

REGISTRATION FORM

Pursuant to Section 6 of

The Environmental Assessment Act, RSN. 1990, Ch.E-14

NAME OF THE UNDERTAKING: Agnathuna Quarry Development

PROPONENT:

(i) **Name of the Corporate Body:** Midatlantic Minerals Inc.

(ii) **Address:** 353 Saint Nicolas St. Suite 200
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 2P1

(iii) **Chief Executive Officer:**

Name: Dana J. Smith
Official Title: President
Telephone No.: 514-847-0930
Telefax No.: 514-844-1500

(iv) **Principal Contact Person for purposes of environmental assessment:**

Name: Jose A. Boves
Official Title: Executive Vice President
Telephone No.: 514-847-0930
Telefax No.: 514-844-1500

THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) **Nature of the Undertaking:**

To develop a dolomite and/or limestone quarry which includes: quarrying, crushing, screening, blending and shipping the product to export markets in ocean going vessels. This encompasses the set-up of a crushing and screening plant and the construction of a marine facility for loading barges in 1998 and the expansion of the marine facility in 1999 to load ships including a ship-loader, loading conveyors and re-location of the plant.

(ii) **Purpose/Rationale/Need for the Undertaking:**

To develop the dolomite and limestone minerals export business.

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) Geographical Location: The project is located in Aguathuna in western Newfoundland on the Port au Port Peninsula on the shore of the East Bay and Costa Bay and is in proximity to the communities of Boswarlos to the west and Bellman's Cove to the east (See Figure 1). The Aguathuna Limestone Quarry dates back to 1913 when the first cargo was shipped through a log constructed dock to the Sydney Steel Mill in Nova Scotia and since then around twelve million tons have been shipped from this site until it closed in 1964. The quarry face of the abandoned East Quarry and the face of the West Quarry developed after 1956 are major physical features of the area. The rock fill of the old dock and its remnants are still in place under water. Other structures in the area, are an old explosives storage shed, an existing generating power house still operating and concrete foundations left over from a water magnesia manufacturing plant project in 1969. Paved Highway 460-13 passes along the project and connects with Highway 460 three (3) kilometers east of the site. Access to the quarry is by an existing road connecting to the highway to the south and access to the marine facility is by existing road to the north of the highway.

(ii) Physical Features: The undertaking is divided into two (2) two major Phases, Phase I consists of bringing into operation an open pit quarry with a mobile crushing and screening plant to produce up to 150,000 tons of various sizes of crushed stone during 1998 and growing up to 500,000 tons per year and the construction of a marine structure to load barges. The marine structure will be composed of a rock fill section with a steel sheet pile caisson to support a portable stacker conveyor.

The immediate areas to be affected by the project in 1998 is the existing abandoned quarry just south of the Brook Quarry located approximately 500 meters south of the highway and the East Quarry area north of the highway.

Phase II consists of the expansion of the marine facility in 1999 to load ships encompassing additional caissons with a shiploader and conveyors. During this time the re-location of the plant to the East Quarry area will take place.

The immediate area to be affected by the project in 1999 is the East Quarry north of the highway.

(iii) Construction: Phase I: The proposed date is April 1, 1998 for mobilizing and setting up the crushing and screening plant and start quarrying operations there after. The setting up of the crushing and screening plant will not require any permanent construction except for refurbishing existing access roads to the site, clearing and leveling. The construction of the marine structure to load barges will commence in May 1998 and it is expected to be completed by August 1998.

(iii) Construction (continuation):

Phase II: The proposed date is May 1, 1999 for the commencement of construction for the expansion of the marine facility and it is expected to be completed by August of 1999. The plant and stockpiles will be relocated and re-configured to the East Quarry area during this period.

No resource conflicts are expected in any of these Phases of development.

Environmental issues relating to the quarry development and the construction of the marine facilities include: a)noise, b)dust, c)blasting, d)vehicular traffic, e)water pollution, f)visual impact, g)environmental constrains and h)environmental protection.

a) Noise: Generation of noise from the quarry operation will be mostly attributed to drilling, blasting, crushing, screening, materials conveying, and rolling equipment. Because of the remoteness of the quarry from the major communities the noise generated from this operation will not cause any adverse effect.

b) Dust: Drilling, crushing, screening, conveying, stockpile fines and road traffic are the primary sources of dust generation. Methods for controlling the dust include water spraying at the emission points, enclosures around discharge and transfer points and processing equipment, dampening of roadways and stockpiles. The high levels of precipitation in the area will contribute positively to reduce dust. Dust will not be an environmental issue on the major residential communities.

c) Blasting: Due to the distance of the major residential communities from the quarry blast vibrations and air concussion will have minimal impact. Proper blasting techniques will be use at all times to minimize any negative effect.

d) Vehicular Traffic: Traffic volume will increase slightly from present levels as a result of the quarry development with service vehicles, trucks and employees vehicles. No significant impact is envisioned from this change.

e) Water Pollution: Suspended solids and hydrocarbons from fuel or lubrication oil spills are potential sources of surface water contaminants. To reduce the potential for contamination, fuel and oil will be stored and handled in accordance with present government regulations and environmental standards, equipment will be properly maintained and/or repaired accordingly to prevent unnecessary leaks of hydrocarbons. A water recirculating system consisting of two settling ponds will handle the plant effluent of any water that maybe used during a wet screening process, all consistent with government and environmental regulations. No negative impact is expected to fisheries during the construction of the marine facility caissons or as a result of the facility.

