

TO NEEM/EGRIP PARTNERS, DANISH AND GREENLANDIC AUTHORITIES.

PROJECT NEEM/EGRIP (C-15-7) – SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) no.06, Sunday 31. May 2015.

This SITREP covers the period May 25 – May 31, 2015 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

Pat Smith (U.S. GrIT), Dorte Dahl Jensen(DK), Nanna Karlsson(DK), Paul Vallelonga(AUS/DK), Helle Astrid Kjær(DK), Sverrir Hilmarsson(IS), Anna Winther(D), Sepp Kipfstuhl(D) Mathias Brejnebl(DK), Joel Pedro(AUS/DK) and J.P.Steffensen(DK) from 76 06' N, 40 18' W to EGRIP (75 38' N, 36 00' W) by traverse.

Movement of cargo:

Approx. 120 ton of cargo from 76 06' N, 40 18' W to EGRIP by traverse. 2 sleds and two empty tanks (approx. 30 ton) were left at 76 06' N, 40 18' W for pick up next year.

Activities: Tuesday, 26 May the traverse reached EGRIP, after driving 75 km Monday and 53 km Tuesday. The travelling speed of the traverse increased dramatically after leaving two sleds and two tanks behind. There were two reasons for abandoning the sleds: Soft snow, that made it necessary to haul the heavy loads with two tractors in a shuttle, and the shortage of fuel. We simply did not have fuel (or time) for running two tractors the same distance three times. The fuel consumption has been higher than expected due to the heavy load and the soft snow (37.80 liter/ km). Without the heavy sleds, we managed to enter an area where the snow conditions got better and after that, the traverse made good time. However, on arrival, we did not have enough fuel to send Pat and his GrIT tractor and sled onwards to Summit. We have requested one more flight than the planned two with LC-130 flight with extra fuel on 2.June. On Thursday we received a Twin Otter from the U.S. CIRES (Abdalati) group and GEUS. They setup an automatic snow deformation station. They did not stay overnight.

Camp setup came at these stages:

Tuesday: Dorte Dahl-Jensen picked the final spot for the future EGRIP camp.

Wednesday: Camp area surveyed and location of all future structures marked.

Thursday: Survey and marking of EGRIP skiway and apron completed. Berm for mechanics garage finished. GrIT sled unpacked and cargo set in cargo line. Grooming of skiway begins.

Friday: Berm for mechanics garage and main dome finished. Grooming continues.

Saturday: Mechanics garage completed. GrIT sled ready for departure. Now just waiting for fuel.

Sunday: Moved dome to final position. Built a pallet with cargo (ice samples) for the Monday, 1 June plane.

Drilling: One 10m ice core has been drilled at EGRIP.

Science: A GPS strain net has been setup around EGRIP. The British Antarctic Survey, Hugh Corr, radar has been tested at EGRIP. Snow samples have been collected on site.

Weather on Traverse and at EGRIP: Weather continues to cooperate. Except for few high clouds, mainly clear days. Winds during the period calm - 7 m/s and temperatures between -13C and -27C.

Traverse and now EGRIP population: 11.

NEEM iridium numbers:

Primary no.: +8816 777 37835

Secondary no: +8816 234 93272

Kangerlussuaq:

The NEEM/EGRIP FOM office in Kangerlussuaq was manned again Thursday. We remain in contact by satellite internet, and we send daily reports also to our U.S. counterparts CPS polar services in Kangerlussuaq.

Tel.: +299 84 11 51

Mobile: +299 52 41 25 (this phone is automatically passed on to Lars Berg Larsen, who is currently in Copenhagen)

Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ:

NEEM Field Leader,

J. P. Steffensen