

COR/2021/01579

09 JUN 2021

Reg. # 2121

Bryan Oke  
Director, Forest Ecosystem Management  
Forestry and Wildlife Branch  
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture  
Box 2006, Wheelers Road  
Corner Brook NL A2H 6J8  
bryanoke@gov.nl.ca

Dear Mr. Oke:

**Re: Forest Management District 14 (Zone 6) Amendment**

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental environmental assessment screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by Part X of 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 conditions:

- You are required to uphold all commitments made in your environmental assessment submission to mitigate the effects of the project on the environment.
- Commitments made in the environmental assessment registration document for EA Reg. #1984, Crown Zone 6 Five-year Forestry Operating Plan (2019–2023), apply to this project as do the conditions of release of EA # 1984 from further environmental assessment in the Minister's letter of January 15, 2019.
- You are required to advise the Environmental Assessment Division when each of the conditions of release has been met, by emailing a written description, documents, and images (where applicable) to demonstrate that the conditions have been fulfilled to [EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).

- You are required to update the Environmental Assessment Division on the status of the project, including a copy of all permits, licences, certificates, approvals and other authorizations required for the project, within one year from the date of this release letter and to provide additional updates, if requested. Please email project updates to [EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).

**Federal and provincial government departments and agencies that reviewed your project during the environmental assessment provide the following advice:**

The Water Resources Management Division of my Department advises you must obtain permits for any work in a body of water including a wetland, work in shore water zones and for any infilling work within fifteen metres of a body of water. For further information, please contact the Water Resources Management Division at (709) 729-1646.

The Occupational Health and Safety Division of the Department of Digital Government and Service NL advises you to ensure that the activities associated with the development are conducted in compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act and its regulations. This includes the responsibility for ensuring that contractors hired to perform work also comply with this legislation. The Occupational Health and Safety Division reminds you to consider procedures related to the protection of workers related to COVID-19. Procedures must follow the requirements set forth by the Chief Medical Officer of Newfoundland and Labrador (e.g. physical distancing, handwashing).

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recommends 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. ECCC provided a list of avian and non-avian species under the Species at Risk Act that may occur within the study area and requested that any sightings be reported to the Canadian Wildlife Service, including bats, and caribou (Newfoundland population). The project location occurs in an area that is known to be frequented by caribou, specifically the Port au Port subpopulation, which have been assessed as Special Concern by the Committee on the Status of Wildlife in Canada. ECCC advises you to consult with the provincial Wildlife Division regarding caribou concerns for this project. Finally, ECCC requests that you provide a GIS file of the project boundaries and study area so that the project can be mapped for consideration of cumulative effects. For further information, please contact ECCC-CWS at (709) 772-4221.

Although the undertaking as proposed is released from further environmental assessment, it 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. 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.

Please note that in accordance with Section 17 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, the Minister's decision is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter. If you have not commenced your project within this three-year period, you may apply to extend the three-year period for a maximum of three one-year periods, if needed. For further information, please email [EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director (A), Environmental Assessment Division, at 709-729-0673 or [joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca](mailto:joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Bernard Davis", written over a horizontal line.

**HON. BERNARD DAVIS, MHA**  
District of Virginia Waters - Pleasantville  
Minister

Enclosures

cc: Tony Wakeham, MHA  
Stephenville – Port au Port