(III) Construction (continuation):

f) Visual Impact: The quarry will not be visible from the highway or the residential communities of the area. The plant located on the floor of the East Quarry area will be buffered by the faces of the old quarry. The marine and loading facility will be visible to the local residents.

g) Environmental and Regulatory Constrains: Basically the entire site under consideration is a quarry operation that started in 1913 and a shiploading facility that has been dormant for a number of years, however, since its shutdown in 1964 the site was "moth-balled" and has been precluded of any other type of development. This project is in essence a re-development or replacement of the previous facilities and operations. The environmental and regulatory constrains of the site are not significant and the operation will be conducted to meet or exceed all Environmental Regulations, Provincial and Federal Regulations and compliance with all government agencies.

h) Reclamation and Environmental Protection: The reclamation plan will be designed to return the affected land to a state compatible with its original status, or to a final condition that is acceptable to government and the public requirements. The reclamation plan will be presented to the Newfoundland Department of Environment and the Department of Mines for their review and approval.

(iv) Operation: The operation consists of quarrying activity which includes overburden removal, drilling and blasting, primary, secondary and tertiary crushing, dry and wet screening, stockpiling of finished products and reclaiming and vessel loading.

The operation will normally be seasonal running from mid April to December each year with a two shift operation as required.

Potential sources of pollutants during the operation period are:

a) Noise: Generation of noise from the quarry operation will be mostly attributed to drilling, blasting, crushing, screening, materials conveying, and rolling equipment. Because of the remoteness of the quarry from the major communities the noise generated from this operation will not cause any adverse effect.

b) Dust: Drilling, crushing, screening, conveying, stockpile fines and road traffic are the primary sources of dust generation. Methods for controlling the dust include water spraying at the emission points, enclosures around discharge and transfer points and processing equipment, dampening of roadways and stockpiles. The high levels of precipitation in the area will contribute positively to reduce dust. Dust will not be an environmental issue on the major residential communities.

(iv) Operation (continuation):

c) **Blasting:** Due to the distance of the major residential communities from the quarry blast vibrations and air concussion will have minimal impact. Proper blasting techniques will be use at all times to minimize any negative effect.

d) **Vehicular Traffic:** Traffic volume will increase slightly from present levels as a result of the quarry development with service vehicles, trucks and employees vehicles. No significant impact is envisioned from this change.

e) **Water Pollution:** Suspended solids and hydrocarbons from fuel or lubrication oil spills are potential sources of surface water contaminants. To reduce the potential for contamination, fuel and oil will be stored and handled in accordance with present government regulations and environmental standards, equipment will be properly maintained and/or repaired accordingly to prevent unnecessary leaks of hydrocarbons. A water recirculating system consisting of two settling ponds will handle the plant effluent of any water that maybe used during a wet screening process, all consistent with government and environmental regulations.

No potential causes of resources conflicts are expected.

(v) **Occupations:** The number of occupations will grow in accordance with plant production and these are in general: Quarry Manager, Quarry Foreman, Secretarial, Security, Quality Control Technicians, Drill Operator, Loader Operator, Bulldozer Operator, Excavator Operator, Crusher Operators, Welder Operators, Mechanics, Electricians and laborers.

(vi) Project-Related Documents:

"Quarry Operations at Dominion Limestone Division", Annual Meeting, Montreal 1959, The Canadian Mining and Metallurgical.

Pre-Feasibility Study, Agnathuna Quarry by Golder Associates, 11/23/88.

Geological Report on the Agnathuna Limestones by Frederick J. Gormley Ltd. November of 1966.

Assessment Report by Strathcona Mineral Services Limited, August 1993.

Geological Survey by Strathcona Mineral Services Limited, May 1991.

Dolomite in the Brook Quarry Area by A.F. House.

APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:

ISSUING AGENCY

Dept. of Environment & Labour
Dept. of Mines & Energy
Water Resources Engineering
Dept. of Environment & Labour

Dept. of Fisheries & Oceans

Forest Resources
Dept. Of Government Service
& Lands

PERMITS-LICENSES-APPROVALS

Undertaking Approval
Mining Lease
Certificate of Approval for stream
modifications or diversions.
Certificate of Environmental Approval for
all watercourse Crossings.
Certificate of Approval for Fording a
Watercourse.
Certificate of Approval for Culvert
Installation.
Certificate of Approval for Site Drainage
construction.
Authorization for Undertakings Affecting
Fish Habitat.
Permit to Burn - Operating Permit
Storage and Handling of Fuel Oils

SCHEDULE: The proponent needs to complete the requirements of The Environmental Assessment Act no later than March 6, 1998 in order to be able to proceed and implement Phase I of the Undertaking by April 1, 1998.

FUNDING: The Company is in process of finalizing the funding requirements for the project.

Jan 28, 1998
Date


Chief Executive Officer