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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavut iluqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

Mia Beattie
Impact Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

August 10, 2026

Sent VIA Email: info@nirb.ca

NIRB File #: 25UN029

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Environment and Climate Change Canada's "Remediation of the Former Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS)" project proposal

Hello Mia,

The Government of Nunavut (GN) thanks the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for the opportunity to review Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) "Remediation of the Former Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS)" project proposal, NIRB File #: 25UN029.

The GN has reviewed the proposed project and related documents and has one comment for the Board's consideration. The GN seeks additional information as to whether any contaminated soils will be remediated within the scope of the proposed project and, if so, how contaminated material will be managed, including details about methods of containment and disposal.

The GN appreciates participating in the screening of this project through the NIRB review process. Should there be any concerns or need for follow-up, please feel free to contact me at jfbuller@gov.nu.ca.

Thank you,

Justin Buller
Interim Avatiliriniq Coordinator
Government of Nunavut

GN # 01															
Department	Environment														
Organization	Government of Nunavut														
Subject/Topic	Soil, sediment, and surface water contamination														
References	• Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) (2026) 260708-25UN029-Project Summary-IR3E. • Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) (2026) 260708-25UN029-Waste Fuel Reduction Plan-IR3E. • Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBCS) Federal Contaminated Sites Registry, Site 07525123 (2026).														
IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUE															
Environment and Climate Change Canada (Proponent) has submitted its proposal for the summer 2027 to fall 2030 phase of its planned remediation of the Isachsen High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS). The Proponent's proposal does not contain information regarding plans for the removal and/or remediation of contaminated soil at the site (ECCC, 2026). The HAWS is listed as a federal contaminated site, identification number 07525123 on the Federal Contaminated Sites Inventory (FCSI) (TBCS, 2026). FCSI identifies several media including soil with various contaminants (Table 1). Table 1: Contaminants at Isachsen HAWS listed on FCSI (TBCS, 2026) <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Contaminant Type</th> <th>Medium Type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PHCs (petroleum hydrocarbons)</td> <td>Soil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BTEXs (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene)</td> <td>Soil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon)</td> <td>Sediment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon)</td> <td>Soil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metal, metalloid, and organometallic</td> <td>Surface water</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metal, metalloid, and organometallic</td> <td>Sediment</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Contaminant Type	Medium Type	PHCs (petroleum hydrocarbons)	Soil	BTEXs (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene)	Soil	PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon)	Sediment	PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon)	Soil	Metal, metalloid, and organometallic	Surface water	Metal, metalloid, and organometallic	Sediment
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IMPORTANCE TO REVIEW AND SUPPORTING RATIONALE	
The Contaminants listed in Table 1 pose a potential risk to environmental and human health. Remedial activities should be undertaken to prevent the spread of contamination through ground and surface water. It is important to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the remediation plan to know at what stage in the plan this remediation will take place, and what methods will be used.	
REQUEST(S)/RECOMMENDATION(S)	
The GN requests that the Proponent: 1. Clarify how contamination listed on FCSI is going to be managed. 2. Clarify if the soil will be removed during this phase or another phase in the future. 3. State the methods of disposal and containment that will be employed by ECCC regarding contaminated soils.	