Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change
Water Resources Management Division

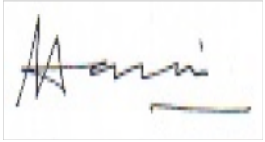
PERMIT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Pursuant to the *Water Resources Act*, SNL 2002 cW-4.01, specifically Section(s) 39

Date:	**NOVEMBER 05, 2026**	File No: **550-01-01-07-070** Permit No: **PRO15309-2026**
Permit Holder:	**VistaCare Communications** **201-200 Bluewater Rd** **Bedford, NS** **B4B 1G9** **carli.spears@vistacaretech.com**	
Attention:	**Carli Spears**	
Re:	**Whitbourne - Hodges River PPWSA - Fibre Op Pole Installation - VistaCare Communications**	

Permission is hereby given for : **installation of seven CCA-treated utility poles over a 420 meter span to support the attachment of fibre optic cable connecting to existing Newfoundland Power poles.**

- This Permit does not release the Permit Holder from the obligation to obtain appropriate approvals from other concerned municipal, provincial and federal agencies.
- The Permit Holder must obtain the approval of the Crown Lands Administration Division if the project is being carried out on Crown Land.
- This Permit is subject to the terms and conditions indicated in Appendices A and B (attached).
- It should be noted that prior to any significant changes in the design or installation of the proposed works, or in event of changes in ownership or management of the project, an amendment to this Permit must be obtained from the Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change under Section 49 of the *Water Resources Act*.



(for) MINISTER

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change

File No: **550-01-01-07-070**
Permit No: **PRO15309-2026**

APPENDIX A

Terms and Conditions for Permit

PPWSA General

1. All operations must be carried out in a manner that prevents damage to land, vegetation, and watercourses, and which prevents pollution of bodies of water.

2. Any areas adversely affected by this project must be restored to a state that resembles local natural conditions. Further remedial measures to mitigate environmental impacts on water resources can and will be specified, if considered necessary in the opinion of this Department.

3. All persons working on this project must be informed that they are within a Protected Public Water Supply Area, and must be made aware of all conditions of this Permit. A copy of this Permit must be on site during operations.

4. The attached Completion Report (Appendix C) for Permit No. 15309 must be completed and returned to this Department upon completion of the approved works. Pictures must be submitted along with the completion report, showing the project site prior to and after development.

5. An undisturbed (no cutting or ground disturbance) buffer zone of at least **150 metres** shall be maintained around Hodges River for a distance of 1 kilometer upstream and 100 metres downstream of the intake, at least **75 metres** along the remainder of Hodges River , at least **50 metres** around major lakes or ponds and along both sides of all streams and main tributaries running into Hodges River , and at least **30 metres** around all ponds and along both sides of all other water bodies including wetlands and field identified streams. Activity or development within these buffer zones is prohibited. All buffer zones must be marked with signs or flagging tape to avoid encroachment into the buffer zones.

6. All waste material is to be collected in refuse containers, and disposed of at an approved waste disposal site outside the Protected Public Water Supply Area in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002 cE-14.2.*

7. Equipment storage, maintenance facilities associated with this project, and all maintenance other than emergency repairs must not be located/carried out within the Protected Public Water Supply Area.

8. A requirement for sampling is not being imposed at this time; however, the Department reserves the right to require sampling and analysis in the future, should it be deemed necessary as a result of this project, to ensure compliance with applicable standards or to address environmental or public health concerns. Any such sampling and analysis will be conducted at the expense of the proponent.

9. Officials of the Department and the appropriate Municipal Authority, Operator, or Watershed Management Committee may visit the site to ensure compliance with this Permit.

10. Liaison is to be maintained with the appropriate Municipal Authority and Environmental Scientist. If there are any specific problems (i.e. sedimentation, fuel spill, or other potential water quality impairment), the appropriate Town Manager/Clerk, Mayor, Chair of the Local Service District Committee, or Chair of the Water Supply Committee must be notified immediately at **(709) 759-2780**. The Environmental Scientist must also be notified immediately at **(709) 729-4817.**

11. The felling or disposing of trees, parts of trees, sawdust, bark, logging debris or slash into a water body or upon the frozen surface of a water body is strictly prohibited.

