

2006 12 14

Department of Environment and Conservation
Environmental Assessment Division

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BULLETIN

Environment and Conservation Minister Clyde Jackman has announced the following events relative to Part 10 Environmental Assessment of the Environmental Protection Act.

UNDERTAKINGS REGISTERED:

(1) Holyrood to St. John's Snowmobile Trail (Resubmission) (Reg. 1308)

Proponent: Eastern Trailriders

[The route for the proposed undertaking entering the City Limits of St. John's has been significantly changed by the proponent from the previous submission (Reg. 1209) to attempt to address environmental concerns or for other reasons.]

The proponent proposes to construct approximately 42 kilometres of snowmobile trail from the City of St. John's to the Town of Holyrood, there connecting to the existing rail-bed and continuing west via the rail-bed to Goobies. The proposed trail will be 5 metres wide. The trail will be constructed to national standards and will be maintained by the Eastern Trailriders with proper signage to mark the trail for safe snowmobile travel. Development of the trail will require cutting of trees and construction of stream crossings to complete the trail. The undertaking was registered on December 13, 2006; public comments are due by January 18, 2007; and, the Minister's decision is due by January 27, 2007.

(2) Reidville Mink Fur Farm (Reg. 1309)

Proponent: DTK Agriculture Ltd.

The proponent proposes to develop a 10,000 female breeder mink fur farm in the municipality of Reidville, off Route 430, Viking Trail Highway. The proponent plans to start with 4,000 female breeders initially and expand to 10,000 female breeders by 2010 producing 50,000 kits annually for pelting (on average mink produce 4 to 5 offspring). The farm will be located on 47 hectares of land. Construction will include 15 mink barns/sheds (122 metres long by 12 metres wide) of simple post and beam wooden construction, a pelting shed, manure storage area, a storage shed/staff room, cold storage/chill room and access road. Construction of barns/sheds for initial breeding stock is proposed to be completed for their arrival in spring 2007. The undertaking was registered on December 14, 2006; public comments are due by January 18, 2007; and, the Minister's decision is due by January 28, 2007.

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.

UNDERTAKING WITHDRAWN:

Holyrood to St. John's Snowmobile Trail (Reg. 1209)
Proponent: Eastern Trailriders

The proponent has withdrawn the above undertaking from environmental assessment.

UNDERTAKING RELEASED:

Salmonier Line RV and Recreation Resort (Reg. 1300)
Proponent: NL RV Resorts Inc.

The Minister has released the above project from further environmental assessment, subject to the following conditions:

- The boreal felt lichen, *Erioderma pedicellatum*, has been found in the general area. Prior to any removal of vegetation, the project area should be surveyed, by a qualified botanist, for the presence of *Erioderma*. The Wildlife Division should be consulted for appropriate survey methodology.
- Preparation and implementation of an approved Buffer Zone Plan in consultation with the Wildlife Division.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Director of Environmental Assessment at (709) 729-4211 or toll-free: 1-800-563-6181 or by mail to:

Director, Environmental Assessment Division
Department of Environment and Conservation
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, A1B 4J6

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