

**Classement CCEK**

**Titre** Station d'observation météo (Cap Hopes)

**Type** Dossiers Environnementaux

**Date D'ouverture**

**Notes** Station météorologique installée en 1928 par le gouvernement canadien, localisée sur la pointe de Cap Hopes. Laissée en abandon depuis 1971.  
Document expliquant l'historique de Cap Hopes.



LPA

société Makivik corporation

May 5, 1995

Mr. Pierre Boisvert  
Regional Director  
Canadian Coast Guard  
Quebec, Quebec  
G1K 4B8

FAX 418-648-4758

Dear Mr. Boisvert,

In 1928 a weather observation station was built by the federal government at Cape Hopes Advance in Arctic Quebec. The station was situated on the 250 meter cliffs overlooking the eastern entrance to Hudson Strait and the northwestern sector of Ungava Bay. The facilities were operated until 1971 when it was abandoned and the observation equipment relocated to the nearby community of Quaqaq.

The site at Cape Hopes Advance contained a number of buildings, in addition to a considerable amount of equipment and materials. Initially, it was assumed by the community that these materials would be removed and that the site would be restored. In the years following the closing it became obvious that the materials were not going to be removed and no remedial works were to be undertaken. Community representatives attempted to make inquiries but these seem to have been lost in the shifting jurisdictions between the federal government agencies and their regional administrative structures.

In recent years there have been major improvements to the municipal infrastructure, housing, transportation, communications, health services, education and local government services in Quaqaq. People are now taking a pride in their community. However when residents or tourists visit the very scenic cliffs at Cape Hopes Advance they are confronted with the abandoned buildings, the rubbish and the debris left by federal government agencies.

Recent observations at the site have noted that two buildings are still standing, while a third building has collapsed. The buildings and the immediate area are littered with wood and metal debris including radio equipment, batteries, two large fuel reservoirs, antennas some of which are still standing, three generators, fencing and approximately 80 fuel

drums. At the base of the cliffs at the edge of the bay there are more fuel drums and debris. Attached are copies of photographs that give some indication of the deplorable condition of the site.

The environment in Nunavik is one of our most precious resources. The importance of the environment for the Inuit is reflected in Chapter 23 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement which establishes an environmental and social protection regime.

Makivik Corporation, which represents the Inuit of Nunavik, in collaboration with Kativik Regional Government and the organizations created under the JBNQA has provided support to the communities with respect to their environmental concerns whether it be impact assessment or to remediate specific environmental conditions.

In this context the Mayor of Quaqtuaq, Mrs. Eva Deer, has requested that Makivik provide assistance in communicating with the responsible agency in order to initiate a solution to the situation at Cape Hopes Advance.

As the Canadian Coast Guard was the government agency responsible for the operation of the station, please consider this a formal request to initiate measures to clean up this site.

I have requested that Michael Barrett of our Kuujjuaq office respond to any specific questions you or your representatives might have regarding this request. He can be contacted at 819-964-2925 or by fax at 819-964-2613.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter,

Jackie Koneak  
Second Vice President  
Renewable Natural Resources  
Makivik Corporation

cc Eva Deer  
Mayor, Corporation of the Northern Village of Quaqtuaq

Jean Dupuis  
Chairperson, Kativik Regional Government

Philippe DiPizzo  
Chairperson, Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee

## La station météorologique de Cape Hopes Advance

Localisée sur la pointe de Cape Hopes (séparant la baie Diana et l'extrémité nord-ouest de la baie d'Ungava) à environ cinq kilomètres à l'est de Quaqtq, la station météorologique a été installée en 1928 par le gouvernement canadien (Ministère de l'Environnement du Canada). Elle a été en opération jusqu'en 1971 et fut occupée, durant ces 43 années d'opération, par quelques familles inuit et le personnel.

Laisée à l'abandon depuis 1971, elle a subi les affres du climat et du vandalisme. Le site surplombant la mer et étant, par son altitude ( $\pm 250$  mètres), très exposé aux vents, le transport à distance de débris est évident. La baie qui le borde à l'est est quant à lui jonché de débris divers. Notons que le site est fréquemment utilisé par les chasseurs de Quaqtq.

Il reste sur place un ensemble d'équipement et de structures dont :

- 1 génératrice – 3 moteurs (non couverts)
- 2 citernes
- 2 antennes de communication et leurs structures de soutien
- 3 bâtiments «debout»
- 2 fondations de bâtiments (& les débris d'un de ces bâtiments)
- 2 chenilles à neige
- environ 75 barils (contenu inconnu)
- batteries
- nombreux appareils électroniques
- débris divers (bois, métal, etc.)

En ce qui a trait à la propriété, le site est à l'extérieur des limites municipales de Quaqtq, bien qu'il soit à l'intérieur des terres de catégorie I de cette même municipalité. Après avoir discuté avec un représentant du MEF, il n'est pas clair qui a la responsabilité du site. Il n'existe pas, à ma connaissance, de dossier au secrétariat du Comité sur le sujet.