

Notice of Completion for a Category C Project
Class Environmental Assessment for Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
under the Mining Act

East Block McAuslan Project

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) has completed its assessment on the applicant's proposal to remove bedrock from mining claim 4257096 in McAuslan Township, District of Nipissing.

The Category C screening, consultation and planning was carried out in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for MNDM's Activities under the Mining Act* (Class EA).

The proposed project involves excavating and removing a bulk sample of bedrock from the mining claim and conducting a variety of tests to indicate its suitability as dimension stone product and for other potential aggregate uses. The extraction site is located on a bedrock outcrop where soil disturbance will be minimal. A 100 metre trail will be required to access the sampling site.

In order to mitigate certain potential environmental effects, the following mitigation measures will be required:

- Stripped soils will be stored nearby to be used for site rehabilitation;
- A list of potential species at risk and their preferred habitat, if any, will be provided to the applicant by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR);
- The applicant will be instructed to remove trees or complete stripping outside of the nesting season;
- A Forest Resource Licence may be required by MNR;
- Wolf Lake First Nation was asked to comment on the proposed project and related Exploration Permit PR-14-10520.

Based on the Ministry of Natural Resources review of the permission, they offered the following recommendations:

- The proposed site location for bulk sampling is within the Crown land use management area E151r, Boland Lake Recreation Area. The land use intent of this management area is to protect the high quality recreational and tourism values, while managing the area for its high quality forest and other resource values. The proposed site location is within an area where mineral exploration and aggregate extraction are not permitted in order to protect core values. This area is defined in the land use direction as "that portion of Boland Lake Area located west of Mud, Pole and Reynolds Lakes" and is outlined as Zone 1 in the Interim Land Use Plan for the McConnell Lakes Area, which was incorporated into the North Bay District Land Use Guidelines in 1983 and now forms the basis for direction in the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas (CLUPA). MNR is looking into the history and framework of the land use plan area to determine the reason for the prohibition, and if appropriate, the CLUPA amendment process.
- A bear management area and baitfish harvesting area have been identified for the area, and they should be contacted for possible comment. Each person was contacted and had no concerns with the bulk sample so long as activity is outside of bear season, access is not blocked and tree cutting is minimized.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport offered a reminder that in the event that archaeological resources are discovered during site exaction, the proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately, and contact the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, at 416-212-8886, or e-mail: archaeology@ontario.ca, and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork. Furthermore, any person discovering human remains

must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services at 416-326-8404, or e-mail michael.d'mello@ontario.ca.

The exploration permit application was posted on the Environmental Registry for 30 days beginning on April 14, 2014. The proposal posting included reference that the project included a bulk sample permission which is subject to the Class Environmental Assessment for MNDM's activities under the Mining Act, and included a link to a bilingual Notice of Opportunity to provide input.

You are invited to bring any new information or concerns to MNDM by **July 3, 2014**. For any concerns that cannot be resolved in discussion with MNDM, *interested persons* may submit a Part II Order request (see Section 7.5 Part II Order Process of MNDM's Class EA) to the Minister of the Environment requesting that the project be made subject to the individual environmental assessment requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*. Requests must be received by the Minister of the Environment by **July 3, 2014** with a copy to MNDM.

To receive additional information, inspect the project file or submit new concerns regarding the project, please contact:

Tim Ruthenberg , Mineral Exploration and Development Section
Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
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After **July 3, 2014**, if MNDM is satisfied that there are no outstanding concerns, the project will be implemented as planned without additional notice.

Please note that personal information provided in a submission (such as name, address, and telephone number) and your views and opinions are being collected by MNDM under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* for the purpose of engaging in public consultation and making decisions regarding the project. The personal information may also be shared with the Environmental Approvals Branch of the Ministry of the Environment. The collection, use, and disclosure of this information are all governed by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Questions about the collection of this information should be directed to the person listed above.

