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September 5, 2009

Submitted by: Stanley Tomaszewski; Brownfield Coordinator

Subject: Shungnak Brownfield Inventory visit 9/01/09.

**Upon arrival** Maniilaq Assoc. Brownfield Coordinator met with IGAP Coordinator James Commack to assist with Brownfield Inventory and back haul-recycling activities, Went over his completed survey forms and aerial map segments provided during April, 09 workshop held in Kotzebue. Selected probable contaminated sites list in order of priority follows:

1. **Shungnak Native Store Bulk Fuel Tank Farm (Active)-** Tank farm was constructed sometime during the “mid-70’s” and consists of eleven steel, single wall constructed storage tanks of 5,000 gl. (approx.) volume each, with adequate bolstering. This tank farm for bulk storage gasoline and stove oil is located mid-town next to the Native Store and separated by side road (Note- side road contains phone/power pole easement middle of road!) from AVEC power plant and support bulk fuel storage tanks, Water Treatment Plant and storage tank 200 ft. distance. Homes are located front and rear of facility only separated by unpaved road. Tank farm is fenced with security gate and earthen berm containment, liner not observed. Fuel dispensing for gasoline sales via typical metered pump housed in small plywood shed located, outside fence enclosure, off frontage roadway, no provision for spill containment. Recent persistent rains and water saturated soil obscured any visible indication of possible petroleum contamination thereon. **Residents concern regarding environmental and related health risks include** “Benzene emissions blowing into residences, residents breathing it in. Too close to town and concerned about children’s safety and **FIRE HAZARD**”. Additionally, a “small spill reported (40 gl. est.) and clean up was done, after former IGAP reported to DEC, maybe in “2000”, cleanup measures not revealed, residents submit being able to “still smell (gasoline or stove oil?) in the spring.” Prevailing wind direction and proximity to power generation facility **exhaust fumes**, made difficult detection smell of gasoline or “stove oil”, none was noted this day. Regarding phone/power pole easement location, understand vehicle impacted one pole causing it to loosen/tilt, subsequent repair (not to vehicle) exposed “petroleum at base of pole”. Further, James reports some long time and elder residents of homes “nearest to tank farm suffer from chronic arthritis type symptoms and even stroke(s)”. Local historical information suggests prior to current use served as “a trail to get to the old airport.” Possible redevelopment plans include “community picnic area” and some type of “ball court”.



