

Reg. No. 1999

APR 12 2019

Ms. Chelsea Cassell
Implementation Manager
Bell Aliant
50 Allandale Road
St. John's NL A1C 5H6

Dear Ms. Cassell:

Re: Hampden to Sop's Arm Fibre Optic Line

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. Upon consideration of the comments received, please be advised that this undertaking is released from further environmental assessment.

Please be advised, you must comply with all terms and conditions as per the permit issued from the Water Resources Management Division (PRO10071-2019) for development in the Country Cove Pond Protected Public Water Supply Area servicing the Community of Pollards Point. Contact Ms. Carla Haynes, Environmental Scientist, at (709)637-2542 or CarlaHayes@gov.nl.ca. The fibre optic line intersects within Newfoundland Marten critical and core habitat. Denning of female marten and young occurs from early April to the end of June and dens must be protected from damage and disturbance during this time period. Also, the fibre optic line intersects with identified core habitat for Newfoundland caribou. You must avoid activities during the spring due to caribou calving / post-calving. If any work must be carried out within May and June, contact Ms. Lea Soper, Wildlife Division, at (709)637-2025 or LSoper@gov.nl.ca.

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 April 15th 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 MBCA and associated regulations. For further information, please contact Ms. Sydney Worthman, Canadian Wildlife Service, at (709)772-4221 or Sydney.Wothhman@canada.ca.

In addition to the requirements noted above, the project is still subject to other legislative requirements. A 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 required to inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Ms. Joanne Sweeney, Director (A), at (709)729-0673 or joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



GRAHAM LETTO, MHA
District of Labrador West
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment

Attachment

cc: Dwight Ball, Premier
Humber – Gros Morne

Town of Jackson's Arm

Local Service District of Pollard's Point

Local Service District of Sop's Arm