

Cheryl 40100-34-70



Environment and Labour
Office of the Minister

PO Box 697
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3J 2T8

Our File Number:
10700-40
92100-30/YAR-026397

APR 11 2003



Mr. Fred Ganley
1106 N. Inglewood Street
Arlington, VA 22205

Dear Mr. Ganley:

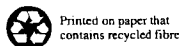
Thank you for your letter dated March 9, 2003, in which you express your concerns regarding the development of a quarry at Whites Cove. We appreciate the fact that you have taken time to express your concern over this project.

Currently, an Approval has been granted for a quarry on Digby Neck under the *Nova Scotia Activities Designation Regulations*; however, it cannot exceed four (4) hectares. The Approval contains Terms and Conditions which the company must follow in order to mitigate environmental effects. These Terms and Conditions are in place to address issues such as noise, blast vibration, air and water quality, and to require rehabilitation of the area once work is finished.

Any future plans of the proponent to expand the quarry beyond the four (4) hectares will trigger the *Nova Scotia Environmental Assessment Regulations*. The proponent must successfully complete the environmental assessment process before they can expand the facility.

These regulations require an evaluation of a wide scope of issues, including both environmental and socio-economic effects. Issues such as jobs, effects to the community and natural environment are some of the items that would be reviewed under an environmental assessment process. Also, the public is given a formal opportunity to provide comments on the company's environmental assessment submission. The Department must then decide, based on information submitted by stakeholders and regulators, as well as the proponent's submission, whether the project is approved, rejected, or if more information or further review is required.

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Thus far, no approvals have been granted for any docking facilities in the Bay of Fundy which would facilitate shipping. Such approvals, if sought, would be granted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada and would have to undergo their screening and evaluation process.

In the event that the company registers the project under the Environmental Assessment process, I encourage all stakeholders, such as yourself, to participate in the public review of the company's registration document in order to have input before an environmental assessment decision is made. This registration would be advertised in newspapers and be available for review at locations in the community, as well as on our website at www.gov.ns.ca/enla.

You may wish to join the Environmental Assessment Mailing List by visiting our website at www.gov.ns.ca/enla/ess/ea/. This will enable you to receive notification of new environmental assessment project registrations and Ministerial decisions. Other information about the EA process can be found at this site as well.

I trust this information is helpful. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Kim MacNeil, Western Regional Manager, at (902) 679-6086.

With personal regards,

Original Signed By

Ronald S. Russell, CD
Minister
MLA - Hants West

cc: Hon. Gordon Balsler, MLA
Ron L'Esperance, Deputy Minister
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