

APR 27 2022

COR-2022-325

Reg. # 2180

Andrew Kasza
Vice President – Engineering and Projects
Innu-Inuit Envest Limited Partnership
77 King Street West, Suite 3000
PO Box 95, TD Centre North Tower
Toronto ON M5K 1G8
E-mail: ak@envestcorp.com

Dear Andrew Kasza:

RE: Voisey's Bay Wind Energy 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 this undertaking is **released** from further environmental assessment subject to the following conditions:

- You are required to uphold all commitments made in your environmental assessment submission to mitigate the effects of the project on the environment.
- You must develop a Species at Risk Impacts Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (IMMP) for approval of the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, prior to issuance of a permit under Section 19 of the **Endangered Species Act**. The IMMP is to include a mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management framework for bats, short-eared owls and the peregrine falcons.
- You must consult with the Innu Nation and the Nunatsiavut Government and demonstrate, to my satisfaction, how local Innu and Inuit traditional knowledge is incorporated in IMMP, including the timing of avian and bat surveys.
- You are required to 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, within one year from the date of this



release letter and to provide additional updates, if requested. Please email project updates to EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

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

The Water Resources Management Division of my Department requests that data from the Voisey's Bay meteorological stations be shared with them to enhance the development of a centralized data repository. Also, any effluent or runoff leaving the site must conform with the requirements of the Environmental Control Water and Sewage Regulations. For further information, please contact the Water Resources Management Division at (709) 729-1646.

The Climate Change Branch of my Department suggests that the provincial climate change projections for Nain (nearest regional site) be used in the planning for this undertaking. All heavy duty equipment used in the construction phase of this project 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 Climate Change Branch at (709) 729-1485.

The Department of Industry, Energy and Technology advises that Vale NL may pursue a surrender of the portion of their surface lease corresponding to the project area and may subsequently apply to the Crown Lands Administration Division to obtain surface rights for the project under the **Lands Act**. A development plan, rehabilitation and closure plan, and financial assurance will be required for the project. Further, the project is subject to an existing Industrial and Employment Benefits Agreements between Vale NL and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, including women's employment and gender equality. Inquiries concerning compliance with the **Mining Act** should be directed to Industry, Energy and Technology at (709) 729-2358 or email PaulPhilpott@gov.nl.ca.

The Government Service Centre of the Department of Digital Government and Service NL (DGSNL) advises you to have spill response equipment readily available on-site to ensure that a quick and effective response to a spill event is possible. Any spill or leak of gasoline or associated product is to be reported immediately to DGSNL by calling the Environmental Emergencies Telephone Line at (709) 772-2083 or (800) 563-9089.

The Occupational Health and Safety Division of DGSNL advises that you must 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. For further information, please contact the Occupational Health and Safety Division at (800) 563-5471.



Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recommends that you avoid scheduling high disturbance activities, such as vegetation clearing, during the regional nesting period for migratory birds. Species at Risk (SAR) observations should be submitted to the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. ECCC requests you to make data available to the Canadian Wind Energy Association (CanWEA) database. For further information, please contact the ECCC-Canadian Wildlife Service at (709) 772-4221.

Transport Canada Civil Aviation advises you to complete an Aeronautical Assessment Form to assess the wind turbines for marking and lighting requirements as per: Standard 621 - Obstruction Marking and Lighting. For further information, please contact Cheryl Bugden, Aerodrome Standards Inspector, (506) 961-7958 or cheryl.bugden@tc.gc.ca.

Although the undertaking as proposed is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. A summary of the comments received from government agencies during the review is attached to provide an indication of likely applicable permits, approvals and legislative requirements. You must comply with all relevant legislation and obtain all necessary permits and approvals. You are required to inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

Please note that in accordance with Section 17 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, the Minister's decision is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter. If you have not commenced your project within this three-year period, you may apply to extend the three-year period for a maximum of three one-year periods, if needed. For further information, please email EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director, Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Hon. Bernard Davis, MHA, consisting of a stylized 'B' and 'D' followed by a horizontal line.

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

Cc: Lela Evans, MHA, Torngat Mountains

Enclosure