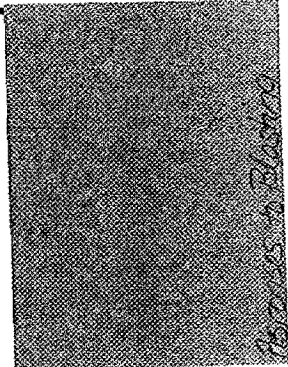


Rose, Tammy Lee Anne

From: Galante, Rosalia: PWGSC
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2004 3:14 PM
To: Rose, Tammy Lee Anne
Cc: Potter, Ted; Zamora, Phil
Subject: RE: RE: Tiverton Blasting Plan (03-SCH-015)



Response for -
Comments Concern...



FINAL CEAA Tiverton
(Jan 30) d...

Hi Tammy,

Attached are my responses to your concerns (with the blasting plan and Issue B14 of the CEAA Screening):

and attached here is the Final CEAA Screening (Jan 30) document (with changes made):

Just to let you know - I changed text in VEC Table under Bird/Bird Habitat VEC. I reworded the last Potential Effect under that VEC to "Deposit of dredged material on beaches or adjacent bird habitat could generate habitat too close to human contact" so that tables fit/flow better (better row breaks).

The page numbering remains the same, i.e. the signature page (Page 33) remains, so you can print pages 1 - 32 and replace pages within the original copy that you are still in possession of (at this time).

Rosalia

-----Original Message-----

From: Rose, Tammy Lee Anne
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2004 1:02 PM
To: Rosalia Galante
Cc: Potter, Ted; Zamora, Phil
Subject: RE: Tiverton Blasting Plan (03-SCH-015)
Importance: High

Hi Rosalia,

As discussed on Friday, the following attachment indicates concerns I have with the blasting plan and issue B14 of the environmental screening for Tiverton-Harbour Development. If you have any questions concerning the attachment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

Tammy

Tammy Rose
Habitat Assessment Biologist
Habitat Management Division, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth
Phone: (902) 426-0379
Fax: (902) 426-1489
Email: RoseT@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
<< File: Comments Concerning Blasting Plan for Tiverton.doc >>

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BLASTING ACTIVITIES at Tiverton, Digby County, NS

Blasting Plan for Tiverton Harbour Development

1. *We reserve the right to modify our blast design in order to meet our responsibilities with the project specifications with regards to ground vibration and air concussion, as well as quality of rock being produced.*

The blasting plan can not be modified once it has been reviewed and approved by DFO-HMD. If changes to the blasting plan are made, without a proper review by DFO-HMD, the proponent may be in violation of Section 32 of the *Fisheries Act*, to destroy fish by means other than fishing. Destroying fish by means other than fishing requires a Section 32 Authorization. Authorising such activities is a law list trigger under CEAA meaning Authorizing this action may trigger an environmental assessment pursuant to CEAA.

2. *All blasting operation will be carried out in compliance with DFO's "Guidelines for the Use of Explosives In or Near Canadian Fisheries Waters".*

This statement should make reference to document entitled **FACTSHEET Blasting-Fish and Fish Habitat Protection**, which was given to Public Works and Government Services on January 9, 2004.

The PWGSC Project Manager (Paul Rowe, P.Eng.) is in the process of contacting Archibald Drilling and Blasting for a revised Blasting Plan. Once received it will be forwarded to you ASAP.

Environmental Screening Use of Explosives Issue B14

The document refers to the *Environmental Screening for Harbour Development (Breakwater, Floating Docks, Dredging and Service Area) at Tiverton, Digby County, Nova Scotia dated January 2004.*

1. The document does not indicate how the proponent plans to protect fish from the blasting activities. Although it indicates that the proponent will mitigate for species at risk (i.e. The blasting window of January to April), it does indicate how the proponent will scare fish from the proposed blasting area or how the proponent plans to minimise the impacts of the blasting on fish and fish habitat outside the blasting area.
 - Scaring fish from proposed blasting area: the proponent should indicate how they plan to scare the fish from the blasting area. This may be accomplished by driving a boat around the proposed area to scare fish from the proposed blasting area and blocking the proposed area off with a bubble curtain.
 - Protecting fish from harmful blasting: A bubble curtain(s) should be installed to minimise the transmission of the blast through the water.

Pertaining to scaring fish from the proposed blast area, the following text was added to Issue A14 (as bullet):

- *Pre-blast caps will be detonated to scare fish and mammals away from the area;*

Pertaining to protecting fish from the blast, the required bubble curtain will minimize transmission of the blast through the water and will block the area off (as the originally proposed silt curtain would have). With the addition of a bubble curtain, the originally proposed silt curtain will be removed as mitigation and therefore the following text was removed:

A silt curtain will be installed across the entrance to the constructed breakwater (between the Provincial Ferry Wharf and the newly constructed breakwater) to eliminate the movement of fish into the basin.

and replaced with:

Shock wave padding (bubble curtain or air curtain) will be installed to minimize the transmission of the blast through the water;

2. The paragraph *if blasting is required, DFO-HMD must be contacted ...Phase 111 of the project.* Please rephrase this paragraph to make reference to the blasting plan to be submitted to DFO-HMD. This statement should reflect the blasting plan that is revised according to the aforementioned bullets.
 - For example: All blasting activities will be conducted in accordance with the blasting plan entitled Archibald Drilling and Blasting (1986) Ltd. submitted to and approved by DFO-HMD on January 26, 2004.

Final CEAA Screening will reflect this change. The following text was added:

DFO-HMD must be contacted prior to commencing blasting activities (i.e., Mr. Thomas Wheaton (902) 527-5596). All blasting activities will be conducted in accordance with the blasting plan entitled Archibald Drilling and Blasting (1986) Ltd. submitted to and approved by DFO-HMD on January 26, 2004 (Appendix G). If changes to the blasting plan are required, they will be subject to a proper review by PWGSC and DFO-HMD.

- The VEC tables located in Appendix D should reflect these revisions.

VEC "Mammal Species at Risk" and VEC "Fish/Fish Habitat" mitigation measures were revised with the following text:

DFO-HMD must be contacted prior to commencing blasting activities (i.e., Mr. Thomas Wheaton (902) 527-5596). All blasting activities will be conducted in accordance with the blasting plan entitled Archibald Drilling and Blasting (1986) Ltd. submitted to and approved by DFO-HMD on January 26, 2004. If changes to the blasting plan are required, they will be subject to a proper review by PWGSC and DFO-HMD.

Blasting will not be permitted from May until late December when Atlantic Right Whale and other species at risk (identified in Issue A7) are present in the Tiverton area. Blasting will only be conducted from January through to the end of April. Other requirements include: blast caps will be detonated to scare fish and mammals away from

the area; and shock wave padding (bubble curtain or air curtain) will be installed to minimize the transmission of the blast through the water.

- The blasting plan should be included as an appendix to the final CEAA document.

Final CEAA Screening will reflect this change (and Issue B14 refers to Appendix G).