

MAR 17 2023

COR-2023-887

Reg. #2235

Steve Warren
Aurora Holdings Inc.
28 Milords Arm Road
Stanhope NL A0G 3A0
Email: auroraholdingsinc@gmail.com

Dear Steve Warren:

Re: Stanhope Equipment Storage Yard (the Project)

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 the Project is **released** from further environmental assessment subject to the following conditions:

- You must uphold all commitments made in your environmental assessment submission to mitigate the effects of the Project on the environment.
- The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture requires the following;
 - A minimum 30-metre undisturbed riparian buffer must be maintained from the high water mark of all wetlands and waterbodies within and adjacent to the Project that are identified on either the 1:50,000 scale National Topographic System maps or the topographic mapping layer shown in the Provincial Land Use atlas, to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species and their habitats.
 - Vegetation clearing must not 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 and Northern Saw-whet Owl). The location of any raptor nest sites must be reported to the Wildlife Division. For further information, please contact the Wildlife Division at (709) 729-2025.

- You must advise the Environmental Assessment Division when 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 to EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.
- You must 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, one year from the date of this release letter and to provide additional updates if required. Please email the Project updates to EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

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

The Climate Change Branch (CCB) of my department advises that heavy-duty equipment should be operated in a manner to maximize fuel efficiency, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions that could contribute to climate change. For further information, please contact the CCB at (709) 729-1485.

The Pollution Prevention Division (PPD) of my department advises you to develop a contingency plan specific to the Project and to have spill response equipment readily available on-site to enable a quick and effective response to a spill event. Any spill or leak of gasoline or associated product is to be reported immediately to the Environmental Emergencies Telephone Line at 1-800-563-9089. PPD refers you to the Best Management Practices for the storage of waste dangerous goods/hazardous waste (WDG/HW) at business sites, at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/files/env-protection-waste-guidancedocs-gd-ppd-077-best-management-practices-for-the-storage-of-waste-dangerous-goodshazardous-waste-wdghw-at-business-sites.pdf>. For further information, please contact the PPD at (709) 729-5782.

The Water Resources Management Division (WRMD) of my department advises that any effluent or runoff leaving the site is required to conform to the Environmental Control Water and Sewage Regulations, 2003. For further information, please contact the WRMD at (709) 729-2563.

The Government Service Centre (GSC) of the Department of Digital Government and Service NL advises you to maintain any existing tree screen concealing the operation from public view. The GSC recommends that you contact the Regional Office of the GSC in Gander, prior to the start of Project construction, to discuss any relevant permits, approvals, or plans that may be required. For further information, please contact the GSC Regional Office at (709) 256-1426.



The Occupational Health and Safety Division (OHS) of the Department of Digital Government and Service NL advises you to generally ensure that activities associated with the Project 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 OHS recommends that you prepare an emergency response plan to address any foreseeable mishap specific to the undertaking. For further information, please contact the OHS at 1-800-563-5471.

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) advises you to obtain a grant from the Crown Lands office prior to the development of any portion of the Project that is on Crown land. A Commercial Cutting Permit is required prior to any harvesting or timber removal in the Project area, an Operating Permit is required prior to the start of any Project work during the forest fire season and a permit to burn must be obtained to ignite a fire on or within 300 metres of forest land during the forest fire season. Permits can be obtained from the local forest management district office. For further information, please contact FFA at (709) 637-2353.

The Department of Industry, Energy and Technology (IET) advises that quarry materials required for the Project are to be obtained from an approved source. The Project is located in an area in which mineral exploration should be expected in the future. IET recommends that you contact Newfoundland Power Inc. regarding the presence of assets in proximity to the Project. For further information, please contact IET at (709) 729-5811.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recommends that you prepare the following plans:

- Oil Spill Prevention and Response Plan that includes wildlife response activities;
- Contingency plan that considers potential accidents and malfunctions for site-specific activities; and
- A management plan that includes appropriate preventative measures to minimize the risk of impacts on migratory birds.

ECCC further advises 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 15 and August 15 in this region. The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) of ECCC provides a list of avian and non-avian species that are listed on Schedule 1 of the **Species at Risk Act** and requests that any sightings be reported to ec.scfatldonneesei-cwsatliadata.ec@ec.ac.ca and to the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre at <http://accdc.com/en/contribute.html>. ECCC-CWS further advises that the **Species at Risk Act** "General prohibitions" apply to this Project. For more information, please contact ECCC-CWS at (709) 772-4221.

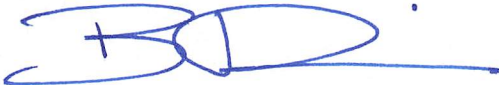
Fisheries and Oceans Canada advises that the modernized **Fisheries Act** includes fish and fish habitat protection provisions which came into effect on August 28, 2019. If you are conducting work in or near water you should refer to the Projects Near Water website to get information about how to comply with the **Fisheries Act** and as well as information on the project review process. The Projects Near Water website is located at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html>. For more information, please contact the Fisheries Protection Program at (709)772-4140.

Although the undertaking as proposed is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. You must comply with all relevant legislation and obtain all necessary permits and approvals. You must inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

Please note that in accordance with Section 17 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, my decision is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter. If you have not commenced the Project within this three-year period, you may apply to extend the term of my decision for a maximum of three periods of one year. Should the term of my decision expire, the Project will have to be registered again for environmental assessment, if you wish to proceed. For further information, please email EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

If you have any questions about the environmental assessment process, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director of the Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or via email joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BD", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

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

Cc: The Honourable Derek Bennett, MHA, District of Lewisporte – Twillingate

Enclosures