits (Phase I ESA - PWGSC, 2007).

1.2.4 Vegetation Communities and Species

The site is in ecodistrict 21, situated within the Eureka Hills ecoregion of the Northern Arctic ecozone. The ecoregion includes Axel Heiberg and Ellesmere Islands. General descriptions of plant communities include low-growing herbs and shrubs such as purple saxifrage, *Dryas* spp., arctic willow, sedge and arctic poppy. The extreme environmental conditions have a significant impact on the ecological recovery of vegetation at disturbed sites at Eureka. Low light levels, extremely low ambient temperatures and lack of moisture and nutrients limit plant productivity. While a precipitation value of 50-150 mm per year has been used for HAWS assessments (PWGSC 2007), the climate conditions listed by Agriculture Canada for the ecodistrict indicates average precipitation at the lower end of this range. Average total precipitation for the ecodistrict is 68 mm/year, 53 mm of which is snow. Due to evaporation of moisture during summer months, the area experiences a deficit of 361 mm of moisture annually. There are only 16 effective growing days annually (days above 5°C adjusted for day length) in the area around Eureka. The area has >90% continuous permafrost, with <20% ground ice. Changes to vegetation are expected in the High Arctic terrestrial ecosystem as a result of warming ambient temperatures. Long-term monitoring programs were established in Quttinirpaaq National Park in 1990 using several measures of environmental change (Broll et al. 2003). Changes recorded between 1990 and 2002 include warming soil temperatures, with an increase in the depth of the active layer. Changes in permafrost caused changes in the hydrological conditions and soil moisture. A review of climate changes in the Canadian Arctic indicate that the ambient temperature has increased 1.5 to 3°C between 1953 and 2007, while precipitation has increased by roughly 10% (Stein et al. 2013). If these trends continue, the plant community will undergo changes in species and numbers in response to the changing environment. Wildlife Communities and Species The HAWS has been in place since 1947; however, there are no rigorous surveys of the animal community in the area, the species abundance, or other measures of species presence. While some ecological information is available for many species based on studies conducted in the Arctic, further south of Eureka, important site specific data, such as the numbers of nesting sites for breeding birds, or the density of small mammal species, are not available. For example, the number of ground nesting breeding birds during the summers would allow some estimation of the impacts of disturbed ground from borrow sites or new construction. The Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (CAFF, 2013) estimated that the High Arctic portion of the Canadian Archipelago has a very low biodiversity, with roughly 10 resident mammalian species. Wildlife sightings are recorded weekly at the HAWS and provide some site specific information on wildlife species in the area and potential interactions with workers on site. The most common sightings are for muskox, arctic hare and wolves, with many sightings within the boundary of the site. Waterfowl, including red-necked loons, have been observed on the Fjord but their nesting sites relative to the station are unknown. Polar bears have been observed in the area but at some distance from the HAWS. Some data are available from breeding bird surveys at other sites in the High Arctic. Pattie (1977) reported the numbers of regular and occasional breeding birds

good engineering practices or as recommended by suppliers such that the equipment is kept in good operating condition. Other activity-specific mitigation measures will include the use of appropriate exhaust emissions controls such as catalytic converters and diesel particulate filters to mitigate fuel combustion emissions from heavy equipment and vehicles. Additionally, the number of equipment/vehicle movements and travel distances will be optimized to reduce fuel consumption and minimize dust and greenhouse gas emissions. Lowering vehicle speeds on unpaved road surfaces, applying water as well as implementing good road maintenance practices will minimize the potential for road dust emissions. Demolition work will be completed by methods that minimize dust generation from operations, in accordance with the Environmental Protection Plan.

- Reduce dust resulting from demolition activities: Execute work using methods to minimize raising dust from decontamination operations. Implement and maintain dust and particulate control measures as determined necessary by applicable regulations and standards during demolition work and in accordance with applicable authorities. The use of oil for dust control is prohibited. Prevent dust from spreading to beyond the immediate work area. Departmental Representative or designate may stop work at any time when Contractor's control of dusts and particulates is inadequate for worker exposure relative to indoor conditions, or when air quality monitoring indicates that release of fugitive dusts and particulates into the work area equals or exceeds specified levels. If Contractor's dust and particulate control is not sufficient for controlling dusts and particulates into atmosphere, stop work. Contractor must discuss procedures that Contractor proposes to resolve problem. Make all necessary changes to operations prior to resuming work that may cause release of dusts or particulates. Prevent sandblasting and other extraneous materials from contaminating air beyond application area, by providing temporary enclosures. Cover or wet down dry materials and rubbish to prevent blowing dust and debris. Provide dust control for temporary roads.

