

JUL 14 2021

COR/2021/01877

Reg. # 2141

Richard Feehan
Chair of the Board of Directors
Peaches Cove – Green Bay Development Inc.
Trinity Bay North Town Hall
10 Main Street, P.O. Box 91
Port Union, NL A0C 2J0
jduggan@persona.ca

Dear Mr. Feehan:

Re: Peaches Cove – Green Bay Walking & Multipurpose Trails

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental environmental assessment screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by Part X of the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Please be advised that this undertaking is **released** from further environmental assessment subject to the following conditions:

- You are required to uphold all commitments made in your environmental assessment submission to mitigate the effects of the project on the environment.
- The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture requires the following:
 - A minimum 30-metre undisturbed buffer must be maintained along all water bodies and wetlands that appear on a 1:50,000 topographical map, except where crossing is permitted, to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species, and their habitat.
 - No vegetation clearing is to occur within 800 metres of a bald eagle or osprey nest during the nesting season (March 15 to July 31) and 200 metres during the remainder of the year. The 200-metre buffer also applies to all other raptor nests (e.g. Northern Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, American Kestrel, Great-horned Owl, Boreal Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl). The location of any raptor nest sites must be reported to the Wildlife Division.

- An Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) must be submitted to and approved by the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture prior to the start of construction. For further information, please contact the Wildlife Division at (709) 637-2025.
- You are required to advise the Environmental Assessment Division when each of the conditions of release has been met, by emailing a written description, documents, and images (where applicable) to demonstrate that the conditions have been fulfilled to EAPProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.
- You are required to update the Environmental Assessment Division on the status of the project, including a copy of all permits, licences, certificates, approvals and other authorizations required for the project, within one year from the date of this release letter and to provide additional updates, if requested. Please email project updates to EAPProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

Federal and provincial government departments and agencies that reviewed your project during the environmental assessment provide the following advice:

The Water Resources Management Division of my Department advises that you must obtain permits for any work in a body of water including wetland and for any infilling work within fifteen metres of a body of water. For further information, please contact the Water Resources Management Division at (709) 729-1646.

The Local Governance and Land Use Planning Division of the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs advises that a development permit is required for new trails within the Town of Trinity Bay North's municipal planning area. For further information, please contact the Local Governance and Land Use Planning Division at (709) 729-3090.

The Forestry Division of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture advises that a commercial cutting permit is required prior to any harvesting or timber removal in the area. An operating permit is required prior to the start of any work during the forest fire season and can be obtained from the local forest management district office. During the forest fire season, a permit to burn must be obtained to ignite a fire on or within 300 meters of forest land. For further information, please contact the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture at (709) 729-1140.

The Tourism Product Development Division of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation has indicated that the trails should be developed as part of the Hike Discovery Trail Network on the Bonavista Peninsula, and, you must consult with the Discovery UNESCO

Global Geopark to ensure that the ATV trail is aligned with the land use guidelines of the geopark. For further information, please contact the Tourism Product Development Division at (709) 729-4518.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recommends that in order to avoid nest destruction and to accommodate the breeding season of migratory songbirds and waterfowl, operations should consider nesting locations between April 15th and August 15th in this region. ECCC requests that you provide a GIS file of the project boundaries and study area so that the project can be mapped for consideration of cumulative effects. For further information, please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at (709) 772-4221.

Although the undertaking as proposed is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. A summary of the comments received from government agencies during the review is attached to provide an indication of likely applicable permits, approvals and legislative requirements. You must comply with all relevant legislation and obtain all necessary permits and approvals. You are required to inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

Please note that in accordance with Section 17 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, the Minister's decision is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter. If you have not commenced your project within this three-year period, you may apply to extend the three-year period for a maximum of three one-year periods, if needed. For further information, please email EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director (A), Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



BERNARD DAVIS, MHA
District of Virginia Waters - Pleasantville
Minister

Enclosures

c: Craig Pardy, MHA Bonavista
Town of Trinity Bay North