Climate Change, Arctic Shipping, the IMO and Inuit

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL
Ship Tracks in the Arctic

Image 1 2016 NORDREG Reporting Zone
Image 2 taken from September 2019 National Geographic

Black Carbon’s Arctic Impact

Black carbon, commonly known as soot, is a particulate pollutant that negatively affects both the climate and human health. Soot particles suspended in the atmosphere absorb sunlight, adding to global warming. And when it collects on ice and snow, it hastens melting.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF BLACK CARBON

- Particulates trapped in lungs leads to illness
- Clean clouds reflect sunlight
- Sooty clouds absorb sunlight, creating changes in cloud and rain patterns
- Clean snow and ice reflect sunlight
- Black carbon particles absorb sunlight, warming the snow and ice, increasing melting

CAUSES
- Smoke from open burning
- Industry and coal-fired power plants
- Engine emissions (diesel, ships, trains)

Note: Illustration is diagrammatic and not to scale.

SOURCES: InsideClimate News research
Inuit participation in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

- Expert reviewer
- Contributing author
- First official Indigenous Peoples Organization to gain Observer status
As the united voice of Inuit at the international level, the ICC has a proven track record of successful collaboration with numerous United Nations programmes and agencies, that have varied from environmental stewardship efforts to human rights to climate change to sustainable development. Within these UN initiatives, our organization has played a vital role in the transfer of otherwise inaccessible information. We continue to seek opportunities to further this role. Together with the IMO, the ICC believes that the Arctic can be managed in a way that respects Inuit and our culture, language, flora, fauna, the Arctic Ocean, and its coastal seas while balancing its use in the context of increased marine traffic.
Moving Forward
Qujannamiik - Nakurmiik - Ma’na - Quanaqquinitit

www.inuitcircumpolar.com