12. Treated wood shall not be used in a water body or within buffer zones established in Condition #5 of any water body measured from the high water mark. The use of creosote treated wood anywhere within the Protected Public Water Supply Area is strictly prohibited.

13. The Permit Holder must inspect the site daily, and any water quality impairment related problems are to be reported immediately to the Environmental Scientist at **(709) 729-4817** and the appropriate Municipal Authority or Watershed Monitoring Committee at **(709) 759-2780**.

14. The location of the work is highlighted on the Location Map for this Permit attached as Appendix D.

15. This Permit is valid for one year from the date of issue.

16. Any changes in water quality resulting directly from this project, rendering the water unsuitable as a public water supply, are the responsibility of the Permit Holder. The Minister may order the Permit Holder to provide an alternate source of potable water to the affected community until water quality returns to an accepted level.

17. All vehicles and equipment must be clean and in good working order with no leaking fuel, oil, or other harmful substances that could impair water quality.

18. All stationary motorized equipment and associated fuel tanks shall have metal trays, absorbent pads or impervious liners under them to catch and contain in excess of 110 % of the aggregate volume of any fuel, lubricant and oil.

19. Drainage from roads and other disturbed areas into any body of water must first be discharged into a settling pond, a vegetated area or pass through a sedimentation fence where all suspended material can settle out before draining into any body of water.

20. Where permits, licences, approvals or authorizations are issued by multiple governments, departments or agencies, in the case of similar conditions, the more stringent of those shall prevail; in the case of conflicting conditions, the Permit Holder shall seek clarification and direction in writing from each of the respective departments or agencies.

21. The Permit Holder is required to ensure that adequate sanitary (bathroom) facilities are available or provided on site. This may be in the form of a portable toilet, chemical toilet, pit privy (outhouse), sub-surface disposal system, or municipal sewer system. If a portable toilet or chemical toilet is used, the waste water must be disposed of in a septic disposal system approved by the Department of Government Services, or at an approved waste disposal site, outside the Protected Public Water Supply Area in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002 cE-14.2. If a pit privy (outhouse) or sub-surface disposal system is used, it must be located outside the required buffers, and be subject to the Department of Government Services standards, requirements and approval.

22. The issuance of this permit does not guarantee, nor set precedent, that additional or similar permits or amendments will be issued in this or any other Protected Public Water Supply Area for additional or similar activity or development.

23. Any activity within a freshwater body (including wetlands and flood risk areas), requires a Permit under Section 48 of the Water Resources Act, 2002. This Permit refers to Section 39 of the Water Resources Act, 2002 and does not grant permission for the above stated work including fording and/or culvert or bridge installation.

Power Lines

24. Wood and brush removed from the work site must not be stored within undisturbed buffer zones of any water body.

25. The use of creosote or pentachlorophenol (PCP) treated utility poles and/or anchor boxes is strictly prohibited.

26. Chromated copper arsenate (CCA), ammoniacal copper arsenate (ACA) or copper napthanate (CuNap) treated utility poles and/or anchor boxes may be used outside the above-referenced buffer zones. Untreated poles must be used within the above-referenced buffer zones.

27. All poles and/or anchor boxes within 150 metres of Hodges River or within 30 metres of any water body must be of untreated wood, metal or concrete.

28. The **Policy for Treated Utility Poles in Water Supply Areas (WR 93-01)** must be strictly adhered to.

Fuel Storage

29. There shall be no bulk fuel storage associated with this project within the protected water supply area. Fuel shall be brought to the operating area in no more than two (2) 205 litre barrels or one (1) 500 litre slip tank. The Permit Holder is hereby informed that fuel storage and handling requires a separate approval under the *Storage and Handling of Gasoline and Associated Products Regulations*, CNR 775/96.

30. Contaminated snow and soil must be removed from the site and disposed of at an approved location outside the protected public water supply area, in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002 cE-14.2.*

31. Any spills of gasoline, fuel or oil, regardless of volume, shall be reported immediately to the Environmental Scientist at **(709) 729-4817** and the appropriate Municipal Authority or Watershed Management Committee by calling **(709) 759-2780**. Furthermore, all spills in excess of 70 litres shall be reported immediately to the 24 hour spill report line at **1-800-563-9089**.

