Contaminated and Impacted Site Work in Northern Communities along the East Side Road in Manitoba

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Outline

- East Side Road Initiative
  - Overview
  - Objectives
  - Background
  - Benefits
- Working with Northern Communities
- Environmental Remedial Work
- Challenges
- Improvements
Overview

- 83,000 square kilometers
- Approximately 1/8th of Manitoba
- 3,100 lakes
- 30 major river systems
- One of the largest intact boreal forests in North America
- Over 30 Communities
  - 36,000 residents
  - 96% are First Nation people
  - Cree, Ojibway, Oj–Cree & English
Objectives

- To better connect northern communities
- Lower costs of goods & services
- Provide improved emergency services
Economic Development in Northern Communities

- ESRA has committed to invest approximately $315 million or 35% of the budget into jobs, training and economic development for local residents.

- Aboriginal Benefits and Tendering Strategy
  - Community Benefits Agreement
    - Ensures hiring of residents from the east side communities
    - Provides appropriate training and mentoring
    - Encourages community enterprises and capacity building
Benefits
Reduces the Dangers of using the Winter Roads
Background

- November 2008 – Announced mandate for the construction of an all-season road.
- April 2009 – Introduced Bill 31
- December 2009 Bill 31 was officially proclaimed establishing the Manitoba Floodway and East Side Road Authority
Working with Northern Communities

- Community Engagement
  - Visiting local communities

- Procurement
  - Local enterprises will receive contracts

- Training
  - Training programs in heavy equipment operation, engineering, forestry
Working with Northern Communities

- Local Hiring
  - Provide mentoring
  - Local preference

- Communication
  - Newsletter
  - Media
  - Website

- Networking Opportunities
  - Local contractors will be introduced to outside contractors and suppliers
Remedial Work

- **Laydown Area**
  - Routine maintenance
  - Equipment Storage
    - Above ground fuel tanks,
    - broken down machinery, and
    - scrap metal

- **Right of Way & Bridge Sites**
  - Spills or leaks from machinery
  - Abandoned machinery
Remedial Work

- **Site Assessment**
  - Documentation
  - Photographs
  - Sampling

- **Remediation**
  - Removal of material
  - Transport of material

- **Closure**
  - Closure sampling
  - Reporting to Manitoba Conservation & ESRA
Cost and Fees

- Overall $3 Billion for 30 years
- Environmental since 2011 – $320,000
- Environmental average $65,000 per year
Challenges

- Source for impacted soil
  - Licensed soil treatment facility
  - Local land farm
  - Temporary stabilization of contaminated material

- Communication
  - Satellite phone

- Emergency Services
  - No 911 or emergency services
Challenges

- Working with the Community
  - Road blocks

- Security in Remote Location
  - Vandalism or theft when equipment is unattended

- Working with inexperienced Contractors
  - Continued spills
Improvements

- Routine visits by Environmental Contract Admin.
  - Weekly visits

- Improvement orders
  - Issued if improvements are required

- Stop work orders
  - Issued if requirements not met
Recognition

- Bloodvein First Nation Construction Inc. (BFNCI), *Contractor for the East Side Road Authority*

- Leanne Shewchuk, *Manager of Special Projects and Environmental Services for the East Side Road Authority (ESRA)*

- Mike Lau, *Lead Project Manager for Dillon Consulting Limited (Dillon)*

- Dennis Heinrichs, *Environmental Project Manager for Dillon Consulting Limited (Dillon)*
Questions?

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