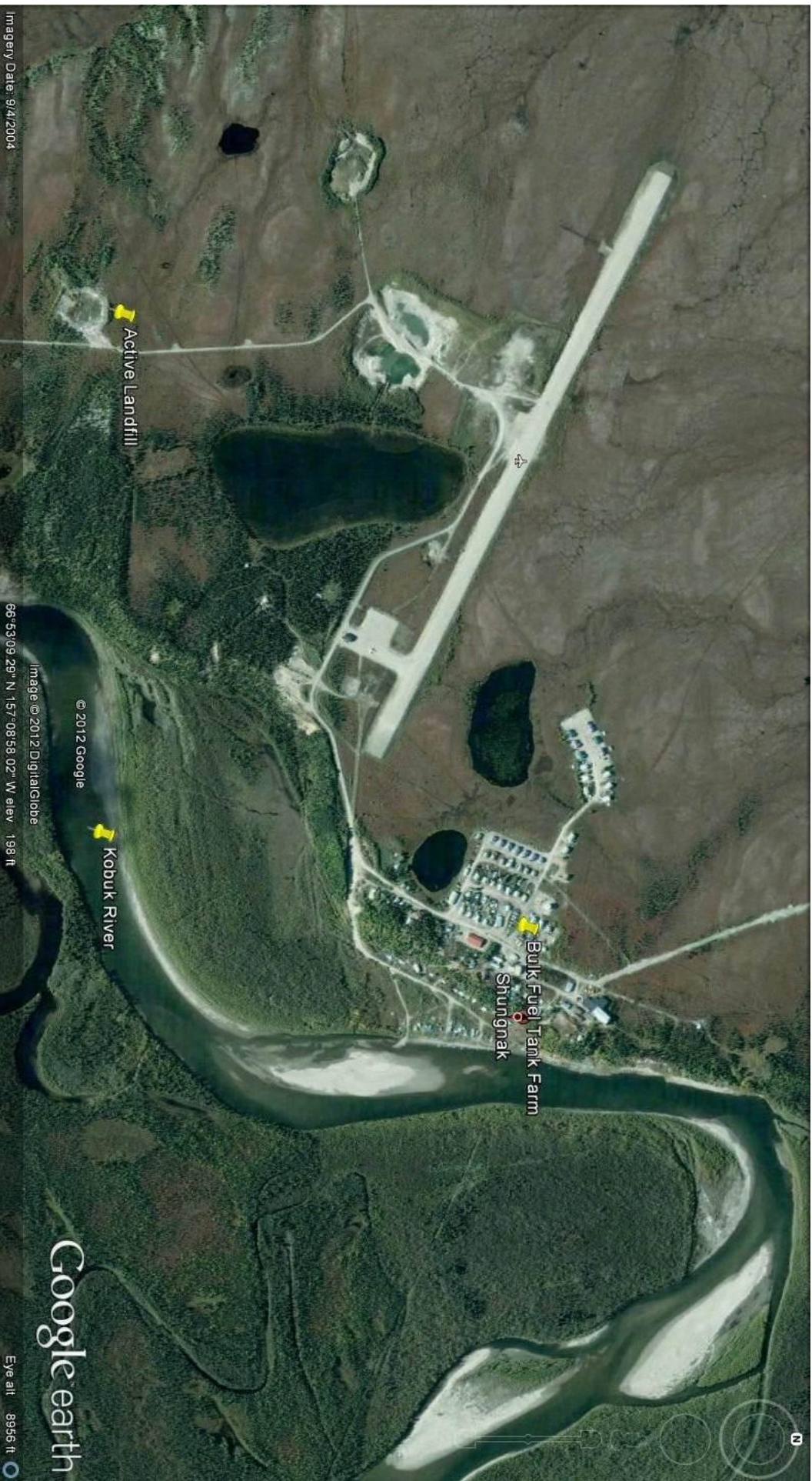
Shungnak Native Store Tank Farm and Gas Pump House

2. **Shungnak Landfill (Active)**- Constructed mid 70's and located approx. one half mile due south of airport equipment bldg. and one mile (est.) south west of community. This "dump" is "within 1,000 ft., or so, of cemetery and a Native allotment" which requires residents travel past the dump whenever visiting graves site. Understand that preliminary planning for new landfill location has it sited some "2.2-2.4 miles north of town" placing it within permitting requirements for distances from airports and communities, other stuff. **Presently**- active dump is self-haul; site access is unrestricted all hours of the day or week with perimeter fencing three sides only leaving a wide-open entrance (no gate). This condition allows prevailing wind blow debris across road collecting in vegetation that side. Further, site controls any form are non-existent and overall maintenance condition is poor. Refuse not being pushed to back of dump where plenty space remains available, garbage not being compacted/covered allowing (huge) pileup completely restricting entrance thereby creating the mess in front, vectors. No burn box or equivalent on site and is evidence of open burning on ground which creates fire hazard to heavily vegetated site location (trees). James informs heavy equipment (bulldozer) sometimes available for dump maintenance "has damaged gearbox limiting forward speed to a creep taking half a day to get to dump" ...concern of vandalism precludes leaving dozer unattended "operator would have to camp out at dump", not happening. Time frame for new dump construction "best estimate...four to five years". Redevelopment-Reuse- ?



Shungnak Landfill





Imagery Date: 9/4/2004

Active Landfill

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66°53'09.29" N 157°08'58.02" W elev. 198 ft

Kobuk River

Bulk Fuel Tank Farm

Shungnak

Google earth

Eye alt: 8956 ft



