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Ref No.: 608-01-2707310
October 29, 2007

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Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
10 Wellington Street, 28th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec
K1A 0H3

NS Environment and Labour
6th Floor, 5151 Terminal Road
P.O. Box 697
Halifax, NS
B3J 2T8

Honourable Ministers Baird and Parent:

Subject: Environmental Assessment of the Whites Point Quarry and Marine Terminal Project – Joint Panel Review Report

I am a consultant to Bilcon of Nova Scotia and have been providing engineering services related to the shipping facilities for the proposed Whites Point Quarry. I have now been advised that the panel has recommended against the project proceeding. At great expense to Bilcon, I was asked to fly across Canada and be available on the first day of the Joint Panel hearings (June 16, 2007). I must express my disappointment at the proceedings. After sitting almost all day, I was finally asked one simple question related to the shiploading facilities. I was prepared to answer many more questions, but for whatever reason the panel chose not to question me further. I have not yet read every word in the panel's report, but I note reference to unanswered questions about shiploading and shipping. I wish I had been asked about some of them.

On a personal note, having been in the consulting business for forty years and participated in many environmental reviews and attended many panel and public hearings, I was not prepared for, what seemed to me, an almost hostile attitude to Bilcon. My understanding is that it has taken five years to get to this point. For a simple quarry in a sparsely inhabited area with the product to be shipped by sea, this is quite unreal. I hope that the ministers will overrule the panel on this one.

Yours truly,
Seabulk Systems Inc.

Carlos Johansen
Vice-President, Marine

c.c. Premier R. MacDonald, Government of Nova Scotia
Minister D. Morse, NS Natural Resources
Bruce Young, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA)

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