

Mineral Exploration Approvals

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Mineral Exploration Approvals Geologist

NLPA Workshop, March 12, 2015
Capital Hotel, St. John's

Legislation

- Mineral Act:

5 (4) A person who intends to conduct a search for minerals on areas either licensed or leased under this Act shall submit a description of the planned exploration work before starting the work, and when that work involves an activity that the department considers capable of causing ground disturbance, water quality impairments or disruption to wildlife or wildlife habitat, the work shall begin only after the department has issued an exploration approval with terms and conditions prescribed by the minister.



- Mineral Act is the same as Highway Traffic Act – it's the law
- Need to have approval before you start the work

Application for Mineral Exploration

- Available online as fillable .pdf:
 - http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/forms/mines/MEA%20Application_Editable.pdf
- Available at DNR, 3rd floor
- Available by e-mail from me:
 - heatherrafuse@gov.nl.ca



- There's currently a glitch on the online fillable .pdf – will be fixed soon

Application for Mineral Exploration



GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MINES BRANCH, MINERAL LANDS DIVISION

Application for Exploration Approval
Pursuant to subsection 8(4) of the Mineral Act, notice is hereby given of our intentions to undertake mineral exploration.

Name/Company: _____
Mailing address: _____
Property name: _____ NTS map sheet(s): _____
Licence # (s): _____
Starting date: _____ Completion date: _____
Office: Exploration Manager _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Field: Project Manager _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

The information contained in this application/notice is a complete and accurate summary of the exploration planned for this property:

Date Signature Position/ title

Newfoundland
Labrador

- Page 1
- Have to fill in name, address, licence numbers, start and completion dates, phone number and e-mail address
- Would prefer it if property name and NTS map sheet were included
- Start and completion dates – make sure they're after the date submitted!!
- Put yourself down as exploration manager
- Now have place for e-mail instead of fax
- Signature not totally essential – don't let it stop you from e-mailing it in

Application for Mineral Exploration

Prospecting:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Comments: _____			
Geological Mapping:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Comments: _____			
Geochemistry:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
This section should be completed if undertaking of a systematic sampling program, a channel sampling or other sampling involving stripping areas of significant size. Do not complete this section for general prospecting or mapping or for sampling drill core.			
	Yes	No	No. of samples
Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Streams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Till	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Lake bottom	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ocean bottom	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Biogeochem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
		Contractor: _____	
		Address: _____	
		Contact person: _____	
		Phone no.: _____	
		E-mail: _____	
		Comments: _____	

1

- Page 1
- Geochemistry – not for prospecting

Application for Mineral Exploration

Will geochemistry include channel sampling?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If channel sampling or other sampling involves stripping areas of significant size (greater than several metres in diameter or length) or a large number of stripped areas at one general location, then this work requires prior approval, may be subject to rehabilitation requirements, and specific locations must be provided for all proposed stripped areas of significant size.	
Will channel sampling or other sampling involve stripping areas of significant size?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
No. of stripped areas: _____	Total diameter/length of stripped areas (m): _____

- Page 2 - top
- Geochemistry includes channel sampling
- Will you be stripping large areas?

Application for Mineral Exploration

Ground Geophysics:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	No. of kms.	Contractor: _____
EM-16	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Address: _____
VLF-EM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
HLEM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
VLEM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Contact person: _____
Turan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Phone no.: _____
Mise-a-masse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	E-mail: _____
Magnetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Comments: _____
Gravity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
IP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
Pulse EM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
Seismic (explosives)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

Line Cutting:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Contractor: _____
Total line kms: _____				Address: _____
Baseline azimuth: _____				_____
Crossline spacing: _____				Contact person: _____
UTM NAD 27 coordinates of baseline midpoint: _____				Phone no.: _____
_____E				E-mail: _____
_____N				

- Ground geophysics and linecutting
 - If doing either, have to fill out all except for contractor, unless contractor being used

Application for Mineral Exploration

Off-Road Vehicle Use: ☐ Yes ☐ No

This section should be completed for off-road motorized vehicle use or motorized vehicle use otherwise outside of 'approved areas' as per the Motorized Snow Vehicles and ATV Regulations (CNLR 1163/96). Examples of 'approved areas' are forest access roads, resource roads, and trails constructed under licence issued under the Lands Act. For new access trail preparation it is required that the "Access Trail Preparation and Use" section be completed.

