

NAME OF UNDERTAKING:

Project: Agriculture Land Drainage (Inter Basin Water Transfer)

Location: Hodge River to Snows Pond, Whitbourne Area

File Reference No. 200.20.1374

PROPONENT:

(i) Name of Corporate Body: Newfoundland Hatchery Ltd.

(ii) Address: P.O. Box 21147
St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

(iii) Chief Executive Officer:

Name: Leslie Munn
Official Title: Secretary/Treasurer
Address: Same as above.
Telephone No.: 895-2371

(iv) Principal Contact Person for purposed of environmental assessment:

Name: Max Mercer, Newlab Engineering Limited
Official Title: President
Address: P.O. Box 400, Clarke's Beach, NL A0A 1W0
Telephone No: 786-4446

THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) Nature of the Undertaking:

Newfoundland Hatchery Ltd. has acquired property on which to develop a fully functional poultry operation which includes the management of the manure produced. The land purchased was the Sparkes Farm property which has been in operation for in excess of 30 years and part of the activity was the regular application of manure to the fields for forage and vegetable production.

A portion of the farm 50ha (less than 0.1%) is inside the Hodge River protective water supply area 5280 ha (52.8 km²) of the Town of Whitbourne

The production facilities are located outside the water supply area.

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

The Town of Whitbourne has expressed concerns over the spreading of manure in the area and consequently the owner wishes to address these concerns as well as alleviate any in the future.

We believe that the original construction of the Trans Canada Highway and subsequent upgrading to the existing divided highway has confused and rerouted drainage in that general area. We have conducted a topographic survey of the area and determined that the drainage from the farm (54ha) can be rerouted from its present course out of the Hodge River drainage basin and into Snow's Pond drainage basin. This diversion will not have any effect on the protected water supply area.

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) Geographical Location:

The property is located on the north side of the Trans Canada Highway at the Ocean Pond exit which is 5 km east of Whitbourne. The proposed undertaking would be the construction of 500 meters of ditching to reroute a small stream and the installation of associated culverts. (see site map)

(ii) Physical Features:

The farm is a fully vegetated area consisting of twelve cleared forage fields, forested area, wet land, and boggy areas. It has intermittent (drying) streams and one small gully with its brooklet crossing the property.

The elevation of the area ranges from 78 meters to 85 meters and is the divide between the Hodge River and Snow's Pond drainage basin.

Presently the drainage goes into both drainage basins.

(iii) Construction:

The construction will consist of the rerouting of surface runoff and the diversion of intermittent streams into a well defined channel to divert water originating on the acreage owned by Newfoundland Hatchery from the Hodge River drainage basin into the Snows Pond drainage. The construction of the channel will take place mainly in the dry with the exception of the blockage and removal of the existing undersized culvert which permits the runoff to flow west ward into Hodge River.

The construction will be completed using heavy equipment such as excavators, backhoe and dozers. The equipment will produce typical moderate pollutants such as noise and fumes. All pollutants and refueling will be handled and controlled within environmental acceptable manner approved by the department.

(iv) Operation:

Upon completion of the construction the affected area will be returned as closely as possible to a natural state. All recommended buffer zones will be respected

(v) Occupations:

This undertaking will be a one time event. The occupation anticipated for this undertaking will be heavy equipment operators, inspectors, site engineers during construction. Upon completion the owner will require the normal farm labour staff.

(vi) Project-Related Documents:

The following documents are included:

1. Letter of authorization from owner.
2. Site plan, scale 1:7500.

APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:

Main permits, licences, approvals and other forms of authorization required for the undertaking:

Mr. Robert Picco, P.Eng
Manager, Water Investigations Section
Water Resources Management Division
Department of Environment and Conservation

Mr. Bas Cleary
Director
Environment Assessment Division
Department of Environment and Conservation

Mr. Haseen Khan, P.Eng
Department of Environment and Conservation
Water Resources Management Division
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Mr. Jan Van de Hulst (E)
Regional Lands Manager (E)
Department of Environment and Conservation
5 Mews Place
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Mr. John O'Rourke
Area Habitat Biologist - Eastern
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
1144 Topsail Road
St. John's, NL A1N 5E8

Mr. Robert Whitten (Avalon Peninsula)
Director
Department of Government Services
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Mr. Jeff Whalen, Director
Department of Forest Resources and Agrifoods
Land Resource Stewardship Division
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Town of Whitbourne
P.O. Box 119
Whitbourne, NL A0B 3K0

SCHEDULE: The owner will be receiving birds on November 14, 2005 and production at the facility will commence. There is a six month manure storage facility at the site. If approved, the diversion will commence as early as possible in the Spring of 2006. It is anticipated that it will be completed within one month.

FUNDING: Owner funded project.

Date

Signature of Chief Executive Officer