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# GUIDELINES

for

## Environmental Preview Report

for the

### *Badger Sand and Gravel Quarry*

**Reg. No. 2247**

**Honourable Bernard Davis**

Minister

Department of Environment and Climate Change

October 2023



## **ENVIRONMENTAL PREVIEW REPORT GUIDELINES**

The following guidelines are intended to assist the Proponent, Exploits Welding and Machine Shop Limited, with the preparation of the Environmental Preview Report (EPR) for the proposed Badger Sand and Gravel Quarry (the Project). The EPR is a report that presents the results of an investigation based on readily available information that supplements the information provided by the Proponent upon registration of the undertaking. The purpose of the information in the EPR is to assist the Minister of Environment and Climate Change in determining the potential for significant environmental effects from the proposed undertaking and whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required. The EPR is expected to be concise while presenting the comprehensive information necessary to make an informed decision.

The EPR should include and update the information provided in the original registration document and focus on the information gaps identified during the government and public review of the registration.

The contents of the EPR should be organized according to the following format:

**1. NAME OF UNDERTAKING:**

The undertaking has been assigned the name "*Badger Sand and Gravel Quarry.*"

**2. PROPONENT:**

- a. Name of the proponent and the corporate body, if any.
- b. Name of the chief executive officer of the corporate body.
- c. Name the principal contact person for purposes of environmental assessment and state the official title.

**3. THE UNDERTAKING:**

- a. State the nature of the project.
- b. State the purpose/rationale/need for the Project. If the proposal is in response to an established need, this should be clearly stated. Identify needs that are immediate as well as potential future needs.

- c. Justification for sourcing sand and gravel from the proposed site.

#### **4. DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:**

Provide a complete overview of the project in the following subsections, including information about the geographical location/physical components/existing environment, construction, operation and maintenance standards, etc.

##### **4.1 Geographical Location / Physical Components / Existing Environment:**

- a. Provide an accurate description of the proposed site, access road, facilities and equipment, including GPS coordinates (e.g. digital GIS files using Google Earth, etc.). Attach an original base map (e.g. 1:25,000 scale) and/or most recent available air photos/aerial imagery and date of imagery.
- b. Indicate whether the Project site including the access road corresponds to Crown lands or private land. If the Project site including the access road or any portion of the Project site corresponds to private lands then provide information concerning ownership and any restrictions imposed by that ownership.
- c. Indicate how road access will be provided to the project in a way that would be legally permissible (i.e., not involving thoroughfare through areas corresponding to private land without the written permission of the land owner).
- d. Indicate the distance of the Trans-Canada Highway, Town of Badger and Badger Brook from the boundary of the Project.
- e. Provide information on the general topography of the area, showing the slope towards the river.
- f. Provide information on existing water resources and wetlands with maps in the vicinity of the proposed site.
- g. Indicate any existing environmental issues (e.g., illegal dumping/waste disposal, erosion, drainage congestion, flooding, etc.) with mitigation measures associated with the proposed site. Provide a more detailed plan to restrict access, including specifics as to where features such as berms and gates will be located.

## **4.2 Construction:**

- a. State the period in which the proposed construction will proceed (if staged, list each stage and its approximate duration) and the proposed date of the first physical construction-related activity.
- b. Describe details of the materials, methods, schedule, and location of all planned construction activities.
- c. Scheduling must take into consideration mitigations to help reduce any negative effects on wildlife in the area including a description of how construction activities (plus operations) will be planned to avoid and/or reduce disturbance or harm to caribou and caribou habitat.
- d. Provide a site development plan prepared according to the guidelines of the Mineral Lands Division (available at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/iet/files/QUARRY-SITE-PLAN.pdf>) and which depicts planned phases of development, measures to restrict access (e.g., berms, gates), and any other site features referenced in the EPR.

