

PUBLIC HEARING

WHITES POINT QUARRY AND MARINE TERMINAL PROJECT

JOINT REVIEW PANEL

V O L U M E 2

HELD BEFORE: Dr. Robert Fournier (Chair)
Dr. Jill Grant (Member)
Dr. Gunter Muecke (Member)

PLACE HEARD: Digby, Nova Scotia

DATE HEARD: Monday, June 18, 2007

PRESENTERS: Bilcon of Nova Scotia
Mr. Uwe Wittkugel

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Per: H el ene Boudreau-Laforge, CCR

EXAMINATION BY THE PANEL
(MS JILL GRANT)

1 preservation zone varies with drainage patterns, especially
2 in the coastal bog area.

3 So this was a minimum that was
4 identified in the Pit and Quarry guidelines that we used,
5 and we expanded it when we encountered steep terrain and
6 sensitive habitats and other unusual features on the site.

7 Ms. JILL GRANT: What are the perceived
8 risks to the environmental preservation zone from activities
9 in the Project, especially I mean if we could start with the
10 construction phase, and then move on.

11 Mr. PAUL BUXTON: I'm sorry, I didn't
12 quite get that question.

13 Ms. JILL GRANT: What are the perceived
14 risks to the environmental preservation zone, starting with
15 the construction activities? What are the kinds of threats
16 or effects that the project would have on the preservation
17 zone?

18 Mr. PAUL BUXTON: Thank you. Mr. Kern
19 will address that.

20 Mr. DAVID KERN: You alluded to a
21 potential effect, on Saturday, of the conveyor for the ship
22 loader transecting the environmental preservation zone.

23 The intent there is that the conveyor
24 would be elevated, and in that particular area it's mostly
25 coastal plain, so we would not be cutting through a forested
26 environmental preservation zone in that area. We would be

1 going over top of the coastal plain.

2 The footings for that particular
3 conveyor would be approximately 35 metres apart, so we have
4 a good opportunity to span and not directly impact that
5 environmental preservation zone in the ship loading conveyor
6 area.

7 There will be an access road that would
8 come through the environmental preservation area, whether
9 it's the existing Whites Cove Road or a new access road to
10 the quarry compound area. The overall intent of the
11 preservation zone is to maintain it without any influences
12 that would disturb the integrity of it.

13 Ms. JILL GRANT: With 65 to 80 people on
14 the site during the construction activity, that's the number
15 of workers that are anticipated, what measures would be
16 taken to protect the environmental preservation zone from
17 inadvertent trampling or other activities?

18 Mr. PAUL BUXTON: I think I can address
19 that one. It will be addressed, along with other issues,
20 such as the possibility of finding archaeological remains,
21 et cetera, through training programs.

22 People will be clearly advised, trained,
23 as to what they can and cannot do on the site, what they do
24 if they find something. So it will be addressed with very
25 thorough training programs.

26 Ms. JILL GRANT: Thank you. Obviously

1 the activities on the site are going to significantly alter
2 the drainage, and some of these endangered plants may be in
3 areas where they currently get a fair bit of overland
4 drainage. Some of the watershed is going to be affected.

5 So what are the anticipated effects of
6 the change in drainage patterns on these plants?

7 Mr. PAUL BUXTON: Yes, Mr. Kern will
8 address that question. Thank you.

9 Mr. DAVID KERN: We are in the process
10 of coordinating the protection of the endangered plant
11 species with the Nova Scotia Department of Natural
12 Resources. They are suggesting, based especially where the
13 Sandwort is located, that it is mostly on a coastal plain,
14 that to define a watershed for that particular area would be
15 an exercise that would be done as soon as possible,
16 certainly before any quarry or any activity in that area
17 would take place.

18 So during this time period, we would be
19 identifying, through intensive site monitoring, thresholds
20 that may exist for the Glaucous Rattlesnake route and the
21 Sandwort populations that exist on the site.

22 At this point in time, we cannot say
23 with certainty how much a disruption of a surrounding area
24 would be on the particular plant populations.

25 Ms. JILL GRANT: And what about the
26 effects of fugitive dust? Even the best conditions, some