32. A complete oil spill clean-up kit must be on site at all times when gasoline or fuel powered equipment is being used or refuelled. The kit must contain the following:
    - One hand operated fuel pump
    - One recovery container such as an empty 205 litre drum
    - One shovel
    - One pick axe
    - Five metres of containment boom
    - Five absorbent pads
    - Twenty-five litres of loose absorbent material

33. Refueling sites shall be located at least 150 metres from any water body or wetland.

Special Conditions

34. Fuel powered equipment shall not be parked or left unattended within a buffer zone outlined in Condition 5.

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change

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APPENDIX B

Special Terms and Conditions for Permit

1. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) shall keep all systems and works in good condition and repair and in accordance with all laws, by-laws, directions, rules and regulations of any governmental authority. The Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s) shall immediately notify the Minister if any problem arises which may threaten the structural stability of the systems and works, endanger public safety and/or the environment or adversely affect others and/or any body of water either in or outside the said Project areas. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor (s), and consultant(s) shall be responsible for all damages suffered by the Minister and Government resulting from any defect in the systems and works, operational deficiencies/inadequacies, or structural failure.

2. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) shall operate the said Project and its systems and works in a manner which does not cause any water related and/or environmental problems, including but not limited to problems of erosion, deposition, flooding, and deterioration of water quality and groundwater depletion, in or outside the said Project areas. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) shall be responsible for any and all damages associated with these problems caused as a result of changes, deficiencies, and inadequacies in the operational procedures by the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s).

3. If the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s) fails to perform, fulfil, or observe any of the terms and conditions, or provisions of this Permit, as determined by this Department, the Minister may, without notice, amend, modify, suspend or cancel this Permit in accordance with the *Water Resources Act*.

4. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) indemnify and hold the Minister and Government harmless against any and all liabilities, losses, claims, demands, damages or expenses including legal expenses of any nature whatsoever whether arising in tort, contract, statute, trust or otherwise resulting directly or indirectly from granting this Permit, systems and works in or outside the said Project areas, or any act or omission of the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s) in or outside the said Project areas, or arising out of a breach or non-performance of any of the terms and conditions, or provisions of this Permit by the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor (s), or consultant(s).

5. This Permit is subject to all provisions of the *Water Resources Act* and any regulations in effect either at the date of this Permit or hereafter made pursuant thereto or any other relevant legislation enacted by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador in the future.

6. This Permit shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

cc: Ms. Sarah Raymond
Environmental Scientist, Drinking Water
Water Resources Management Division
Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O.Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
sarahraymond@gov.nl.ca

cc: Town of Whitbourne
Ms. Crystal Peddle
P.O. Box 119
Whitbourne, NL A0B 3K0
whit.towncouncil@eastlink.ca

cc: Ms. Deneen Spracklin, P.Eng.
Manager, Drinking Water and Wastewater Section
Water Resources Management Division
Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change
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4th Floor, West Block, Confederation Building
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
dspracklin@gov.nl.ca

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
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Appendix C - Completion Report

Pursuant to the *Water Resources Act*, SNL 2002 cW-4.01, specifically Section(s) 39

Date: **NOVEMBER 05, 2026**

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Permit Holder: **VistaCare Communications**
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Bedford, NS
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Attention: **Carli Spears**

Re: **Whitbourne - Hodges River PPWSA - Fibre Op Pole Installation - VistaCare Communications**

Permission was given for : **installation of seven CCA-treated utility poles over a 420 meter span to support the attachment of fibre optic cable connecting to existing Newfoundland Power poles.**

I (the Permit Holder named above or agent authorized to represent the Permit Holder) do hereby certify that the project described above was completed in accordance with the plans and specifications submitted to the Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change and that the work was carried out in strict compliance with the terms and conditions of the Permit issued for this project.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

This completion report must be completed and forwarded to the following address upon completion of the approved work.

Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change
Water Resources Management Division
PO Box 8700
St. John's NL A1B 4J6

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change

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APPENDIX D

Location Map for Permit

PRO15309-2026