Type of vehicle:

<input type="checkbox"/> Three wheel	<input type="checkbox"/> Muskeg	<input type="checkbox"/> Argo	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavator
<input type="checkbox"/> Four wheel	<input type="checkbox"/> Nodwell	<input type="checkbox"/> J-5	<input type="checkbox"/> Bulldozer
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			

Describe the nature and extent of off-road vehicle use or vehicle use otherwise outside of 'approved areas' as per the Motorized Snow Vehicles and ATV Regulations (CNLR 1163/96):

2

- Bottom of Page 2
- Off-road vehicle use not for ATV use only along existing trails and roads
- Describe nature and extent: on bogs? Purpose of ATV use? How many passes?

Application for Mineral Exploration

Airborne Geophysics: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Total line kms: _____	Contractor: _____
Flight line orientations: _____	Address: _____
Aircraft type: _____	_____
Planned altitude - aircraft: _____	Contact person: _____
Planned altitude - sensor: _____	Phone no.: _____
Flight line spacing: _____	E-Mail: _____
Parameter(s) measured: _____	_____
Comments: _____	_____

- Top of Page 3
- Air Geophysics – fill in all but contractor unless contractor used

Application for Mineral Exploration

Camps: Camps to be occupied (by people, structures or equipment) for less than 90 days are considered 'fly camps'; for greater than 90 days 'base camps'. For 'base camps', an application must be made to the Lands Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation for a Temporary Work Camp (Licence to Occupy)

☐ Fly camp(s) ☐ Base camp

For Fly Camps:

Has this location been used as a camp site in the past? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe previous occupation: _____

NTS Map Sheet: _____ UTM NAD 27 Coordinates: _____ E _____ N

Type of structure:	Number:	Support:
Canvas <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Fixed wing aircraft <input type="checkbox"/>
Half wood-half canvas <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Helicopter <input type="checkbox"/>
Wood <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Vehicle (car/truck) <input type="checkbox"/>
Quonset <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	ATV <input type="checkbox"/>
Trailer <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Other: <input type="checkbox"/>
Other: <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	

Number of occupants _____

Comments: _____

Facilities for Sewage and Waste Water: Permits from Service NL may be required

☐ Pit-privy ☐ Portable ☐ Septic system ☐ Other: _____

Comments: _____

- Middle of Page 3
- Camps
 - Fly camps < 90 days
 - Base camp > 90 days – need licence to occupy (LTO) from Crown Lands

Application for Mineral Exploration

Water Use:

Do you have an existing Water Use Licence or Permit (WUL/P) for this property? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, what is the number of the WUL/P? _____

If No:

The use of water in connection with this mineral exploration activity may be subject to Section 14 of the *Water Resources Act, SNL 2002 cW-4.01*. The information in this application will be used to issue a Water Use Licence/Permit. Please include the locations of sources of water withdrawal on the accompanying location map with this application as well as UTM coordinates for all water withdrawal sites in NAD 27.

Provide an estimated daily water withdrawal in litres: _____ Litres per day

Will there be any development activity (including fording, diamond drilling, trenching, off-road vehicle access or cutting trees over an area) or any other alteration of a water body within 15m of the high water mark?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide locations of such activities on any maps accompanying this application, indicating UTM coordinates.

Comments: _____

3

- Bottom of Page 3
- Water use – if drilling, have to apply for water use
- Use of any water from any water body requires Water Use Licence (WUL)
- Need UTM coordinates of water withdrawal sites
- Includes use of water for camp
- Also, need to indicate if work is within 15 m of high water mark of any water body – would need special permit for that

Application for Mineral Exploration

Access Trail Preparation and Use:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
This section should be filled out for new access trail preparation, or for use of existing access trails.		
<u>Access trail preparation:</u> (includes cutting trees, applying corduroy or brush matting on wet ground, as well as mechanized vehicle use to the extent that the natural ground cover is disturbed and a visible path of travel established. Access trail preparation may also include local grubbing and small-scale in-filling as necessary.)		
Total length of access trail to be prepared (m): _____		
Describe the nature of access trail preparation: _____		

Have the proposed trail routes been ground-truthed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>Use of existing access trails:</u>		
Total length of access trail to be used(m): _____		
Describe ground conditions for existing trails to be used: _____		

Are any or a portion of any of the trails to be used covered by a Licence to Occupy? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Any and all access trails must be depicted on accompanying maps. Please distinguish between existing access trails and proposed new trails.		

- Top of Page 4
- Access Trail Preparation and Use – New Section
- If new trail > 500m may be required to register for Environmental Assessment
- Show new and existing access trail on map

Application for Mineral Exploration

Drilling: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Drilling	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Starting date: _____	Drilling Contractor: _____
Completion date: _____	Address: _____
Planned footage (m): _____	_____
Planned no. of holes: _____	Contact person: _____
No. of drill rigs: _____	Phone no.: _____
Type of drill rig: _____	E-mail: _____
Will trails need to be prepared to provide access to drill sites? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Will existing trails be used to access drill sites? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes for either of the two questions above, it is required that the "Access Trail Preparation and Use" section be completed.	
Means of moving from one drill site to the next: _____	
Anticipated sequence of drilling of the holes: _____	
Use of drilling fluids, cement or grout type: _____	
Will drill casings be removed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Comments: _____	

- Middle of Page 4
- Drilling – show on map, include UTM coordinates
- Have to fill out all
- If drilling – need to fill out water use section – Page 3
- Trail use for drilling – fill out “Access Trail and Preparation and Use” section on top of Page 4

Application for Mineral Exploration

Trenching: ☐ Yes ☐ No

A "trench" is defined as any not insignificant excavation, however shallow or broad, for the purposes of studying or sampling the underlying bedrock, till, or soil, and includes pits and areas stripped to bedrock.

Method: ☐ Hand ☐ Mechanical ☐ Explosives

Starting date: _____ Trenching Contractor: _____

Completion date: _____ Address: _____

Planned no. of trenches: _____

Length of trenches (m): _____

Depth of trenches (m): _____ Phone no.: _____

Type of trenching machine: _____ E-mail: _____

Will trails need to be prepared to provide access to trenching sites? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will existing trails be used to access trenching sites? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes for either of the two questions above, it is required that the "Access Trail Preparation and Use" section be completed.

Anticipated sequence of trenching: _____

4

- Bottom of Page 4
- Show on map, include UTM coordinates
- Have to fill out all except for contractor (unless contractor used)
- Definition of trench given – read carefully
- If using water for trenching– fill out water use section
- Trail use trenching– fill out "Access Trail and Preparation and Use" section on top of Page 4

Application for Mineral Exploration

Bulk Sampling: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Will explosives be used? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Sample will be taken from: <input type="checkbox"/> Surface <input type="checkbox"/> Underground <input type="checkbox"/> Drill core	
Starting date: _____	Bulk sample contractor: _____
Completion date: _____	Address: _____
Planned no. of sites: _____	Contact person: _____
Planned tonnage of sample(s): _____	Phone no.: _____
Total volume of sample(s) (m ³): _____	E-mail: _____
Type of machinery: _____	
Will trails need to be prepared to provide access to bulk sampling sites? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Will existing trails be used to access bulk sampling sites? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes for either of the two questions above, it is required that the "Access Trail Preparation and Use" section be completed.	
Anticipated sequence of sample sites: _____	
Method of storing bulk sample at or near site: _____	
Means of transporting bulk sample from site for testing: _____	
Comments: _____	
Mechanical Heavy Mineral Sampling: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Type of machinery and comments: _____	

- Top of Page 5
- Fill out all unless contractor not used
- Need to show bulk sample sites on map, include UTM coordinates with application
- If bulk sample > 1000m³ may be required to register for Environmental Assessment
- Trail use for access to bulk sample sites – fill out “Access Trail Preparation and Use” section
- Mechanical Heavy Mineral Sampling – I don’t see this much, requires large machinery to sample heavy minerals

Application for Mineral Exploration

Fuel Storage: ☐ Yes ☐ No
A fuel cache approval is required from Service NL for the storage of 10 or more drums or equivalent of fuel within the exploration area.

Is there an existing fuel cache within this property? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please indicate the fuel cache permit number and date of expiry: _____

Purpose of fuel cache: _____

Location of proposed fuel cache:
NTS Map Sheet: _____ UTM NAD 27 Coordinates: _____ E _____ N

<u>Type of product:</u>	<u>No. of drums of each product:</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Date fuel cache to be positioned: _____
Duration of storage: _____
Method of transport to fuel cache: _____
Supplier of product: _____
Base of operations of supplier: _____
How, when and to where are empty drums to be removed? _____

5

- Bottom of Page 5
- Fuel cache – if 9 drums of fuel or less, approval from Mineral Lands OK
- If fuel cache to contain 10 drums of fuel or less, need permit from Service NL
- Locations of fuel cache must be on map, and UTM coordinates included

Application for Mineral Exploration

NOTE

Applications must be typed and any accompanying location maps prepared at a standard scale appropriate for the detail contained. The location of all exploration work sites, water sources, camps, trails infrastructure and related activities must be identified on an appropriate scale map or aerial photograph as outlined in section 42(1) and 42(2) of the Mineral Regulations. UTM coordinates in NAD 27 for these locations must also be included. Standard scales employed should be 1:250,000 or 1:100,000 for airborne and reconnaissance surveys; 1:50,000 for preliminary ground surveys; and 1:10,000 for more advanced or detailed ground surveys. It is necessary for applications to be submitted by e-mail as .pdf attachments or through the mail as original copies. Maps and plans accompanying the application must be submitted as .pdf files and as and in a vector file format (preferably ESRI shapefiles) as per the specifications in the Guidelines for the Form of Reports and Illustrations. Applications should be e-mailed to the following address:

exploration_approval@gov.nl.ca

Applications will not be accepted by fax because of the reduced image quality of materials sent by fax.

The issuance of an Exploration Approval by the Department of Natural Resources does not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of compliance with legislation and/or regulations of other departments or agencies.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Mineral Lands Division
Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Building
50 Elizabeth Ave.
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL
A1B 4J6

Telephone: (709) 729-6408

Online application: http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/forms/mines/expl_approval.pdf



- Most important page – read carefully
- Gives scales of maps required based on type of work being done
- If it doesn't fit on 1:250,000 scale map, it's too big – break it down by property
- UTM coordinates included – we use NAD 27, but if you use NAD 83, specify!
- Say vector files – more for larger-scale projects
- E-mail address, mailing address for submission
- Will not accept faxes
- My number shown on page
- Web address for application form

Application for Mineral Exploration

- Include:
 - Application Form
 - Maps
 - UTM Coordinates
- Send to:
 - exploration_approvals@gov.nl.ca
 - Heather Rafuse, Mineral Lands Division,
Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box
8700, St. John's, NL A1B 4J6



- Include everything to prevent delays
- Send in as soon as possible – if doing work in spring/summer, submit application early in new year
- UTM's – type out in e-mail or put in Excel spreadsheet
- Always send to that e-mail address
- Right now, lots of different people getting approvals
- If I'm on vacation or out of the office, someone will get application

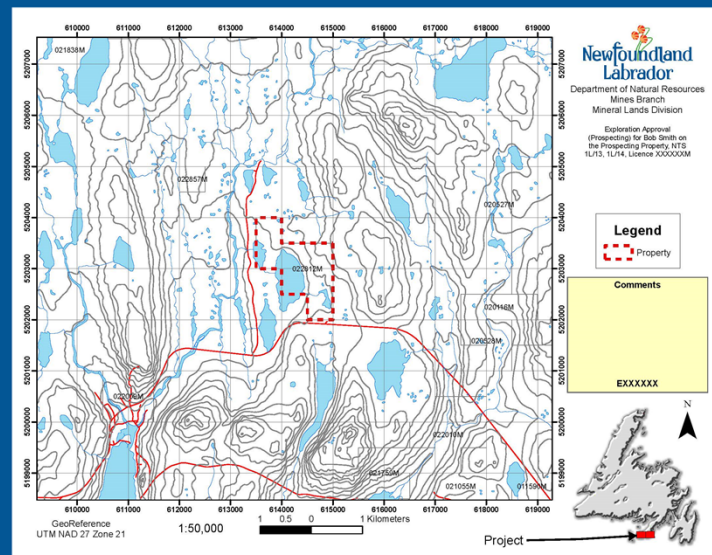
Referral Process

- Using information in application, generate map showing proposed activities and other land uses
- Other land uses can include:
 - Sensitive Wildlife Areas
 - Agricultural Development Areas
 - Protected Public Water Supply Areas (PPWSA)
 - Asserted Aboriginal Land Claims
 - Etc.



- Use licence numbers to create property boundaries, UTM's for locations of work, NTS for index map, map you made to ensure accuracy
- Have internal government-use only Land Use Atlas – shows all other land uses
- Overlay land uses on top of activities in application

Referral Process



- Example of map I generate
- Simplest case – no other land uses in the area
- Still sent to Provincial Archaeology Office (PAO) – they have a large database of archaeological sites and general areas that must not be disturbed e.g. buffer of 50 m around some lakes

Referral Process

- Referral Package:
 - Application
 - Maps
 - Shapefiles
- Referred to all relevant departments and agencies
 - E.g. Wildlife, Provincial Archaeologist, Forestry, Water Resources, Hydro, etc.
- 14 days to respond – can request extension
- Looking for conditions and required permits



- Shapefiles are files generated by the mapping program I use to make referral maps
- Shapefiles include property, trench, drill locations, etc.
- Extension requests must be reasonable
- Conditions usually based on legislation
- Permits e.g. cutting permit, operating permit (during forest fire season), Licence to Occupy, fuel cache permit, water use licence, PPWSA permit

Referral Process

- If in Labrador – referred to Aboriginal Affairs
- Aboriginal Affairs advises which Aboriginal Groups (if any) need to be consulted
 - Labrador Innu
 - Nunatsiavut Government (Labrador Inuit)
 - NunatuKavut Community Council
 - Quebec Aboriginal Groups – ITUM, Matemikush-Lac John, Naskapi Nation of Kawawachickamach, Ekuanishit
- Aboriginal Consultation Policy:
 - http://www.laa.gov.nl.ca/laa/publications/aboriginal_consultation.pdf
- Consultation – at this level, very similar to referral
- Aboriginal groups given 14 days to comment



- It is a constitutional requirement that the Crown (government) consult with recognized Aboriginal groups on any projects within settled/asserted land claims
- If in Labrador Inuit Land, different process – have to submit work plan directly to Nunatsiavut Government as well as apply to Mineral Lands
- Consultation otherwise – send out same files as sent to other departments/agencies
- If Aboriginal group responds with comments/concerns – formulate conditions to address concerns
- If their response is too general – may give extra 14 days to provide more detail
- Mineral Lands may encourage you to contact Aboriginal groups to inform them of your exploration plans

