

File # 2.1133.0221
Reg. #1906

SEP 27 2017

Mr. Francis Skeard, Director
Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
Forest Ecosystem Management
P.O. Box 2006
Corner Brook NL A2H 6J8

Dear Mr. Skeard:

RE: Crown District 19A Five Year Operating Plan (2018-2022) – Registration 1906

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by the Newfoundland and Labrador *Environmental Protection Act*, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Please be advised that this undertaking is released from further environmental assessment subject to the following condition:

- The proponent must maintain a minimum 30-meter naturally vegetated buffer along all watercourses, waterbodies, and wetlands to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species and their habitat.

The Local Governance and Planning Division of this department advise that a development permit is required from the Towns of Happy Valley-Goose Bay and/or North West River prior to commencing development within these municipal boundaries. For further information, please contact the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay at (709) 896-3321 or the Town of North West River at (709) 497-8533. In addition, shape files describing the land use zones in which forestry activities are not permitted are provided for your reference.

The Department of Service NL advises that a permit is required from the Government Service Centre in accordance with the *Protected Road Zoning Regulations Rural Planning Act* for the construction of an access road in a protected area or for any access onto a protected road. For further information, please contact the Government Service Centre at (709) 729-2008.

The Water Resources Management Division of this Department requires that prior to the start of construction; you apply for and obtain a permit under the *Water Resources Act, 2002*, Section 61 for any proposed development adjacent to or within the Protected Public Wellhead Water Supply Area servicing the Community of North West River. Also, any work adjacent to or within this designated Protected Public Wellhead Water Supply Area must

comply with this Department's Policy for Land and Water Related Developments in Protected Public Water Supply Areas:
http://www.env.gov.nl.ca/env/water/res/regulations/policies/water_related.html. For further information, please contact the Water Resources Management Division at (709) 729-2563.

The Mineral Lands Division of the Department of Natural Resources requests that it be forwarded any plans to decommission access roads or bridges and recommends that both Departments work cooperatively regarding overlaps between silviculture blocks and quarry permit and lease areas. They also require you to apply for and obtain a Quarry Permit from the Mines Branch to source aggregate for access road construction from a location outside of the immediate road right-of-way. For further information, please contact the Mineral Lands Division at (709) 729-5748.

The Energy Branch of the Department of Natural Resources recommends that you consult Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro regarding any overlap of your proposal with NL Hydro transmission lines or the route of the proposed Lower Churchill Project Transmission Line. For further information, please contact (709) 729-0152.

The Tourism and Culture Branch of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation recommends that you employ landscape design techniques to minimize negative visual effects of clear cuts for specific cut blocks along the Trans Labrador Highway, as well as provide adequate buffers around the Kennemiche River system. Additional groups for consultation are also recommended. For further information, please contact the Tourism and Culture Branch at (709) 729-4518.

Environment and Climate Change Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service recommend that you add them to the list of government agencies that should be coordinated with regarding assessment of wildlife conditions and concerns for migratory birds and species at risk. They also request to review maps for the proposed forest access roads.

The Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment supports Environment and Climate Change Canada's recommendation that in order to avoid nest destruction and to accommodate the breeding season of migratory songbirds and waterfowl, operations should consider nesting locations between May 5th and August 15th in this region. However, as some species protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) do nest outside of this time period, it is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that project activities are in compliance with the MCBA and associated regulations. For further information, please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at (709) 772-2154.

In February 2017, as a condition of release for four Crown Five-Year operating plans a draft document that details a plan for the development and implementation of best management practices for avifauna management relative to forestry operations in Newfoundland and Labrador was required. I understand the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources has

drafted and is implementing this plan. The best management practices developed under this planning process should be applied to this five-year operating plan.

Although the undertaking, as proposed, is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. A detailed summary of the comments received from government agencies during the review is attached to provide an indication of likely applicable permits, approvals and legislative requirements. Please note that you must comply with all relevant legislation and obtain all necessary permits and approvals. You are also required to inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Dr. Susan Squires, Director, Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or susansquires@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



EDDIE JOYCE, MHA
District of Humber-Bay of Islands
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment

Attachment

cc: Hon. Perry Trimper, MHA
Lake Melville