



June 5, 2007

111 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, ON K1N 1J1

Dr. Robert Fournier, Chair
Whites Point Quarry and
Marine Terminal Project
Jointe Review Panel
www.wpq-jointreview.ca

Dear Dr. Fournier:

Re: Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada Participation in Whites Point Quarry and Marine and Marine Terminal Project Hearing

Thank-you for your letter of May 11, 2007 requesting that representatives of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) appear before the Joint Review Panel on June 19, 2007. You indicated that the Joint Panel would like the Department, *“to present its views on environmental effects associated with the project, with specific reference to any influence that Chapter 11 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) may have on the management of the project’s potential environmental effects and the siting of future coastal quarry projects.”*

DFAIT will be represented at the hearing on June 19th, 2007 by Mr. Gilles Gauthier, Director of the Investment Trade Policy Division. Mr. Gauthier will provide the Joint Panel and hearing participants with an overview of Chapter 11 (Investment) of the NAFTA, including the relevance of these rules for government regulation of projects operating in Canada. DFAIT acknowledges the magnitude of the responsibility of the Panel to make a determination on the significance of adverse environmental effects of the Project and a recommendation as to whether the Project should be approved. However, it is beyond the scope of this Department's participation in the hearing proceedings to take a position on the potential environmental effects associated with the Whites Point Quarry and Marine Terminal Project or the siting of any future coastal quarry projects. We would be pleased to answer any questions about Chapter 11 of NAFTA or anything else within the purvue of our office.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Jennifer Shames, Senior Policy Advisor, Sustainable Development Division at (613) 944-1093.

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Yours sincerely,

Keith Christie
Director General
Environment, Energy and
Sustainable Development Bureau

cc: Pamela O'Donnell, Director, Sustainable Development Division; Jennifer Shames, Senior Policy Advisor, Sustainable Development Division; Gilles Gauthier, Director, Investment Trade Policy Division; Vernon MacKay, Deputy Director, Investment Trade Policy Division; Bruce Mann, Justice Legal Services Division; Debra Myles, Panel Secretariat, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency