



**Environment  
Office of the Minister**

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Our File number:  
10700-40-56943  
40100-30-310

December 21, 2020

Gary Rudolph, P. Eng  
Dexter Construction Company Limited  
927 Rocky Lake Drive  
PO BOX 48100  
Bedford, NS B4A 3Z2

Dear Gary Rudolph:

Re: **Environmental Assessment – Dexter Construction Co. Ltd.  
Welshtown Quarry Expansion Project, Shelburne County, Nova Scotia**

The environmental assessment of the proposed Welshtown Quarry Expansion in Shelburne County, Nova Scotia has been completed.

This letter is to advise that, pursuant to Section 13 (l)(a) of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, I have determined that the Registration Document provided is insufficient to allow me to make a decision, and that I require additional information. Specifically, the review determined that the following additional information is required to evaluate potential environmental effects that may be caused by the undertaking:

1. In consultation with Nova Scotia Environment, Sustainability and Applied Science Division, and DFO, provide additional details for the water resources assessment with accompanying discussion and analysis of potential effects to surface water resource quality and quantity, wetlands and groundwater quality and quantity, that includes the following:
  - a. A detailed description of development plans for the site. The plan should discuss how the work will proceed, site management and reclamation plan for each phase, and relevant timelines.
  - b. A quantitative water balance analysis based on appropriate inputs and site grading. It is recommended the analysis include the delineation of pre and post-development watershed boundaries, and discussion on the extent of disruption to surrounding water resources, including wetlands. Water balances developed should include appropriate considerations (and justified assumptions) for components such as potential quarry floor infiltration, groundwater-surface water interactions, and groundwater inflows into the existing quarry. The water balance developed should also represent all the planned phases of the project if there are any.

- c. Additional details regarding the site water management plan for all the planned phases (if there are any) of the project (including reclamation), with the intent of clearly outlining what is proposed and the effectiveness of the proposed actions in mitigating impacts and alterations to nearby water resources. Details are to include, but not be limited to: considerations for the potential impacts associated with planned operations (e.g., precipitation season, extreme weather conditions, and times of site shut-down and restart, pumping requirements on site, aggregate washing, dust suppression), plans/figures that provide sufficient detail to illustrate what is being proposed (e.g., sediment control ponds, drainage ditches) and provide confidence in their feasibility and effectiveness, and details that consider the results of the assessments (e.g., potential need to manage groundwater inflows).
- d. A detailed methodology and discussion on proposed water quality monitoring, including representativeness of water quality testing completed, baseline general chemistry and metals analysis to identify potential contaminants of concern, and identification of monitoring locations, sampling frequency and parameters.
- e. Identification of sources of water proposed to be used for dust suppression, including anticipated volume and frequency of use.
- f. Baseline fish and fish habitat studies for wetland 12 and associated watercourse, and update to assessment as appropriate, based on the results of the assessment.
- g. A detailed discussion of proposed mitigation measures and follow-up monitoring programs based on the results of any of the assessments.

This information must be submitted by Dexter Construction Company Limited within one year, as an addendum to the original Registration Document. Upon submission of the information, I will have 50 days to make my decision.

The Proponent shall publish a notice in the same manner as the original notice under Section 10 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations announcing the release of the additional information to the public and stating that written comments may be submitted about the additional information to the Department.

If you have any questions regarding the approval of this project, please contact Helen MacPhail, Supervisor, Environmental Assessment Branch, at (902) 483-2696 or via email at [Helen.MacPhail@novascotia.ca](mailto:Helen.MacPhail@novascotia.ca).

Sincerely,



Gordon Wilson, MLA  
Minister of Environment

c: Helen MacPhail