

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador **Department of Environment and Conservation**

Honourable Charlene Johnson Minister

May 27, 2010

GUIDELINES

for the

Environmental Impact Statement/Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Screening Level Environmental Assessment

Salmonier Pond Access Road and Atlantic Salmon Nursery

Proponent: Gray Aqua Group Limited

INTRODUCTION

On July 15, 2009 Gray Aqua Group Limited (the Proponent) submitted a Project Registration for the Salmonier Pond Access Road and Atlantic Salmon Nursery in Salmonier Pond, near Wreck Cove, Newfoundland. On November 20, 2009, the Proponent was advised by the Minister of Environment and Conservation that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for the Project.

The undertaking is also subject to a screening level environmental assessment in accordance with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). Transport Canada (TC) is the lead Responsible Authority (RA) for the federal assessment and may be required to issue an approval(s) for the installation and operation of the Atlantic salmon nursery under Part 1, Section 5 of the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*. Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Environment Canada have identified themselves as Federal Authorities (FA) who are providing expert advice to TC during the federal environmental assessment. In an effort to harmonize the provincial and federal assessment processes to the extent possible, the proponent will prepare one acceptable EIS. TC intends to use the EIS and associated documentation as the source of information regarding the project description and analysis of environmental effects for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of CEAA.

The EIS will contain a review of all available pertinent information as well as such additional new information or data as provided by the Proponent or requested by the Minister of Environment and Conservation. Component Studies will be carried out to address baseline data requirements to support the evaluation of environmental effects and/or develop mitigation measures as well as monitoring and follow up programs. As more specific information is provided and as additional baseline information is gathered, other concerns and potential effects may need to be considered by the Proponent.

The contents of the EIS will be used by the Minister of Environment and Conservation, in consultation with Cabinet, to determine the acceptability of the proposed project based on its anticipated environmental effects, proposed mitigation and significance of residual environmental effects. The EIS will be as concise as possible while presenting the information necessary for making an informed decision.

The proponent is required to hold public information sessions on the environmental assessment results in the town of Wreck Cove.

These Guidelines are intended to assist the Proponent in its preparation of the EIS. The purpose of the EIS is to identify alternatives to the Project, alternative methods for carrying it out, the environment that will be affected, the important environmental effects associated with the Project, measures that are required to mitigate against any adverse effects and the significance of residual effects.

The contents of the EIS should be organized according to the following format and address the identified information requirements:

1. Executive Summary

The Executive Summary will contain the following information: identification of the Proponent; a project description; predicted environmental effects (both biophysical and socio-economic); mitigative measures; residual environmental effects; cumulative environmental effects; an outline of the component studies completed; proposed monitoring programs and response plans and a summary of the fundamental conclusions of the EIS.

The summary will be written in terms understandable to the general public and in such a manner as to allow reviewers to focus on items of concern.

Provide a list of all commitments made in the Environmental Impact Statement regarding environmental mitigation, monitoring and follow-up. Include in the list a reference to the section of the EIS where the commitment(s) are made.

2. Introduction

2.1 Name of Undertaking

The undertaking has been assigned the name "Salmonier Pond Access Road and Atlantic Salmon Nursery." The Proponent should identify the name which it proposes to use for the undertaking.

2.2 Identification of Proponent

Name the corporate body and state the mailing address.

Name the chief executive officer and state the official title, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.

Name the principal contact person for purposes of environmental assessment and state the official title, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.

2.3 Purpose of the Environmental Impact Statement

The purpose of the Environmental Impact Statement shall be described.

3. The Proposed Undertaking

3.1 The Prospective Site and Study Area

A precise description of the boundary of the prospective site is to be presented, accompanied by maps and site plans of an appropriate scale showing the entire project with principle structures and appurtenant works. Maps should be at a scale of 1:30,000 or larger (e.g. 1:20,000).

The information on the boundary and extent of the project area is also required to be presented in a digital format suitable for incorporation in a Geographic Information System (GIS). As a minimum, the information is to consist of sufficient number of geographic coordinates of point locations, line locations and/or spatial extent, as appropriate, of the features at the selected map scale and projection to either re-create the hard-copy versions provided as part of the EIS or to accurately display the features digitally. The information must be organized and labeled such that each unique feature is distinguishable from all others. Appropriate descriptive parameters of each data set such as projection, UTM Zone, datum and data collection method (e.g., GPS, aerial survey, etc.) must also be included.

