
CREE NATION OF WHAPMAGOOSTUI



NEW SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SITE

Preliminary information

August 2017

À l'usage du Ministère	Date de réception :
	Numéro de dossier :

1. Project title

"New Solid Waste Disposal Site"

2. Project proponent

Name:	WHAPMAGOOSTUI FIRST NATION (WFN)	
Civic address:	PO Box 390	
	Whapmagoostui, Qc JOM 1GO	
Telephone:	819-929-3384	
Fax:	819- 929-3969	
Email:	gsandy@whapmagoostuifn.ca	
Person in charge of the project:	George Sandy, Director of Captal Projects	
Mandatory: Québec enterprise number (NEQ) assigned by the Registraire des entreprises du Québec	Not Applicable	

3. Consultant commissioned by the proponent

A consultant was awarded mandates for preliminary studies. Stantec (previously Dessau) issued the following reports:

Whapmagoostui First Nation
Future Waste Disposal Site
Final Report
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
May 29, 2017
Ref: 167020020-220

Whapmagoostui First Nation
New Solid Waste Disposal Site
Site Selection and Baseline Study
Final Report
Dessau
December 19, 2011
Ref. N°: 027-P037244-0120-EA-0100-0001-00

4. Project objectives and justification

The main objective of the project is to plan and develop a new solid waste management facility that is as much as possible socially and environmentally responsible.

The new site will be a joint project for the benefit of the Cree Whapmagoostui First Nation (WFN) as well as the neighbouring community, the Northern Village of Kuujjuarapik (NVK). An agreement is in the works to determine how to share costs for construction and future operations between the 2 communities. The new waste disposal site is expected to serve both the Cree and Inuit populations, as did the previous site.

A new trench landfill is required since the existing site is currently in operation on Kuujjuarapik land and has exceeded its life expectancy and is not well located. It is too close to the communities and the local airport.

The new site will include an area for solid household and institutional waste disposal as well as a platform for clean storage of end-of-life vehicles (ELVs) and other bulky waste items. The purpose of such a platform is to expand the useful site available for landfill.

The new site will replace the existing site located in Kuujjuarapik for domestic waste. This site will be closed and restored.

The existing sites used for ELVs and bulky waste will also be cleaned. There are 2 ELV sites, and cleaning them is part of the project. One is located in Kuujjuarapik and a second in Whapmagoostui (more recent). A first step and priority is to de-pollute them from hazardous waste. Studies will also be done to see if these can be evacuated south. This work is planned to be done in collaboration with Scout Environmental.

5. Project location

The project (Site 2) is located in Eeyou Istchee territory, more precisely within the Whapmagoostui territory on Category 1A land.

The community of Whapmagoostui is only accessible by air year-round and in the late summer by boat.

Several sites were considered in the past studies. Site 2 was chosen on the basis of a comparative analysis of a number of other possible sites. It is Whapmagoostui's intention to include in the impact statement for the project and the information needed to explain the basis for this site location.

A first site (Site 1) located closer to the community was abandoned because the hydrogeologists' collective opinion stated that there was a risk that the ground water of well P-1 could be contaminated if Site 1 was to be used.

Site 2 is located more than 5.0 km to the north-east of the communities. It is 1.5 km east of an existing road (new access road to build) and 1.7 km from the shore of Hudson Bay. It is on Category 1A Cree land with Category 1 Inuit land close to the west. The coordinates are:

59° 19.5' N
77° 41.1' W

A location map is included at the end of this document. The yellow arrow points towards Site 2.

6. Description of project and alternatives under study

The new solid waste disposal site that will be built will provide the communities with an adequate facility. The design phases are not completed, but considering the growing waste generation rates, the current scenarios are planned to allow disposal for a period which should extend between 9 and 31 years, depending on the chosen operation mode.

7. Environmental components and main constraints to project implementation

Site 2 is located on a sandy deposit with surroundings characteristic of the region, including rocky outcrops and marshy or swampy grounds.

