



**Nova Scotia
Environment & Labour**

**Presentation
to the Whites Point Quarry
Joint Review Panel
June 21, 2007**

Presenters

**Kim MacNeil, Executive Director
Environmental and Natural Areas
Management Division**

**Bob Petrie, Regional Manager
Environmental Monitoring &
Compliance Division
Western Region**

Department Mission

- To protect and promote:
 - the health and safety of people and protection of property;
 - a healthy environment;
 - employment rights; and
 - consumer interests and public confidence in pension services, and in the alcohol and gaming sector

Department Mandate:

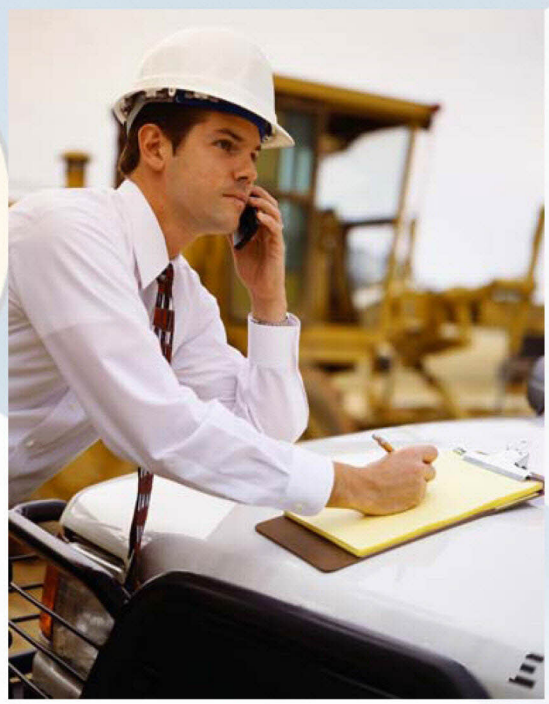
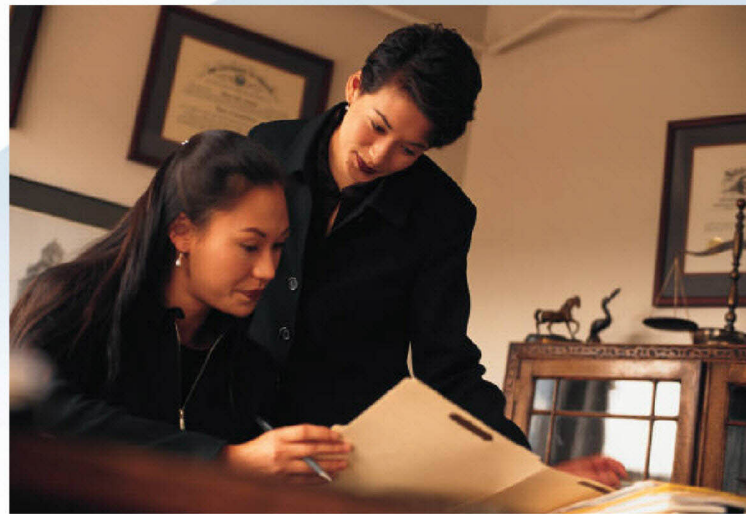
- Lead provincial department for environmental protection and management.

Responsibilities include:

- Develop regulation, policy, guidelines and programs;
 - Oversee environmental monitoring networks;
 - Manage databases and information;
 - Provide professional advice to public and government;
 - Monitor for compliance.
- Department is also lead provincial agency for:
 - Occupational Health and Safety;
 - Public Safety.

Environmental Divisions

Environmental and Natural Areas Management



Environmental Monitoring and Compliance

Environmental & Natural Areas Management (ENAM) Division

- Environmental assessment
- Protected areas
- Air quality
- Waste-resource management
- Hazardous substances
- Water resource management
- Environmental outreach

Environmental Monitoring & Compliance (EMC) Division

- Responsible for majority of field operations relating to environmental protection
- Activities include:
 - evaluating applications
 - inspection and monitoring of approvals
 - enforcement activities
 - response to public issues and complaints

Steps in the Review Process

- Review Environmental Impact Statement (ENAM and EMC) and provide comments to Joint Review Panel
- Minister responds to Panel Report
- If EA approved, prepare terms and conditions of release (ENAM and EMC)
- Review applications for approvals under Part V of the Environment Act (EMC)
- Compliance Monitoring/Inspections (EMC)

Water and Wastewater Branch

- Drinking Water
- Groundwater
- Surface Water
- Wastewater

Water & Wastewater Comments

- The main potential impacts on drinking water & groundwater include:
 - reduced groundwater levels can effect nearby water wells;
 - blasting can cause yield changes and temporary siltation at nearby water wells.

Water & Wastewater Comments

- Approaches to manage potential effects on drinking water & groundwater include:
 - groundwater and water well monitoring plans;
 - contingency plans to address impacts to water wells.

Water & Wastewater Comments

- The main potential impacts on surface water include:
 - siltation of watercourses and marine waters;
 - reduced flows in watercourses for aquatic life.

Water & Wastewater Comments

- Approaches to manage potential effects on surface water include:
 - mitigation measures (e.g. sedimentation ponds) and following guidance on erosion & sedimentation control and pit & quarry development;
 - surface water monitoring plans for quality & quantity; and
 - contingency plans for spills and upset conditions.



Air Quality Branch

- Management and protection of ambient (outdoor) air quality
- Air Quality Regulations – Regulated pollutants
- Ambient Air Monitoring Network

Air Quality Comments

- Can be dealt with through Part V Approval under the Environment Act.
 - Summarize predicted air emissions and noise levels
 - Predict Impact
 - Monitoring Plan
 - Management Plan

Pollution Prevention Branch

- Pollution prevention & green procurement
- Reduction of toxic substances
- Management of:
 - contaminated sites;
 - dangerous goods & hazardous wastes;
 - pesticides & pests; and
 - industrial emergency response planning.

Pollution Prevention Comments

- Storage of fuels and other petroleum products must meet Petroleum Management Regulations.
- Storage and handling of dangerous goods and waste dangerous goods must meet Dangerous Goods Management Regulations.
- Facility must have an emergency response plan to deal with releases of these substances.

EMC Division

- 12 District Offices
- ~80 Inspectors
- ~12,000 inspections annually
- Core Programs include:
 - Drinking water & wastewater;
 - Solid waste;
 - Contaminated site;
 - Environmental Health; and
 - Industrial activities.

EMC Approvals – Review Process

Approval applications typically include specific details pertaining to:

- Process descriptions and engineering plans;
- Project specific Environmental Management Plans;
- Descriptions of all wastes, emissions & potential adverse effects;
- Monitoring and mitigation plans;
- Exceedence response protocols and contingency plans; and
- Rehabilitation plans.

Application and Approval review process may include consultation with other federal / provincial agencies

Historical EMC Project Involvement

- Approval issued to Nova Stone Exporters for <4 Ha quarry -April 2002
- NSEL required CLC & Public Consultation - June 2002
- NSEL investigate complaints of siltation from site
- Blasting plan reviewed and submitted to DFO
- Received notification of ownership change from Bilcon and no intent to transfer approval from Nova Stone - August 2004
- Cancellation of approval - October 2004

Future EMC (Potential) Approvals

- Class V Industrial Approval.
- Water Withdrawal Approval.
- Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Approval.
- decommissioning of project infrastructure.
- long term site monitoring and maintenance.

EMC EA Comments

- Potential requirement for water withdrawal approval.
- Waiver required to blast from residences within 800 metres of active area.
- Sewage treatment.
- Confirmation of drinking water quality.

Thank You

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