3.2 Rationale/Need/Purpose of the Project

The rationale for the project will describe its perceived benefits, both local and provincial. If the undertaking is in response to an established need, this should be clearly stated.

3.3 Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project

The EIS shall contain an analysis of technically and economically feasible alternative means of addressing the need for the project, including alternative nursery locations and the construction of land-based facilities. The environmental effects of such alternative means must be provided with supporting argument.

A summary is required of the possible alternatives to individual project components which were or could have been considered. If only one alternative is viable or possible, a statement will be made to this effect with supporting argument.

3.4 Relationship to Legislation, Permitting, Regulatory Agencies and Policies

The EIS will identify and discuss the project within the context of all existing relevant legislation and policies (municipal, provincial and federal). The proponent will provide a comprehensive list of permits and regulatory approvals required for the undertaking. The list will include the following details.

- activity requiring regulatory approval,
- name of permit and/or regulatory approval (e.g. authorization),
- legislation requiring compliance,
- regulatory agency.

3.5 General Project Description

The EIS will describe the scope of the project for which an assessment is being conducted.

The EIS will provide a written and graphic description (e.g. maps and drawings) of the physical features of the undertaking particularly as it is planned to progress through the

construction and operation phases of its lifespan. The description should also address other phases of the project as can reasonably be foreseen, including modification, decommissioning and abandonment. Any assumptions which underlie the details of the project design shall be described, including effects avoidance opportunities inclusive of pollution prevention, and adherence to best management practices. Where specific codes of practice, guidelines and policies apply to items to be addressed, those documents shall be cited and included as appendices to the EIS, including mapping at an appropriate scale. Physical features include, but are not limited to:

- access road(s) and intersections, including those which may require upgrading.
- power supply and lighting
- stream crossings, including culverts, bridges and fording sites
- temporary stream diversions
- borrow pits and their rehabilitation
- sewage and waste disposal facilities
- nursery infrastructure, including docks, salmon cage size and materials, mesh sizes, booms, monitoring equipment, fuel storage and utilities
- support buildings

3.6 Construction

The details, materials, methods, schedule, and location of all planned construction activities related to the physical features will be presented including estimates of magnitude or scale where applicable. This is to include, but not be limited to, the following:

- general construction practices incorporating erosion and sedimentation control;
- construction schedule, including proposed time frames for right-of-way clearing, slash disposal, construction adjacent to watercourses, utility placement, salmon nursery, land-based facilities and worker accommodations;
- detailed information on how cages will be installed; vessels and equipment to be used, in-water works, placement of anchors, presence of temporary or permanent structures, etc;
- transport, storage and use of hazardous materials, fuels, and lubricants;
- solid waste disposal and disposal of construction waste, as well as identified opportunities for waste recycling;
- site preparation (i.e., grubbing/clearing of right-of-way, cut and/or fill operations, etc.);
- water body alteration or any instream activities;
- stream crossing structures: location of watercourse crossings, their proposed infrastructure (e.g., bridge, culvert), and their proposed specifications (e.g., clearance from watercourse, height, width, length, diameter, and construction materials); infill area or footprint together with design criteria and standards, length, width, cross section and estimated types and amount of fill material required;
- power sources;
- estimate all significant emissions during construction;

- excavations and borrow pits;
- sources and estimated volumes of acceptable types of aggregate, ballast and pitrun material with identification of any currently known sources likely to be used;
- disposal areas for organic soil, slash and grubbing, including locations of any currently known or planned disposal sites;
- plans for harvested wood fibre associated with the project;
- site rehabilitation and stabilization measures.

Specific numbers by National Occupational Classification (NOC-2006) and period of employment will be provided.

3.7 Operation and Maintenance

All aspects of the operation and maintenance of the proposed development will be presented in detail, including information on operation and maintenance positions by National Occupational Classification (NOC-2006) including period of employment.

Provide an overview of the normal operation procedures for the proposed salmon nursery, including the source of salmon parr, how salmon parr will be transported to the Province, the transfer of salmon parr to Salmonier Pond, site security measures, biosecurity measures including escape prevention and inventory monitoring, fish recapture plans in the event of an escape, alternating use of cage locations, fallow periods and transfer of smolts to the marine environment.