The site is well above sea level, has sufficient drainage and is located away from flood response areas. Site 2 also drains towards the Hudson Bay. The water table level is estimated at depths varying between 2.7 m and 7.0 m. The usable area was determined to have a minimum groundwater depth of 3.0 m.

Site 2 was chosen after searching the entire sector for proper sites. There are only little areas near Whapmagoostui offering potential sites to bury waste. The area near Whapmagoostui is

essentially rocky. The surficial deposits are very unevenly distributed. According to studies completed by Stantec, Site 2's geotechnical characteristics are suitable for a waste disposal site installation.

The proposed site was chosen to be far enough from the community for the following reasons:

- To protect the ground water resource which could be used for water supply. The first contemplated site (Site 1) was abandoned because there could have been a risk of contaminant migration towards a well used for drinking water supply.
- To avoid nuisance by smells and other disturbances.
- In a meeting held on April 12, 2017, the site was presented to the representatives of the WFN and NVK and no specific comments were made regarding the current uses of the site which could oppose the project to implement a landfill.

Such a project, for waste disposal, is listed Section 22, Schedule 1, as automatically subject to assessment in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA).

8. Primary impacts anticipated

Potential incidences on the physical, biological, and social environments during the project development phases (construction, operation and closure), will be assessed during the *environmental and social impact study*.

This will need validation, but according to the study completed by Stantec (issued in May 2017) the site:

- Is not located where issues with slopes, erosion or landslides are expected.
- Is located near a stream; however, the site area has been adjusted to remove areas within the 150m buffer zone from areas considered as useable.
- Does not present any concerns regarding existing soil or groundwater contamination according to available information.
- Is not located in an area of sensitive flora species or forests.
- Is not located in an area of sensitive fauna species or in an area commonly used for hunting or fishing.
- Has not been identified as an exceptional natural site.
- Houses pests that are not considered to be a concern for this location specifically (over others), although fencing will be recommended in order to secure the site.

According to the WFN representatives, the site is not located in an area of cultural or archaeological significance. However, a cabin is located on the site and several trails were observed.

9. Project schedule

So far, Whapmagoostui and Kuujjuarapik councils both passed resolutions to:

- Approve the site.
- Approve the fact that Whapmagoostui will act as the leader in this project.
- Form a Technical Committee to lead the project. Members for this committee will represent both communities.

The next steps to this project will be:

- Drafting an agreement between Whapmagootui and Kuujjuarapik for the completion and operation of the project.
- Preparing the impact assessment.
- Initiating a land survey.
- Deciding on the option for the access road (refer to current options on the location map).
- Planning and training for the de-pollution of ELVs and other bulky waste stored in the Kuujjuarapik and Whapmagoostui sites.
- Creating preliminary and final plans and specifications.
- Preparing final cost estimates and planning for funding.

The Whapmagoostui First Nation plans to begin construction operations as soon as approvals are obtained.

The construction of the access road is the project component that will be built first to allow access to the new site.

10. Public information and consultation processes

Both councils (Whapmagoostui and Kuujjuarapik) will be kept informed by the Technical Committee responsible for the project elaboration. All steps will be confirmed by resolutions.

Public information and consultation meetings will be planned as the project moves along.

The first public meeting was already done for the population of Kuujjuarapik on June 28, 2017.

11. Subsequent phases and related projects

Once the new site becomes available, the existing solid waste disposal site will be closed and restored. So far, this work is planned to be done under the supervision of the Northern Village of Kuujjuarapik, with support from the Kativik Regional Government.

The waste disposal project is conducted in parallel to work done for ground water supply for the 2 communities of Whapmagoostui and Kuujjuarapik. For this reason, the steps for the development of the solid waste project were slowed down because priority was given to water supply, since proximity to the communities is an important aspect for water supply.

12. Signature of the applicant

I, George Sandy, hereby certify that the information provided in this preliminary information form is accurate to the best of my knowledge.



George Sandy, Director of Capital Projects
Whapmagoostui First Nation
Authorized signatory

August 25, 2017

Date

Location Map (Stantec)



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