Little Dome C

Beyond EPICA Oldest Ice Drilling Site (75.29917 °S, 122.44516 °E)

Situation Report #3, 19. November 2025

Personnel @LDC:

Gianluca Bianchi Fasani (ENEA, Camp Leader), Katrin Ederer (AWI), Matthias Hüther (AWI, Chief Driller), Marion Lahuec (IPEV), Gunther Lawer (AWI), Johannes Lemburg (AWI), Barbara Seth (UNIBE), Mohammad Vafadarmianvelayat (AWI), Chiara Venier (CNR-ISP), Sergio Zannini (ENEA)

Personnel @DC:

Philippe Possenti (CNRS)

Personnel @MZS:

Carlo Barbante (CNR-ISP, PI in the field)

Weather at LDC: sunny; windy and cold in the morning, less in the afternoon Meteo at DC 10 pm: T = -38.4°C, Wind speed = 8.6 kt, Windchill T = -52°C, Humidity = 64 %



In spite of the fact that most of us still have to adapt to the altitude we had a quite busy day today. The second big heater in the women's tent was installed by the AWI team members. Thanks to them we will have no more freezing nights. Marion was still busy organising the many boxes of the LDC hospital inventory. We now have a dishwashing schedule and a cleaning schedule. Gianluca started already to clean up in the ITASE module after the mess with the water pump, and Barbara started the cleaning in the red shower module. Sergio worked hard clearing the camp with the PB and filling all the tanks with fuel. Chiara was busy with administrative issues for BEOI, especially with the upcoming press release. Late morning the Arctic truck arrived with Matthias, our chief driller, and now we are ten in camp, only two missing for the full team! With Matthias came Angelo, Clémens and two electricians (Pascal and Mario) from Concordia who fixed the problem with the power supply box and now we have power in the drill tent !!!

For lunch we had a very delicious quiche, freshly delivered from the Concordia chefs, much appreciated! In the afternoon we could start opening the drill tent. The roof was opened (the slit where the drill tower looks out while in vertical position) and the huge blanket was removed from the horizontally positioned tower and the winch. Many hands helped to empty the +4 container with all the equipment that was kept at temperatures above zero over the Antarctic winter, for instance electronic equipment for the drill or the science trench. All these boxes were distributed in camp wherever the box content is needed in the coming days. After unpacking some boxes already and starting to install some electronic equipment, we realised how tired and hungry we were and decided to finish work for the day. The ten of us enjoyed a phantastic dinner and learned never to believe an Italian who claims not to be able to cook!

























Katrin, Mohammad, Gunther and Lemmi installing the big heater in the women's tent. Photo: M. Vafadarmianvelayat

























Chiara and Marion are busy in the main tent. Photo: B. Seth



Lemmi, Mohammad and Gunther opening the roof of the drill tent. Photo: B. Seth

GBF, BS & MH; LDC, 19.11.2025