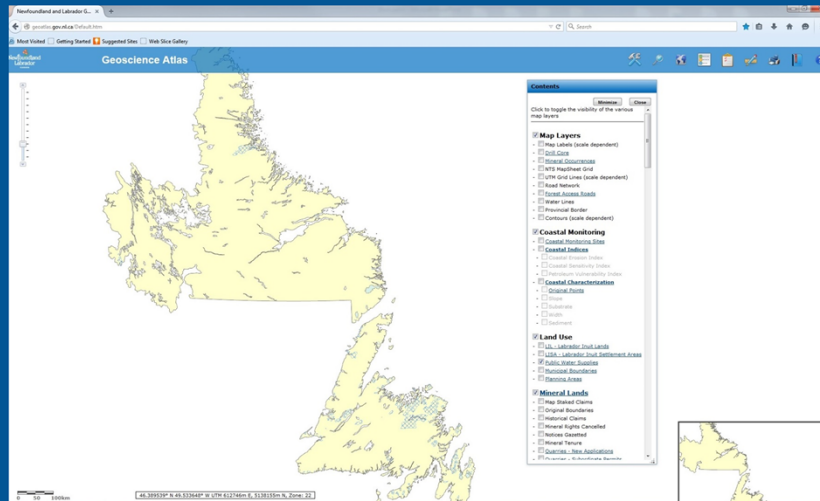
Referral Process

- Some permits must be issued BEFORE Mineral Lands can issue approval – e.g. work in PPWSA
- Some permits may be required to be sought by prospector/company after issuance of approval letter - e.g. cutting permit
- Conditions from departments/agencies compiled
- Approval letter put together



- Work in Protected Public Water Supply Area (PPWSA)
 - shown on geoscience resource atlas: under “contents” (clipboard icon), go to “land use”, called “Public Water Supplies”
 - To use ATV, trailer e.g. in PPWSA – need permit
 - Permit usually mailed out by Water Resources, but I have a copy as well
 - Permit is \$75 + HST
- Permits required to be sought by prospector listed in conditions of approval letter

Referral Process



- How to find PPWSAs on Geoscience Resource Atlas


Approval Letter

- Approval Letter = Permit
- Some conditions in every approval letter
- Conditions included due to specific activities
- Conditions provided by other departments/agencies during referral process
- Include referral map(s) with approval letter



- Specific activities e.g. drilling, trenching, line cutting, water use etc.

Approval Letter

 Newfoundland
Labrador

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Natural Resources
Mines Branch
Mineral Lands Division

Date
XXXXXX

Contact Name
Company Name
Street Address
City, Province
Postal Code


Dear Contact Name:

**Exploration Approval
(IA Activities) &
Notification Work (Notification Work Activities)
for Company Name,
on the Property Name
NLS
Licences:**

Your proposed exploration program submitted in compliance with Section 5(4) of the Mineral Act has been reviewed and approved.
The following conditions apply:

1. The Proponent, its employees, agents and subcontractors ("Proponent") shall comply with the Mineral Regulations, in particular sections 41 – 45. The Mineral Regulations can be read at: <http://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc961143.htm>
2. This approval may be cancelled or suspended by the Minister if the Proponent fails to comply with any condition in this approval or as a result of a failure to comply with the Mineral Act, Mineral Regulations or any other provincial law or regulation. Upon cancellation or suspension of this approval the Proponent shall immediately cease all exploration activities.
3. The Proponent shall comply with any other Provincial and Federal act or regulation, and obtain all permits that may be required in connection with the exploration activity.
4. As required by Section 42 of the Mineral Regulations, the Proponent shall notify the Mineral Lands Division of any significant changes to the approved exploration plan, and shall not proceed with exploration work, preparatory work or site access that deviates substantially from the approved exploration plan or deviates from the approved exploration plan in a manner which may significantly impact the environment without first receiving written authorization from the Mineral Lands Division.

