# **Labrador Menihek Resources Inc.**

PO Box 248

Corner Brook, NL, A2H 6C9

# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGISTRATION DOCUMENT

# Proposed Gravel Quarry Labrador West

Prepared by;

Ed Montague, PGeo

For

**Labrador Menihek Resources** 

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1.0 Name of Undertaking:

Labrador West- Gravel Quarry

2.0 Proponent:

Name of Corporate Body:

Labrador Menihek Resources Inc.

Address:

PO Box 248

Corner Brook, NL

A2H 6C9

**President:** 

Richard Squire (709) -634-8256

**Field Supervisor:** 

Yves Ste. Marie (709) -282-8694

**Contact Person:** 

Ed Montague

(709) -944-2209

# 3.0 The Undertaking

## a) Nature of the undertaking,

The proposed project involves the development of a sand and gravel quarry site approximately 15.5 kms east of the town of Wabush and 1.7 kms south of Route 500 (Trans Labrador Highway). The site is accessed via the Trans Labrador Highway and an existing dirt access road. The proponent proposes to develop the area as an open pit operation to produce granular material such as concrete aggregates, class A and B road material and for general construction work located in Western Labrador.

# b) Purpose/Rationale/Need for the Undertaking

The purpose of this project is to produce a product for future use as raw materials for construction, mining and commercial use in Labrador West. With the expansion of mining operations, a significant demand for an increase in these products is anticipated.

## 4.0 Description of the Undertaking

## a) Geographic Location

The project is located in an esker deposit east of Wabush where other contractors are producing similar granular products. As noted above, the area is 15.5 km east of the mining operations of iron ore producers, Rio Tinto Iron Ore (IOCC) and Wabush Mines.

## b) Physical Features

### **Project Site Description:**

The principal feature of the site is a very prominent esker deposit that consists of a mound of sand and gravel which is a remnant of a river bed derived from ancient glacial melt water. Processing of the material will be limited to excavation, crushing and screening. There will be no blasting involved. The quarry boundary is sited to ensure a 50 meter buffer zone around Cowboy Creek, the only nearby water body and due to the nature of the porous quality of the granular esker, all runoff is filtered before reaching running water.

# **Existing Biophysical Environment**

The proposed site is located in an area of scattered black spruce vegetation interspersed with occasional marshy areas and large lakes and ponds. Most of the summits of the ridges are barren due to the harsh winter climate which has short warm summers and cold winters from October to April. Summer temperatures can reach 30 degrees while winter daytime temperatures average around minus 15. The colder climate here, as compared to Goose Bay near sea level is due to the higher elevation and the prevailing northwesterly winds that flow in from Ungava Bay.

# Vegetation

The area of the proposed quarry is surrounded by extensive black spruce forest and bog. The area of the immediate site has recently been ravaged by a forest fire and consequently, only the skeletons of trees remain. Shrub growth on the esker itself is sparse and covered with caribou moss which is typical for this region. There are no large lakes or ponds on the proposed site, the only watercourse in the vicinity is Cowboy Creek which drains a pond lying 1.5 km to the southeast. Occasional monitoring by the proponent and others that has quarry permits nearby does not reveal any signs of discoloration or contamination but these are not official but local observations.

#### **Inland Fish**

Cowboy Creek is home to small brook trout locally referred to as "pan fry" but these are not abundant. Locally, the creek is not considered a "good fishing area".

#### Wildlife

Occasional black bears roam the region but are not overly abundant. The George River caribou herd sometimes traverse the area but due to its proximity to the towns of Labrador City and Wabush, there is a no hunting ban imposed in the area of the proposed quarry, however these migrations has not occurred for many years. There are the usual population of wolves, foxes and martens that are trapped by local hunters.

#### Construction

The construction phase of site development will consist of clearing and grubbing and site development,

# **Clearing and Grubbing**

Any merchantable timber removed during quarry development will be salvaged but this is expected to be minimal due to the recent forest fire in the area. All grubbed material will be stockpiled for future use.

# Site development

The proposed quarry site covers a total of two hectares. Initial construction activities will involve the removal of vegetative cover as described to advance the working face. Surficial organics and topsoil, where present, will be set aside for future use such as quarry restoration and local sales of the topsoil.

### 5.0 Potential Sources of Pollution during Construction

The construction phase of the development will consist of earth moving activities. The potential sources of pollution include site drainage, noise, air emissions, waste and litter and potential release of hydrocarbons.

Site run-off will be directed to the vegetated areas which will filter suspended solids. In addition, barriers will be installed as required to prevent siltation of water bodies/streams.

Domestic waste generated during construction will be collected and disposed of at the Labrador West land fill site, as per the Waste Material Disposal Act.

All equipment will have appropriate emission controls. All vehicles will follow a designated project route and be properly maintained to minimize noise. All vehicles will have exhaust systems regularly inspected and mufflers operating properly. There is a government inspector in the area that regularly make spot checks.

Petroleum products will not be stored on site during construction; petroleum products will be handled as per Storage and Handling of Gasoline and Associated Products Regulations, under the Environmental Protection Act.

# 6.0 Operations

Typical excavation methods will be employed to collect the materials (sand and gravel) at the proposed site. The operation will include the excavation and loading of the native sand and gravel materials at the working face of the quarry, crushing/screening, and transportation of these materials for use off-site in Labrador West. Waste and oversized rock will also be stockpiled for future use.

Appropriate ditching will be maintained on site to ensure silt and general site runoff is controlled and does not adversely affect the surrounding environment. In addition, perimeter ditching and settling basins, as required, will be located to prevent migration of surface water drainage from non operating areas. The ground and facilities will be maintained according to environmental health and safety standards and regulations.

# **Equipment on site will include the following:**

- \* Excavator (access road construction and loading at the working face)
- \* Tandem dump trucks (material transportation)
- \* Front end loaders (material handling)
- \* Mobile crusher- screener

The quarry operation will typically run from May to October, or in accordance with demand for the product. The quarry will potentially operate for six years.

## 7.0 Termination of Operations

Site rehabilitation shall be in accordance with standard quarry operations. Upon completion of quarry activities, all slopes shall be graded to 30 degrees and the remaining areas will be graded to a level surface or as directed by a government quarry inspector from Natural Resources.

# 8.0 Occupations

Site construction and operations for the proposed quarry will include the following occupations classified as per National Occupational Classification, 2006

#### **Construction Phase**

- 1 Site Foreman/Supervisor (7217)
- 1 Heavy Equipment Operator (7421)

# **Operations Phase**

- 1 Quarry Manager (0811)
- 1 Quarry Foreman/Supervisor (8221)

Heavy Equipment Operators – 2 front end loader, 2 crusher (7421)

- 5 Truck Drivers (7411)
- 2 Heavy Equipment Mechanics (7312) located offsite

# 9.0 Project Related Documents

There are no project related documents.

# 10.0 Approval of the Undertaking

- -Environmental Protection Act Assessment Regulations: Permit to Proceed
- -Quarry Materials Act and Quarry Minerals Regulations: Quarry Permit

#### 11.0 Schedule

Registration Document Submission - August 2011

Government Review and Decision - November 2011

Access Road Upgrades - April 2012

Pit Operations - May 2012

# 12.0 Funding

The funding for the project will be provided by Labrador Menihek Resources Inc.

#### 13.0 Submission

Date Name; Ed Montague, P.Geo



