

**Attachment A**  
**Conditions of Release from Environmental Assessment**

**EA #: 2326 Atlantic Lake to Gulp Pond Exploration Access Road (the Project)**

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**1 Definition**

- 1.1 "Act" means the **Environmental Protection Act** (the **Act**).
- 1.2 "Department" means the Department of Environment and Climate Change, and the contact for the Department for this environmental assessment (EA) Release is:

Director  
Environmental Assessment Division  
Department of Environment and Climate Change  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6  
Tel. 709-729-0673

- 1.3 "Minister", unless the context indicates otherwise, means the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.
- 1.4 "Proponent" means a person who carries out or proposes to carry out a Project, or is the owner or person having charge, control or management of a Project.
- 1.5 "Registered" and "registration" mean registered under Section 49 of the **Act**.
- 1.6 "Release" means the release of a Project under Section 51, 54, 67 or 72 of the **Act** from the further application of the EA requirements of Part X of the **Act**.
- 1.7 "Undertaking" includes an enterprise, activity, **Project**, structure, work or proposal and a modification, abandonment, demolition, decommissioning, rehabilitation and an extension of them that may, in the opinion of the Minister, have a significant environmental effect.

**2 Acronyms / Abbreviations**

EA	Environmental Assessment
REG	Registration document
FFA	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
TCAR	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation

**3 Scope**

- 3.1 The EA Release letter relates to First Atlantic Nickel Corp. (the Proponent) and their Registration document (REG) for Atlantic Lake to Gulp Pond Exploration Access Road, EA REG # 2326, hereafter referred to as the "Project".
- 3.2 The Proponent shall ensure the Project is carried out in accordance with this EA Release and their REG.

#### 4 General

- 4.1 The Proponent, First Atlantic Nickel Corp., shall uphold all commitments made in the EA submission to mitigate the effects of the Project on the environment.
- 4.2 The Proponent shall conduct the Project in accordance with the **Act**, as amended from time to time.
- 4.3 The Proponent shall provide written notification of Project commencement to the Department, prior to the commencement of Project construction, by sending an email to [EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).
- 4.4 The Proponent shall update the EA Division on the status of the Project, including a copy of all permits, licenses, certificates, approvals and other authorizations required for the Project, within one year from the date of this EA Release letter and provide additional updates if required. Project updates shall be emailed to [EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).
- 4.5 This EA Release does not exempt a Proponent of a Project from the requirements imposed upon the Project by (a) another Act or regulation of the province or of Canada; or (b) a municipal regulation, by-law or requirement.
- 4.6 A license, permit, approval or other document of authorization pertaining to this Project shall not be issued under another Act until the Project has been exempted or released from EA.
- 4.7 Prior to a proposed change to any aspect of the Project from that proposed in the REG, the Proponent shall submit the proposal to the Department to review for regulatory requirements, including EA registration.
- 4.8 No authority is granted by this EA Release to enable the Proponent to commence or continue the Project on lands which are not in the control or ownership of the Proponent. It is the responsibility of the Proponent to ensure that such a contravention does not occur.
- 4.9 The Proponent shall notify the Minister before a transfer, sale or lease of the Project.
- 4.10 Where a timeline is associated with a condition(s) of the EA Release, the Proponent shall fulfil the requirements of the condition(s) within the prescribed timeline, unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Minister.
- 4.11 If there is a discrepancy between the REG and the conditions of this EA Release, the conditions of this EA Release shall apply.
- 4.12 The Proponent shall bear all expenses incurred in carrying out the environmental management and monitoring required under the conditions of this EA Release, the **Act** or the EA Regulations.
- 4.13 The Proponent shall ensure that this EA Release, or a copy, is present at the Project site while personnel are on site and that personnel directly involved in the Project are made fully aware of the conditions that pertain to this EA Release.

- 4.14 Throughout the life of the Project, the Proponent shall conduct any additional studies or monitoring and/or implement additional mitigation measures as required by the Minister.
- 4.15 The Proponent shall advise the EA Division by email of when the requirements of conditions of Release have been completed, by providing a written description, documents, and images (where applicable) to demonstrate the completion of requirements. Information shall be emailed to [EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca). The Minister will advise the Proponent in writing of whether the condition(s) of Release have been met.

## **5 Habitat, Flora and Fauna**

- 5.1 The Proponent shall ensure that road construction, road maintenance, and subsequent exploration-related activities do not occur during the sensitive calving and post-calving period for caribou, from April 15 to July 15.
- 5.2 The Proponent shall submit a Road Decommissioning Plan to the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) and to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (TCAR) for the approval of each department prior to the expiration of the Mineral Exploration Permit issued by the Department of Industry, Energy and Technology. The Road Decommissioning Plan shall describe actions that would be undertaken to decommission and replant the disturbed area for the road if drilling does not confirm further exploration. For more information, please contact the Wildlife Division of FFA at (709) 637-2025 and the Tourism Product Development Division of TCAR at (709) 729-4518.
- 5.3 A minimum 30-metre undisturbed buffer shall be maintained from the high-water mark of all wetlands and waterbodies that are identified on 1:50,000 National Topographic System maps, or the topographic mapping layer shown in the Provincial Land Use atlas.
- 5.4 The Proponent shall not clear vegetation within 800 metres of a bald eagle or osprey nest during nesting season (March 15 to July 31) and within 200 metres during the remainder of the year. A 200-metre buffer also applies to all other active raptor nests (e.g. Northern Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, American Kestrel, Great-horned Owl, Boreal Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl) during nesting season. For more information, please contact the Wildlife Division of FFA at (709) 637-2025.

## **6 Natural Areas**

- 6.1 The Proponent shall restrict all activities to the existing road and trail networks while traveling through the Stony Lake Proposed Reserve.

## 7 Tourism Product Development

- 7.1 The Proponent shall submit an Outfitter Consultation Plan to TCAR for approval prior to the commencement of Project construction. For more information, please contact Tourism Product Development at (709) 729-4518.



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**HON. LISA DEMPSTER, MHA**  
District of Cartwright - L'Anse au Clair  
Minister

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