Any proposed use of chemical anti-fouling agents must be discussed, including a thorough literature review of the potential environmental impacts resulting from their use.

The nursery stock feeding schedules must be discussed, including total amounts of feed used and an assessment of the amount of introduced feed that will not be consumed by nursery stock.

Discuss any proposed treatment or disposal of water used to transport salmon parr from out of province to the nursery site.

Discuss all aspects of the nursery operation that will be carried out on land, including but not limited to any buildings to be constructed, the proposed power supply and its location and any proposed net washing operations.

Estimate all significant emissions during operation, including but not limited to, sources from power generation, net washing facilities, nursery stock feeding operations, fish excrement, mortality retrieval and disposal, sewage disposal systems, and mobile sources.

The use of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) is required for all new emission sources. The EIS must identify the control technology to be applied at each emission source.

All sources of effluent must be identified and characterized, including handling methods, flow rates and treatment options. Effluent includes, but is not limited to, storm water, sewage and surface runoff. Estimated annual quantities of each effluent must be provided. Treatment methods and residue disposal options must also be described. In addition proposed sampling parameters and schedule must be provided for discharges.

Fully describe chemical storage facilities indicating how chemicals and other potentially hazardous or toxic materials are to be handled, stored, segregated and contained. Identify chemicals by their Chemical Abstract Service Registry Number (CASRN) together with associated quantities, characteristics and toxicities.

Discuss water use for domestic and non-domestic purposes. Include locations of any intake structure(s) and associated infrastructure. Identify the existing water quality from all sources, the required water quality for its desired use and any treatment processes required to meet its required water quality.

Include information on any food handling provisions during both construction and operation as well as disposal provisions for associated wastes.

Identify the operational emergency response, safety and fire fighting facilities as well as preventative operating practices and support services. This will include on-site as well as regionally supplied training and preventative measures.

Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, routine ongoing maintenance of the road and nursery infrastructure as well as periodic maintenance requiring nursery site closure or fallowing. The vessels/equipment to be used during nursery maintenance will be outlined.

3.8 Abandonment

The predicted lifespan of the nursery facilities will be indicated. Details regarding decommissioning and abandonment will be presented. Information on how cages/structures will be removed from the site and what vessels/equipment will be involved will be provided.

4. Environment

4.1 Existing Environment

The EIS will identify the study area and will describe the existing biophysical and socioeconomic environment of the study area, and the resources within it, emphasizing Valued Ecosystem Components (VEC's) as identified by the Environmental Assessment Committee. In addition, the EIS will describe environmental interrelationships and sensitivity to disturbance. The identification of known data gaps is imperative. The timing, extent and methodology used in conducting any surveys for flora, fauna, fish and fish habitat, aquatic species and their habitat and ecologically sensitive areas must be provided.

The EIS should document all known previous activities in the area, such as former or existing infrastructure, site contamination, etc.

A description of the present environment will include, but is not limited to:

- climate;
- hydrological information on each body of water within the project footprint or within the predicted zone of influence, including an assessment of winter ice conditions in Salmonier Pond;
- the connection of Salmonier Pond to the marine environment and whether fish passage is possible to and from the marine environment;
- ambient water quality baseline assessment for common water quality parameters;
- site information on each stream or wetland crossing including: water depth, width, flow rate, substrate type, and potential obstructions to navigation;
- topography, terrain, soils and vegetation;
- a description of wetlands that may be impacted during access road and foreshore area development, including wetland type and the potential size of the area affected;
- flora, including typical species, species-at-risk, and potential habitat for flora species-at-risk. Flora species at risk include those species listed under the federal Species at Risk Act and the provincial Endangered Species Act as well as COSEWIC listed species. Current information can be obtained from appropriate sources and augmented by field surveys and investigations required to supplement available data. Available data, survey results and detailed mitigation measures that demonstrate a special emphasis on avoidance of environmental effects is to be included in the EIS;
- fauna (including migratory species), fauna species-at-risk, and potential habitat for fauna species-at-risk. Fauna species at risk include those species listed under the federal Species at Risk Act and the provincial Endangered Species Act as well as COSEWIC listed species. Fauna and avifauna in this context includes, but is not limited to, eagles, osprey and river otters. Include a description of waterfowl in the area, as well as fish eating birds such as gulls and mergansers. Current information can be obtained from appropriate sources and augmented by field surveys and investigations required to supplement available data. Available data, survey results and detailed mitigation measures that demonstrate a special emphasis on avoidance of environmental effects is to be included in the EIS;
- aquatic species and their habitat, including but not limited to: fish and fish habitat including a description and quantification of fish species and any commercial, recreational or aboriginal fisheries which occur within the lakes, rivers, ponds and streams in the vicinity of the proposed project, invertebrates; phytoplankton; zooplankton; and marine mammals. Include a description and quantification of those aquatic species and habitats with the potential to be impacted by nursery operations.

