

Report

Application For Approval

**Nova Stone Exporters, Inc
Quarry
Little River, Digby County**


Application Number: 2002-025483

File Number: 92100-30

Western Region


Middleton

**B Petrie
District Manager**



**Robert L. Balcom P.Eng.
Regional Engineer**

Date



Date

**Brad Langille
Inspector Specialist**

Date

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Introduction: To evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with the operation by Nova Stone Exporters, Inc of a quarry at Little River, Digby County. The proposed Quarry is located on map series 21B /8, grid reference E727200 N4927500, PID # 30161160.

Discussion: The Approval Holder, Nova Stone Exporters, Inc, intends to utilize the area on an as needed basis to meet their requirements. The disturbed area will be approximately 10 acres. It is planned that the project will expand beyond the 10 acres. Total leased area is about 350 acres. Approximately one million tons per year of crushed rock will be shipped from the quarry.

There will be the normal stockpiling of processed material and the normal processing associated with a quarry operation (ie crushing, washing and screening). A ship loading facility will be constructed in the cove. No information about the ship loading facilities was supplied with the application. Federal authorities will be evaluating the ship loading facilities. It appears that Federal officials may require a full Environmental assessment of the project.

This Facility will be operated on lands leased by the Approval Holder.

The proposed quarry area is less than four hectares and therefore is not subject to registration under the Environmental Assessment Regulations. A term and condition has been included in the Approval requiring registration if the area exceeds the four hectare limit.

The quarry meets the minimum separation distance of 800 metres from a structure. There are no watercourses in the immediate vicinity of the quarry. The remainder of the proposed area of operation covered by this approval will meet/exceed the 15 metre separation distance from other adjoining properties.

The proposed area of operation covered by this approval will meet all of the separation distances as specified in the pit and quarry guidelines.

Environmental Effects:

The main environmental effects associated with the proposed operation are noise, dust, surface runoff, blasting, and rehabilitation and the effect that the blasting operations will have on the marine mammals in the Bay of Fundy. It may be necessary to restrict blasting in the quarry to when the Right Whales are not in the Bay of Fundy. The North Atlantic Right Whales are an endangered species that have been hunted to near extinction by mankind. Under water concussion from the on shore blasting has not been defined in the application.

Air Emissions (Dust) & Noise:

Environmental effect from noise and dust on land are expected to be minimal as the proposed area meets the required minimum separation distances from the nearest residential dwelling and is surrounded by undeveloped lands. Noise and dust will be further restricted to the limits set forth in the Department of Environment and Labour pit and quarry guidelines and shall be monitored at the Department's request.

Surface Runoff:

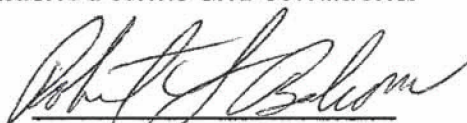
Environmental effect from surface runoff will be controlled via quarry grading and siltation ponds so that surface runoff is retained prior to discharge. There is no watercourse in the immediate vicinity of the quarry except a wetland that appeared to have been developed from previous excavations in the area.

Surface water runoff from the quarry operation will be restricted to the limits in the Department of Environment and Labour pit and quarry guidelines. Surface runoff will be monitored by the Approval Holder reports being submitted to the Department.

Blasting: The site of the proposed quarry meets the departments guideline for separation from the nearest residence of 800 metres. Blasting operations will be restricted to the limits in the Department of Environment and Labour pit and quarry guidelines. Each Blast will be monitored by the approval holder with periodic reports being submitted to the Department. The approval holder has indicated that they will monitor the effect that the quarry blasts on marine mammals in the Bay. The applicant has not supplied any information that would indicate what affect blasting will have on the whales in the Bay of Fundy.

Rehabilitation: The Approval Holder plans to immediately restore all disturbed areas via grading and vegetation once extraction has been completed.

Recommendation: Nova Stone Exporters, Inc application for the operation of a Quarry at Little River, Digby County, can be approved subject to the attached terms and conditions.



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Regional Engineer

