

CAM-F Intermediate DEW Line Site Clean-Up, Sarcpa Lake, Nunavut

Jeff Dirks, Biogenie S.R.D.C. Inc.

Matthew McElwaine, Public Works and Government Services Canada

CAM-F (Sarcpa Lake) is a former radar station constructed as part of the DEW Line system (63 stations in the Arctic/42 in Canada) at the height of the cold war in 1957. It was operated jointly by the Department of National Defence (DND) and the United States Air Force, closed in 1963 and transferred to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) in 1976, along with 20 other stations. The station was comprised of the following infrastructure; module train, garage, warehouse, sheds, communication tower, POL tank storage facility, etc. Waste and contaminants present on site included; PCBs (present in soil, oil, and painted material), hydrocarbon and metals (present in soil) etc.

INAC Intermediate DEW Line site remediation projects are managed by Public Works Government Service Canada (PWGSC) who awarded the CAM-F cleanup contract to Biogenie in July 2005. After two field seasons, the project was completed in October 2007. Work consisted of; mobilization to site (overland), demolition of buildings, construction of a non-hazardous waste landfill, construction of a Tier 2 secure soil disposal facility, construction of a temporary storage area for hazardous material, collection of waste and debris on land and in and around Sarcpa Lake, containerization of hazardous waste for future disposal, excavation of contaminated and hazardous soil, and excavation of waste dumps.

From freshly compiled results, this paper will present some challenges and issues encountered during the project. Topics such as procurement process, winter/over-tundra transportation, precautions in response to the climate change in the North will be addressed and discussed.

Jeffrey J. Dirks

Mr. Dirks obtained a diploma in Environmental Sciences from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in 2000. Upon completion of his studies, he joined WasteCo Environmental Services Ltd., working in the field of hazardous waste management and contaminated site remediation. Mr. Dirks joined

Newalta Corporation after his previous company, WasteCo Environmental Services Ltd., was acquired in 2005. In 2007 he joined Biogenie, an international leader in site remediation services, in the position of business development. This position brought him to be increasingly involved in promoting biodegradation technologies and beneficial re-use of various waste streams. In 2008, he assumed leadership of the Western Canadian office.

Mr. Dirks has been involved in the design and implementation of organizational waste programs relative to the Alberta Energy & Utilities Board Directive(s), Alberta Environment Act(s), British Columbia Ministry of Environment Regulation(s), and Saskatchewan Environment Regulation(s). Environmental services involvement includes industrial (refineries, chemical plants, military, wood treating, mining, pulp and paper) and oilfield (crude oil, natural gas, oil sands) sites. Mr. Dirks has managed projects that included facility decommissioning, abatement, demolition, and waste recycle/disposal as well as ex situ soil, water, and sludge treatment/disposal. This experience has enabled him to implement large-scale environmental and capital projects throughout Canada, ensuring a link between the various parties involved such as vendors, municipalities, governing bodies, other human resources of the firm, and client representatives.

Matthew A. McElwaine

Matthew McElwaine obtained an Environmental Engineering degree from the University of Alberta in 2000. Matthew then worked with Earth Tech for 6 years working on DEW Line sites in northern Canada, Air Force Bases in southern California and Refineries in Nova Scotia. Matthew Currently works with Public Works and Government Services Canada, Northern Contaminated Sites and manages the assessment, design and remediation of contaminated sites in Nunavut for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.