Component Studies will be prepared for the following VECs (where new information becomes available as a result of baseline studies, additional component studies may be required);

- Fish and fish habitat
- Mammals (river otters, seals, mink)
- Other aquatic species and their habitat (zooplankton, phytoplankton, invertebrates etc.)

Component Studies generally have the following format: (i) Rationale/Objectives, (ii) Study Area, (iii) Methodology, and (iv) Study Outputs.

(i) <u>Rationale/Objectives</u>

In general terms, the rationale for a component study is based on the need to obtain additional data to determine the potential for significant effects on a valued ecosystem component due to the proposed undertaking, and to provide the necessary baseline information for monitoring programs.

(ii) Study Area

The boundaries of the study area will vary depending on the valued ecosystem component being investigated.

(iii) Methodology

Methodology will be proposed by the proponent, in consultation with resource agencies, as appropriate. The methodologies for each component study will be summarized in the EIS.

(iv) Study Outputs

Study outputs will be proposed by the proponent. Information and data generated will be sufficient to adequately predict the effects on the valued ecosystem component.

4.2 Data Gaps

Information gaps from a lack of previous research or practice will be described.

4.3 Future Environment

The predicted future condition of the environment described under 4.1 within the expected life span of the undertaking, if the undertaking were not approved, will be described. This information is required when attempting to distinguish project-related environmental effects from environmental change due to natural processes.

5. Environmental Effects

The EIS will describe the scope of the assessment being conducted for the undertaking.

The EIS will contain a comprehensive analysis of the predicted environmental effects of each project alternative for the selected VECs. If the impacts are attributable to a particular phase of the project (construction, operation, maintenance or decommissioning) then they will be designated as such.

The EIS will also assess the effects of the environment on the salmon nursery. In particular the EIS must identify the vulnerability of the salmon nursery to climatic and meteorological elements (including ice and wave conditions, wind, weather, storm events and climate change) and describe the provisions for minimizing any identified risk.

Predicted environmental effects (positive and negative, direct and indirect, short and long-term) will be defined quantitatively and qualitatively for each project alternative and for each VEC. Environmental effects predictions shall be explicitly stated and the theory or rational upon which they are based shall be presented in terms of the following parameters as appropriate:

- Nature;
- Magnitude (qualitative and quantitative);
- Geographic (spatial) extent;
- Timing, duration and frequency
- Degree to which effects are reversible or mitigable;
- Ecological context;
- Cultural heritage and social context;
- Level and degree of uncertainty of knowledge;
- The capacity of renewable resources that are likely to be significantly affected by the Project, to meet the needs of present and future generations;
- The extent to which biological diversity is potentially affected by the project; and
- Environmental protection goals and objectives as set out in applicable legislation, regulations, policies, plans and programs.

The Proponent will identify and describe the potential accidents and malfunctions related to the project, including an explanation of how those events were identified, potential consequences (including potential environmental effects), the worst case scenarios and the effects of these scenarios. The Proponent will explain the potential quantity, mechanism, rate, form and characteristics of the contaminants and other materials likely to be released into the environment during potential malfunctions and accident events.

Potential accidents and malfunctions may include, but not be limited to, those associated with the following occurrences:

- Fish loss during transfer to and from Salmonier Pond;
- Net damage and subsequent escape of caged fish;
- Fish loss/escape due to predator activities;
- Waste management and disposal;
- Use, handling or spills of chemicals and hazardous materials on site.

