



**Department of  
Environment & Labour**

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*Our File Number:*

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40100-30-67

Office of the Minister \_\_\_\_\_

AUG 03 2006

Calum MacKenzie  
Middleton, NS

maljud.mackenzie@ns.sympatico.ca

Dear Mr. MacKenzie:

Thank you for your e-mail of July 20, 2006 regarding the Digby Neck Quarry Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As you know, the project is currently undergoing an environmental assessment review to evaluate its potential effects on the environment.

In November of 2004 an agreement was signed between the Minister of Environment and Labour and the federal Minister of Environment for a Joint Panel Review of the proposed quarry and marine terminal. The joint panel process is the most rigorous environmental assessment review possible for a project of this nature. The review is being conducted by an independent panel of experts who will hold public hearings, evaluate the issues, and provide a recommendation to both levels of government. During the review, both federal and provincial staff from a number of departments, including both the Department of Environment and Labour and the Department of Natural Resources, are asked to provide comments on the EIS. In addition, the public is also invited to submit their comments.

The review panel is currently awaiting submission of comments on the EIS which are due by August 4, 2006. All submitted comments can be viewed at <http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca>. I note that you have forwarded your concerns with the project to the joint review panel. Participation of concerned citizens is essential in ensuring that the panel has all the information it requires to prepare a recommendation to both governments.

I thank you for informing me about your concerns.

Sincerely,

*Original Signed By*

**Mark Parent  
Minister**

c: Hon. David M. Morse, Minister of Natural Resources  
Stephen McNeil, MLA  
Leo Glavine, MLA  
Harold Jr. Theriault, MLA

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