



P.O. Box 1006  
Dartmouth, NS  
B2Y 4A2

September 30, 2002

Mr. Bob Petrie  
NS Department of Environment and Labour  
13 First Street  
Yarmouth, NS  
B5A 1S9

Your file    Votre référence

Our file    Notre référence  
DEPT. OF THE ENVIRONMENT

OCT - 3 2002  
YARMOUTH DISTRICT  
OFFICE  
YARMOUTH, N.S.

Dear Bob:

Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) has conducted a preliminary review of the Whites Cove Quarry-Blasting Plan, Sept. 17, 2002 (02-W8-412).

It is our opinion that, although the plan seems to be within the *Guidelines for the use of explosives in or near Canadian fisheries waters*, there is insufficient detail to make an assessment on its effects on threatened or endangered marine mammals that may be present at various times of the year. In addition, there is no indication of what monitoring the proponent will undertake to ensure they are within the limits of the guidelines, or how they will determine that the area is free of species of concern before detonating a blast.

To adequately assess this blasting plan we would require information on:

- the number and velocity of detonations
- when the detonations are to occur and over what period of time
- what the bottom topography is made up of (shale, mud rock etc.)

The proponent should understand that this letter does not release them from the responsibility to obtain any other approvals that may be required under federal, provincial or municipal legislation.

If you require additional information or clarification please call me at (902)426-6111.

Sincerely,

Jim Ross  
Section Head  
Habitat Management Division

cc: T. Wheaton