Natural Resources Building, 50 Elizabeth Avenue, P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, Canada, A1B 4J6.
Fax: (709) 724-1732 www.gov.nl.ca/nr

 Newfoundland
Labrador

- Date – approval only good for up to 12 months after this date
- Approval number – distinct number for each approval assigned when application received, needed for prospector's grant
- Read through bolded activity section – this is what you're approved to do, where you're approved to do it. Make sure all licences you expected are there – some people forget to include all licences on applications

Approval Letter

Your proposed exploration program submitted in compliance with Section 5(4) of the *Mineral Act* has been reviewed and approved.
The following conditions apply:

1. The Proponent, its employees, agents and subcontractors ("Proponent") shall comply with the *Mineral Regulations*, in particular sections 41 – 45. The *Mineral Regulations* can be read at: <http://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc961143.htm>
2. This approval may be cancelled or suspended by the Minister if the Proponent fails to comply with any condition in this approval or as a result of a failure to comply with the *Mineral Act*, *Mineral Regulations* or any other provincial law or regulation. Upon cancellation or suspension of this approval the Proponent shall immediately cease all exploration activities.
3. The Proponent shall comply with any other Provincial and Federal act or regulation, and obtain all permits that may be required in connection with the exploration activity.
4. As required by Section 42 of the *Mineral Regulations*, the Proponent shall notify the Mineral Lands Division of any significant changes to the approved exploration plan, and shall not proceed with exploration work, preparatory work or site access that deviates substantially from the approved exploration plan or deviates from the approved exploration plan in a manner which may significantly impact the environment without first receiving written authorization from the Mineral Lands Division.

Natural Resources Building, 50 Elizabeth Avenue, P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, Canada, A1B 4J6,
Facsimile (709) 729-6782 www.gov.nl.ca/nr



- Bottom of Page 1
- Read through conditions carefully
- These particular ones are on all approval letters

Approval Letter

– 2 –

5. The Proponent shall provide the Mineral Lands Division with:
 - a) a brief notice immediately before beginning the work;
 - b) a brief update of the status of the exploration program when it is completed.Notices and updates should be sent to HeatherRafuse@gov.nl.ca
6. At any time the Mineral Lands Division may issue a request for information regarding completed, ongoing or planned exploration and the Proponent agrees to abide by all such requests without undue delay. The information requested may include but is not limited to: the location of exploration sites (including access trails), site preparation methods, the status of rehabilitation and cleanup, and photographic documentation of site conditions.
7. If exploration work is to take place on lands not vested in the Crown, as per section 12(2) of the *Mineral Act*, the licensee shall obtain prior written permission and forward copies to the Mineral Lands Division.

- These are also in every approval letter
- Have to let us know when you start/end program
- Send me a quick e-mail when you're about to start and once you're finished
- "lands not vested in the Crown" = private land – need landowner's permission to conduct work
- Important to note that most of province is Crown Land

Approval Letter

8. Please be advised on the provisions of the *Historic Resources Act*, protecting archaeological sites, artifacts and significant fossils, and procedures to be followed in the event that either are found:
- A person who discovers an archaeological object or significant fossil in, on or forming part of the land within the province shall report the discovery forthwith to the Minister (responsible for the *Historic Resources Act*) stating the nature of the object, the location where it was discovered and the date of discovery;
 - No person other than one to whom a permit has been issued under this Act, who discovers an archaeological object or significant fossil shall move, destroy, damage, deface, obliterate, alter, add to, mark or in any other way interfere with, remove or cause to be removed from the province that object or fossil;
 - The property in all archaeological objects or significant fossils found in, on or taken from the land within the province, whether or not these objects or fossils are in possession of the Crown is vested in the Crown;
- Should any archaeological remains be encountered, such as stone, bone or iron tools, concentrations of bone, charcoal or burned rock, fireplaces, house pits and/or foundations, activity in the area of the find must cease immediately and contact should be made with the Provincial Archaeologist in St. John's (709-729-2462) as soon as possible. Copies of the *Historic Resources Act* and information on archaeology in the province may be obtained from the Provincial Archaeology Office upon request.