## **4.3 Operation and Maintenance:**

- a. All aspects of the operation and maintenance of the proposed development should be presented in detail.
- b. Scheduling must take into consideration mitigations to help reduce any negative effects on wildlife in the area including a description of how operations will be planned to avoid and/or reduce disturbance or harm to caribou and caribou habitat.
- c. Describe any processing of materials that will occur, whether this processing (e.g., screening, pit run removal, washing and stockpiling) will take place on-site or elsewhere.
- d. Provide information regarding the expected annual production and the proposed end-use of the materials, including any currently awarded contracts or agreements to supply materials.
- e. Provide an estimate of the volume of sand and gravel remaining within the area of the boundary that may be extracted and an indication of where those resources are located (depict their location on a map if there is a specific part of the site where the resources are located); and

- f. Describe whether quarrying is planned to occur at deeper than historic extraction levels, which reflect the existing condition of the quarry, and if so, provide details.

## 5. ALTERNATIVES

The EPR must identify and describe alternative means and locations of carrying out the project that are technically, legally, and economically feasible. The following steps for addressing alternative means and locations are recommended:

- a. Identify alternative locations for sourcing sand and gravel that would meet the company's needs, and alternatives for constructing and operating the quarry, including an alternative for expanding an existing quarry site, if applicable.
- b. Identify alternative access routes to the proposed Project area that do not pass through an existing quarry permit or lease or an area corresponding to another proposal for a quarry permit or lease.
- c. Identify the environmental effects of each alternative means and location.
- d. Identify the **preferred** means and location for the Project, rationale for selection and reasons for the rejection of alternative sites, including expansion of an existing quarry, if applicable.
- e. Alternative locations should be clearly outlined on maps of a suitable scale (i.e. 1:50,000, 1:25,000, plus GIS compatible) and aerial imagery.

## 6. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND MITIGATION:

Provide detailed information regarding the potential effects of the Project on the environment and the proposed mitigation to be used to avoid adverse environmental effects.

The following information/plans shall be included in the body of the EPR or as Appendices:

- i. Water Resources Management Plan: a water resources management plan is required for the Project. The plan must include a description of the following:

- a. any brook/river/stream, pond, or wetland present in or within the proximity of the project boundary, then provide the type of water body and its distance from the site;
  - b. if any of the above-mentioned water bodies are impacted by site operation, describe how the water body will be impacted;
  - c. any potential of onsite drainage water or dewatering water to discharge into a natural water body, and the precautionary measures, such as vegetative cover, filter strip, silt curtain, etc., are to be deployed to ensure the effluent or runoff meets the requirements of the Environmental Control Water and Sewage Regulations, 2003;
  - d. water control measures to be deployed onsite for daily workings as well as for high-precipitation storms; and
  - e. sediment control measures to be deployed onsite to avoid discharging sediment-laden water into the natural water body.
- ii. A Project-specific Contingency Plan: describe measures that will be taken to enable a quick and effective response to a spill event, including a description of equipment and materials that will be readily available on-site.

## **7. DECOMMISSIONING AND REHABILITATION:**

- a. Describe all aspects of the decommissioning and rehabilitation plans for the project, assuming the eventual need to decommission and rehabilitate the entire project footprint.
- b. Include details such as the methods of rehabilitation, the materials that will be used and their source, an indication of whether rehabilitation will be carried out progressively, and the location of stockpiles (depicted on the site plan). The proponent is directed to consult the Standard Terms and Conditions for quarry permits and leases for information on the standard rehabilitation requirements for quarries. The document is available here: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/iet/files/Quarry-Permit-Standard-Terms-Conditions.pdf>
- c. Describe efforts to reduce the introduction of invasive species, and, to rehabilitate the area in a timely manner.

**8. PROJECT- RELATED DOCUMENTS:**

Provide a bibliography of all project-related documents already generated by or for the proponent (e.g., feasibility study, engineering reports, etc.).

**9. APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:**

List the main permits, licences, approvals, and other forms of authorization required for the undertaking, together with the names of the authorities responsible for issuing them (e.g., federal government department, provincial government department, municipal council, etc.).

You are required to submit one paper copy and an electronic version of the EPR, for posting to the Environmental Assessment website, together with a cover letter to the following address:

Minister  
Environment and Climate Change  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's NL A1B 4J6  
Attention: Director, Environmental Assessment Division