

Environment and Climate Change

August 6, 2021

Environmental Assessment Bulletin

The Honourable Bernard Davis, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, has announced the following events relative to Part 10 Environmental Assessment of the Environmental Protection Act.

UNDERTAKING REGISTERED:

Aspen Brook Bridge Replacement

(Reg. 2160)

Proponent: Department of Transportation and Infrastructure

The proponent is proposing to demolish the current aged and deteriorated bridge and construct a new bridge at Aspen Brook, located on the Trans Canada Highway approximately 19 kilometres west of the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and approximately 10.4 kilometres east of the Town of Badger. The new bridge will be two-span approximately 12 metres in length and 15 metres in width and be placed in the same location as the existing bridge. A temporary bypass bridge would be constructed parallel to and upstream of the existing bridge. This diversion would be removed upon commissioning of the new bridge.

The undertaking was registered on August 4, 2021; the deadline for public comment is September 10, 2021; and, the minister's decision is due by September 18, 2021.

AMMENDMENT TO THE SUBMITTED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

Valentine Gold Project

(Reg. 2015)

Proponent: Marathon Gold Corp.

The proponent has revised and supplemented the November 3, 2020 version of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in the form of an Amendment.

The amendment is now subject to public and government review as required under the Environmental Protection Act. The EIS, with the amendment, is intended to address the information requirements contained in the EIS Guidelines that were issued to the proponent on January 30, 2020 and the requirements in the minister's decision of February 10, 2021 on the November 3, 2020 version of the EIS. The EIS including the amendment can be viewed on the department's web site at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/projects/project-2015/> or by requesting a copy by contacting the Environmental Assessment Committee (EAC) Chair at the information below.

Written comments must be received by September 25, 2021. They may be emailed to EAProjectcomments@gov.nl.ca or mailed to:

Mr. Eric Watton, M.Sc.
Project EAC Chair
Valentine Gold Project
Environmental Assessment Division
Department of Environment and Climate Change
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's NL
A1B 4J6

UNDERTAKING RELEASED:

Highlands Forage Production
Proponent: New World Dairy Inc.

(Reg. 2144)

The project was released subject to the following conditions:

- The proponent is required to uphold all commitments made in the environmental assessment submission to mitigate the effects of the project on the environment.
- The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure requires that any new access or changes to existing access will require permits for any work within the highway right of-way or access to any highway. Permits are processed through the Department of Digital Government and Service NL (DGSNL).
- The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture requires the following:
 - A minimum 30-metre undisturbed buffer must be maintained along all water bodies and wetlands that appear on a 1:50,000 topographical map except where crossing is permitted to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species, and their habitat.
 - No vegetation clearing is to occur within 800 metres of a bald eagle or osprey nest during the nesting season (March 15 to July 31) and 200 metres during the remainder of the year. The 200-metre buffer also applies to all other raptor nests (e.g. Northern Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, American Kestrel, Great-horned Owl, Boreal Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl). The location of any raptor nest sites must be reported to the Wildlife Division.
- The proponent is required to advise the Environmental Assessment Division when each of the conditions of release have been met, by emailing a written description, documents, and images (where applicable) to demonstrate that the conditions have been fulfilled.
- The proponent is 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 release and to provide additional updates, if

requested.

Learn more

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West Block, Confederation Building
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Public comments may be forwarded to: EAprojectcomments@gov.nl.ca

Environmental assessment information: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/env-assessment/>

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