



Maniilaq Association  
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August 5, 2009

### **SELAWIK BROWNFIELD VISIT:**

The Native Village of Selawik met with Maniilaq Environmental Program Manager and TRP coordinator today at 11am to discuss potential Brownfields Sites, we used maps provided by the Northwest Arctic Borough to the Selawik IRA Council.

There are \*four sites of concern that the Selawik IRA Council and two IGAP Coordinator suggested be documented as inventory by the Maniilaq TEP. The following selected sites may or may not meet criteria of a “Brownfield” as defined however all are included in this report as Brownfield Inventory as requested.

1. Old AVEC Tank Farm, the old generator building and connex containers near the school.
2. \*An old plane under the Selawik River, lodged to the river bottom
3. Old sewage lagoon near the Selawik River and partially active dumpsite on the riverbank.
4. \*Old metal containers left on the banks of Selawik River, used for docking when DOT built the new airport.
5. \*Abandoned 55 gallon drums outside of the washeteria building
6. \*Abandoned barge landing post in Selawik River



Native Village of Selawik (Aerial photo July ‘2008’ by Maniilaq TEP)

## History and concerns for each of the sites:

### **Old Alaska Village Electric Co-op (AVEC)**

Old AVEC Tank Farm, old generator building and the connex containers near the old AVEC building have been left by AVEC to sit and rot in their current settings. The old tank farm containment is laid flat and appears to have been non-functional. The fumes that obviously leaked onto the ground is more noticeable during the summer months. This tank farm is approximately 75 yards from the school building, and within the proximity of the Selawik IRA and Selawik City offices. A portion of the tanks have been removed and placed at the docking area, where barges come to off load.

The old AVEC building and their storage containers have been abandoned as is, and is located approximately 100 yards NW of the old tank farm. Two partial diesel generators remain inside along

with the building material which appears to have been vandalized inside the building. The outer structure seems pretty sturdy. The foundation is holding up on its own, however, there has been some mitigation to

the middle section. Mitigation includes extra pilings added to the middle section which seems to have lost its foundation to sunken ground.



Selawik Abandoned AVEC Tank Farm near school building



Contents in abandoned AVEC Power Plant bldg



Selawik Abandoned AVEC Power Plant and storage containers

## **Old plane sunken under water in the Selawik River**

An old DC-6 cargo plane which is under water in the Selawik River, which according to the local IRA Council, has been sunken for at least 20 years. The local concerns includes leaching of the contents of cargo plane which is possibly diesel fuel, haphazard conditions for river boats, and the fact that a body, which perished one fishing season, got lodged at the bottom of the plane and couldn't be retrieved until a searcher hooked it during a search.



Site of the old abandoned DC-6 plane sunken under Selawik River

## **Old Disposed metal landing docks on the Selawik River Banks**

These old disposed metal landing docks were left by a construction company who built the new airport for Selawik. They were used for barge hauling of the gravel for the new airport. After the project was complete, the metal landing docks were left on the river bank. As time went on, river ice break up caused the metal landing docks to be carried to three different locations. In one spot, there are 6 metal landing docks, 500 feet down river is another landing dock, and another metal landing dock got carried to the Siktaqvik River and is sitting half in water and half above water. This particular metal landing dock poses as a haphazard to snow machiners during the winter months. These metal landing docks appears to be rusted brown, about 12 ft x 6 ft each in size. These landing docks have been left on the river bank for approximately 10 yrs now.



Selawik Abandoned landing docks in Selawik River bank



This old clunker is a haphazard during the winter months.



## **Old dumpsite and sewage lagoon**

The old dumpsite down river was built in the 1970's. It should no longer have been used, but people without a snow machine and/or ATV uses their boat to dump their solid waste. Within the proximity of the old dumpsite are two fish camps, one belonging to an elder widow, and the other, to a local Elders' camp. The widow still harvests fish out of the river near her fish camp. The city owned the old dumpsite and the old sewage lagoon. The sewage lagoon is located across the new AVEC tank farms, behind the school. The old sewage lagoon is about 50 yards from the river which flows to the widow's fish camp. The old sewage lagoon is also near the school's play ground.



Selawik Abandoned Sewage Lagoon near the school playground and within 50 yds of the Selawik River.



Abandoned old dumpsite in Selawik River

## **Abandoned 55 gallon tanks outside of the washeteria building.**

There are approximately 20 abandoned 55 gallon tanks that contained Dowfrost 4060 chemical. They are within 100 feet from the school building.



Selawik Abandoned 55 gallons drums on the Washeteria porch, more are around the building.

## Abandoned Metal Barge Post in Selawik River

When the bridges were being built, there was huge metal post lodged in the river banks to hold the barges that hauled in the bridge material. The metal barge posts are now rusting and falling into the river. The city, nor any of the barges, uses this metal barge post anymore. The barges don't come that far into the river.



**Abandoned Metal Barge Post in Selawik River**