The Proponent shall assess the likelihood of occurrence of the accidents and malfunctions and shall pay special attention to the VEC's that may be affected in the event of an accident or a major malfunction.

A discussion of environmental effects on freshwater quality is required as part of the assessment for all water bodies within the project footprint or influence zone of the project. Include a discussion of the potential effects on nutrient levels in receiving waters.

Environmental effects on the health and biodiversity of the aquatic ecosystem, aquatic species, and their habitat in the freshwater and marine environment; including but not limited to fish and fish habitat, invertebrates, phytoplankton, zooplankton, and marine mammals; and any existing or potential commercial, recreational or aboriginal fisheries that occur in the area of the proposed salmon nursery must be evaluated. As part of the evaluation, the potential effects on any downstream or upstream habitat must be examined.

5.1 Cumulative Environmental Effects

Consideration of any cumulative effects on valued ecosystem components that are likely to result from the project in combination with other projects or activities that have been or will be carried out (e.g., existing and proposed industrial activity in the area) will be discussed in the EIS.

6. Environmental Protection

6.1 Mitigation

Mitigative measures that are technically and economically feasible, that have or will be taken, to avoid, minimize or eliminate the negative, and enhance the positive environmental effects, will be described and discussed with emphasis on best management practices to avoid environmental effects. Mitigation includes the elimination, reduction or control of the adverse effects or the significant environmental effects of the project and may include restitution for any damage to the environment caused by such effects through replacement, restoration, compensation or any other means.

Mitigation will be evaluated based on the use of best available and economically achievable technologies (BATEAs) and best management practices (BMPs) to minimize adverse environmental effects.

A discussion of mitigation and monitoring protocols for the prevention of disease, disease transfer and disease control is required, including literature reviews and details on the types of diseases that tend to affect farmed Atlantic salmon.

Mitigative measures specific to the following must be addressed in particular:

- escapes: discuss measures to be taken, including cage design considerations, to minimize the potential escape of caged fish;
- water quality: outline siltation, erosion and run-off control features, storm drainage management procedures and measures, including specific reference to seasonal variation, that will be used in the following situations: (a) installation of watercourse structures; (b) construction of service roads; and (c) any in water works;
- blasting operations;
- sewage;
- flora species: discuss measures to be taken to minimize effects for both terrestrial and aquatic flora species; including riparian vegetation. Include any plans for landscaping and preservation of existing vegetation;
- fauna species: describe measures to be taken to minimize effects on terrestrial and aquatic fauna (including avifauna). Include any plans for preservation of existing habitat and compensation for loss or degradation of aquatic and terrestrial habitat (i.e., habitat rehabilitation or replacement);
- wetlands;
- aquatic species and habitat: describe measures to be taken to minimize effects on ecosystem health and biodiversity, aquatic species and habitat in the freshwater and marine environment, including fish recapture plans in the event of an escape and, if necessary, compensation for losses that cannot be mitigated. This includes but is not limited to: fish and fish habitat, marine mammals, invertebrates, phytoplankton and zooplankton.

Proposed mitigative strategies integral to the phases of the project (construction, operation and decommissioning) will be clearly identified and addressed. The effectiveness of the proposed mitigative measures will be discussed and evaluated. Where possible and appropriate, compensation for losses that cannot be mitigated by any other means will be examined. Mitigation failure will be discussed with respect to risk and severity of consequence.

There must be full consideration for the precautionary principle which states, "where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation". The best available technology and best management practices must be considered.

6.2 Emergency Response/Contingency Plan

An emergency response plan will be outlined that details measures to be taken to effectively respond to any foreseeable mishap that may occur as a result of the undertaking.

6.3 Environmental Monitoring and Follow-up Programs

Environmental compliance, effectiveness and effects monitoring programs for construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the project will be described. Compliance monitoring is conducted to ensure compliance with appropriate legislation and/or ensure commitments made in the EIS are fulfilled. Monitoring and follow-up programs must allow for testing of the accuracy of effects prediction and effectiveness of mitigation measures. Programs must support an adaptive management approach and demonstrate preparedness for a range of potential outcomes to be confirmed through follow-up.