Noise Interactions: Demolition activities have the potential to temporarily increase ambient noise. **Effects:** During demolition clean up, there will be an increase in noise emissions from heavy-duty construction equipment operation and construction activities. These effects are typical of a construction site, localized, and of a temporary nature. The physiological and ecological impacts of noise on wildlife needs to be considered, acutely loud noises can cause hearing loss in wildlife. Behavior patterns of wildlife may differ from their natural suite of behaviors. **Mitigation:**

- The Project will employ standard operating procedures for equipment/machinery and ensure that regular maintenance is performed. As well, personnel will adhere to conditions outlined in all permits, authorizations and/or approvals.

Sediment and soil quality Interactions: Demolition activities have the potential to affect the soil include removal of buildings, infrastructure, material handling (loading and dumping); and the refueling of vehicles/equipment. **Effects:** During demolition soil quality is most likely affected as a result of fuel spills and leaks from equipment refueling efforts or otherwise, and from compounds located inside the structures materials. Conduct a complete on-site evaluation of the area to determine exact measures to be taken to protect permafrost. **Mitigation:**

- Prevention of fuel spills/leaks: Refueling of vehicles and equipment to occur in designated areas following all applicable regulations.
- Sediment, erosion and drainage control: Effective sediment and erosion control measures will be installed prior to starting work to prevent entry of sediment into watercourses and waterbodies. These measures will be inspected daily and repaired if damaged by construction, precipitation or snowmelt. Sufficient supplies for erosion, sediment and drainage control will be available on site to keep in compliance with federal and territorial fisheries and environmental protection legislation. Aquatic environment

Interactions: Demolition activities have the potential to affect the hydrology and water and sediment quality of the site. These activities include, removal of buildings, infrastructure, material handling (loading and dumping); and the refueling of vehicles/equipment. **Effects:** surface water contamination could potentially occur due to leaks/spills that may occur during the re-fuelling of vehicles and construction machinery on site. Debris from demolition efforts may end up into the hydrological system. **Mitigation:**

- Suitable erosion and sediment suppression measures will be implemented to prevent sediment from entering Black Top Creek, Station Creek or other water bodies. Erosion control structures (temporary matting, geotextile silt control filter (curtains) fabric, etc.) are to be used. Vehicles/machinery are to be checked for leakage of lubricants or fuel and are maintained in good working order. Re-fueling should occur in designated areas only. Basic petroleum spill clean-up equipment will be kept on-site. Barriers will be required during extraction of contaminated soils to prevent material from entering surface water, Station Creek or the reservoir.

Aquatic Community Interactions: The demolition work does not involve direct disturbance of the water bodies, Work projects are isolated from the water bodies, although movement of heavy equipment may increase sediment transport during the summer construction period. **Effects:** Concerns about sediment loading in nearby water bodies are important to address. **Mitigation:**

- Best practice is to mirror aquatic environment mitigations. Should water pulling from Station Creek be required during the demolition period the most appropriate time of year to do so would be during the freshet period.

Vegetation Communities and Species Interactions: Physical damage to vegetation during construction and changes in the soil surface layer, leading to potential soil and permafrost erosion, changes in surface water hydrology and thermokarst. Fugitive dust may also suppress plant growth within a zone around construction zones. **Effects:** The damage to the

vegetation will be equal to the footprint of the demolition, storage and the dust footprint. Mitigation: •Due to the extreme conditions at Eureka, construction will be conducted during the brief summer months. Damage can be reduced by covering the ground, possibly using matting, prior to construction to reduce physical disruption of the soil. Fugitive dust can be suppressed at its source. Additionally, vehicles will remain on pre-established roads/trails. Workers are to be advised of sensitivity of environment and limits of equipment travel will be determined. Wildlife Communities and Species Interactions: Demolition activities will occur during the summer, the time that nesting and denning occur for many bird and mammal species. For birds and mammals, the interactions include behavioral changes such as avoidance and/or attraction to the site and changes in the dominant species in areas adjacent to the site. Effects: Effects are unlikely as demolition activities will keep to areas of existing building and established roads. However, minimization of impacts is important as the area in general as the potential for sensitive species migration. Mitigation: •The Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (SLR, 2018) will be followed. •Temporary workers will be informed of station protocols for the control and disposal of food and refuse to ensure that local wildlife is not attracted to the site. •Temporary workers involved with demolition activities will be trained to avoid contact with all wildlife and their nests (particularly with species at risk) and to report sightings to a central authority (i.e., supervisors) immediately. Movements of workers in off-hours should also be restricted to ensure nesting sites and denning areas are not disturbed. •In the event that SARA listed birds or mammals are located in the area, construction crews will be prepared to modify, or delay, activity that might harm the protected species. For example, if nests with eggs are located for a protected species, activity in the area might be delayed until after hatching.

Cumulative Effects

There are no adverse residual project effects to be considered in a cumulative effects assessment. That there are no identified adverse residual project effects is not surprising for a construction project such as this, where the works and activities are very limited in geographic extent and time.

