

2003 01 02

Department of Environment
Environmental Assessment Division

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BULLETIN

Environment Minister Kevin Aylward has announced the following events relative to Part 10 Environmental Assessment of the Environmental Protection Act.

UNDERTAKINGS REGISTERED:

(1) Crown Five Year Forest Mgmt Plan Dist 23 (Postville) 2003-2007

Proponent: Department of Forest Resources and Agrifoods

The proponent in conjunction with the Labrador Inuit Association (LIA) and a subsidiary company (Post Mill Lumber) has submitted a five year operating plan (January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2007) for Forest Management District 23. The plan covers only a portion of District 23, specifically a contiguous block centered on the community of Postville, Labrador and the Kaipokok River, which encompasses the majority of the merchantable forest in the District. This is the first five year operating plan for District 23, with the objective to develop a long-term sawmill business in the community of Postville. The plan describes the allocation of wood supply and proposed forest harvesting, silviculture activities, road construction and environmental protection and monitoring. The plan describes a potential harvest of 12,000 cubic metres of timber each year over approximately 120 hectares, the construction of 34 kilometres of new forest access roads, and 75 hectares of silviculture treatment per year consisting mainly of planting and secondly pre-commercial thinning. The undertaking was registered on December 30, 2002; Public comments are due by February 6, 2003; and the Minister's decision is due on February 13, 2003.

(2) Argentia (Building 510) Biomedical Waste Management Facility

Proponent: Edward Collins Contracting Ltd.

The proponent proposes to construct and operate a Biomedical Waste Management Facility located at its existing building in Argentia. Currently biomedical waste is collected from several collection points on the Island and transported to an incineration facility in Moncton, New Brunswick. The proponent now proposes to make a submission to a recent Department of Health tender or request for proposals.

The two vehicles to be used to collect the waste will be finished and equipped in accordance with the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Guidelines 6.5 - Vehicle Requirements and Code of Practice for the Transportation of Biomedical Waste. The existing concrete structure will require only minor modifications over a 3 to 4 week period. The facility would process most biomedical waste utilizing a shredding and chemical treatment (chlorination) technology; the LFB Medical Waste Decontamination System used in many other jurisdictions. Anatomical and cytotoxic wastes will be

processed in a Pyrotek Model 1000-1 Incinerator. Treated solid waste and ash from the two units will receive final disposal at the Placentia Landfill Site. The state-of-the-art facility would create in excess of four permanent jobs; workers will undergo training appropriate for their positions.

The proponent is aiming to be operational within 12 weeks of the award of Contract. The undertaking was registered on January 2, 2003; public comments are due by February 6, 2003; and the Minister's decision is due by February 16, 2003.

The Minister encourages all interested parties to become involved and to make comments known. Comments on submitted documents are invited from the public, addressed in writing to the Minister, and are welcome prior to the deadline date shown.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Director of Environmental Assessment at (709) 729-2562 or toll-free: 1-800-563-6181 or by mail to:

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Environmental Assessment Information is on the Government Web Site at <http://www.gov.nf.ca/env>