Important componentss of monitoring programs include:

- elements of the environment that are to be monitored;
- where monitoring will occur;
- frequency and duration of monitoring;
- identification of resource agencies that will review program design and results;
- detailed statement of objectives;
- submission of results, and
- protocols for the interpretation of results and subsequent actions to be taken based on findings.

Details of a proposed environmental effects monitoring program for aquatic species, ecosystem health and aquatic habitat must be provided.

6.4 Rehabilitation

A plan of proposed rehabilitation measures for the activities associated with the project will be given with an explanation of how the measures will reduce or eliminate various negative effects during construction, operation and decommissioning.

7. Residual Effects and Selection Criteria for Preferred Option

7.1 Residual Effects

All remaining effects after mitigation has been applied should be presented. The residual effects should be defined in terms of nature, spatial extent, frequency, duration, magnitude (qualitative and quantitative), significance and level of certainty. Particular attention must be given to the potential residual effects resulting from an escape of fish into Salmonier Pond. Those effects that cannot be mitigated or avoided will be clearly distinguished from those effects that will not be mitigated or avoided.

7.2 Effects Evaluation and Selection of Preferred Alternative

This section (as compared to Section 3.3) is intended to provide a detailed discussion and comparison of the residual effects relative to the preferred option and viable alternatives (as applicable).

All selection criteria, including biophysical, socio-economic and technical, will be presented and discussed in sufficient detail to allow a comparative analysis with regard to costs, benefits and environmental risks associated with both the preferred and alternative options.

8. Public Participation

A proposed program of public information will be outlined. Open House Public Information Sessions will be held to present the proposal and to record public concerns. The proponent will hold a public information session in the town of Wreck Cove. Public concerns will be addressed in a separate section of the EIS. Protocol for these sessions will comply with Section 10 of the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Assessment Regulations, 2000. Public notification specifications are outlined in Appendix A.

9. Environmental Protection Plan

A site specific Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) for the proposed undertaking must be submitted to, and approved by, the Minister of Environment and Conservation before any construction on the project begins. For the purposes of the EIS, an outline of the EPP will be included. The EPP will be a "stand alone" document with all relevant maps and diagrams. Statements regarding the commitment to and philosophy of environmental protection planning and self-regulatory and compliance monitoring will be restricted to the EIS. The target audience for the EPP will be the salmon nursery employees and the provincial environmental inspector(s). Therefore the EPP will concentrate on addressing such issues as construction/operation mitigation, permit application and approval planning, monitoring activities, contingency planning for accidental and unplanned events and contact lists. In addition, the EPP will contain a tabular breakdown of major construction and operational activities into sub-components, followed by permits required, field mitigation and contingency planning where appropriate. The objective is to present concise, comprehensive and easily accessed environmental protection information for field use by the target audience.

10. References Cited

Provide a bibliography of all citations in the EIS. Provide a bibliography of all projectrelated documents already generated by or for the undertaking.

11. Personnel

Brief descriptions of the expertise and qualifications of personnel involved in the completion of the EIS will be provided.

12. Copies of Reports

Copies of reports produced for any studies undertaken specifically in connection with this Environmental Impact Statement Report will be submitted.

APPENDIX A

Public Notices

Under the provisions of the Environmental Assessment Regulations 2003, Section 10, and where the approved Guidelines require public information session(s), the following specified public notification requirements must be met by the proponent prior to each meeting:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Information Session on the Proposed

Name of undertaking Location of undertaking

> shall be held at Date and Time Location

This session shall be conducted by the Proponent, *Proponent name and contact phone number*, as part of the environmental assessment for this Project. The purpose of this session is to describe all aspects of the proposed Project, to describe the activities associated with it, and to provide an opportunity for all interested persons to request information or state their concerns.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Minimum information content of public advertisement - (Proponent to substitute appropriate information for italicized items):

Minimum newspaper ad size: 2 column widths. Minimum posted ad size: 7" x 5"

Minimum newspaper ad coverage: Weekend preceding meeting and 3 consecutive days prior to meeting date; to be run in newspaper locally distributed within meeting area or newspaper with closest local distribution area.

Minimum posted ad coverage: Local Town or City Hall or Office, and local Post Office, within town or city where meeting is held, to be posted continually for 1 full week prior to meeting date.

Any deviation from these requirements for any reason must receive prior written approval of the Minister of Environment and Conservation.