- This is from the Provincial Archaeology Office (PAO)
- Usually near the end of the approval letter
- They review every single application
- This condition is in every approval letter
- Sometimes identify archaeological sites and their buffers in separate conditions

Approval Letter

9. The Wildlife Division advises applicant to operate under established regulations and guidelines with respect to wildlife and its habitat to minimize additional impacts (in particular Sections 106 a) of the *Wild Life Regulations* under the *Wild Life Act* (O.C. 96-809): www.env.gov.nl.ca/env/wildlife/index.html).

Pursuant to Section 106 of the *Wild Life Regulations*:

- a. A person shall not operate an aircraft, motor vehicle, vessel, snow machine or all-terrain vehicle in a manner that will harass any wildlife;
- b. You are advised that helicopter supported exploration programs must be conducted in a manner that does not disturb, harass or harm any animal life that you encounter. This can easily be accomplished by avoiding concentrations of wildlife by rescheduling the planned activities for another day.
- c. Under no circumstances should nesting raptors be approached, not even for a

Natural Resources Building, 50 Elizabeth Avenue, P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, Canada, A1B 4J6,
Facsimile (709) 729-6752, www.gov.nl.ca/nr

- 3 -

"harmless" look. The startle effect that helicopters have on nesting raptors can be detrimental and therefore either a 600 m horizontal buffer from cliff faces or an altitude of 300 m must be observed.

The Wildlife Division strongly recommends that a minimum 30 m naturally vegetated buffer be maintained along all waterbodies and wetlands to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species, and their habitat.

Habitat disturbance impacts wildlife (birds, small mammals, plants etc) negatively and should be kept to a minimum. To help reduce any negative impacts on any species, the Wildlife Division recommends that any necessary vegetation clearing or excessive noise be undertaken outside of the nesting, breeding and brood rearing period (May to mid-July), when disturbance would be most critical.

- Where vegetation clearing is not avoidable and a nest is found:
- The nest and neighbouring vegetation should be left undisturbed until nesting is completed; and
- Construction activities be minimized in the immediate area until nesting is complete

Newfoundland
Labrador

- Standard condition from the Wildlife Division
- Usually on last page
- Read through carefully

Approval Letter

10. This approval is due to expire on December 31, 2015.

If you have any questions concerning this, please contact Heather Rafuse, Geologist,
Exploration Approval and Land Use, at 729-6408.

Regards,

Jim Hinchey, P. Geo.
Director, Mineral Lands Division

c: Justin Lake, Mineral Rights
Martha Drake, Historic Resources

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Newfoundland
Labrador

- End of approval letter
- Expiration date here
- List of who else has received a copy of the approval letter
- Any questions, contact me by phone/e-mail – phone number and e-mail address within approval letter

Inspections

- Have dedicated Inspector for mineral exploration
- Conducts inspections year-round
- Ensures compliance with Mineral Act, Mineral Regulations, conditions of Exploration Approval



- Matthew Snow – Mineral Exploration Site Inspector
- Will usually let you know he's coming, but according to legislation (Section 19 of the Mineral Act) he doesn't have to
- This is why it's so important to read approval letters, conditions

MEAMS

- Mineral Exploration Approvals Management System
- Automated Mineral Exploration Application
- Hope to have it available by summer 2015
- Will do demonstrations



- If you don't have access to a computer will still accept written applications
- Plan to travel across province to demonstrate MEAMS

Conclusion

- Put in applications as soon as possible
- Complete application fully – the better job you do on completing the application, the faster it can be turned around
- Always send to exploration_approvals@gov.nl.ca or mail to Mineral Lands Division Attn: Heather Rafuse
- Read approval letters carefully
- Any questions, please contact me



- If doing work in spring or summer, put application in early in new year
- Need application number for prospector grant

Thank You

Questions?



- Thank you to NLPA for inviting me to present
- .pdf of presentation as well as my notes will be available on the Matty Mitchell web page