

REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 49 OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

NAME OF UNDERTAKING: **Mink Farm - C.B. Mink- 10,000 female breeders**

PROPOSER:

(i) *Name of Corporate Body:* **C.B. Mink (TBI)**

(ii) *Address:*
**P. O. Box 388
Bide Arm, NL
A0K 1J0
(709) 457-2024**

(iii) *Chief Executive Officer:*
**Mr. Wade Reid
P. O. Box 388
Bide Arm, NL
A0K 1J0
(709) 457-2024**

(iv) *Principal Contact:*
**Mr. Brian Burke
Burke Consulting Inc.
7 Somerset Place
CBS, NL
A1W 4P3
(709) 834-6331**

THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) *Nature of the Undertaking:*

Proposed development of a mink farm at a site off of Route 433, near Bide Arm on the Northern Peninsula. The farm is being developed to produce high quality mink varieties for sale through the North American auction houses. Farm construction is proposed to begin in the Summer of 2007. The project proponent, Mr. Wade Reid, is an established entrepreneur and community leader and will be establishing the farm on a new agriculture lease, application #130367.

(ii) *Purpose/Rationale/Need for the Undertaking:*

The proponent, Mr. Wade Reid, views Newfoundland and Labrador and more specifically the Northern Peninsula as offering a significant opportunity for the development of a world-class mink industry. The province has the proper climate for mink production as well as offering potential advantages in land, feed and labour availability as compared to other jurisdictions.

Mr. Reid has an extensive entrepreneurial background as the owner of several ventures in construction, forestry, waste collection, etc. over the past many years. He is also a community leader and current mayor of Bide Arm. To provide the necessary mink farm experience for his operation, a mink farm manager will be hired/trained for the new farm.

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:

- *Geographical Location:*

The proposed site consists of a new agricultural lease for which Mr. Reid has made application to Crown Lands, application #130367, of approximately 150 acres in total. The site is located off of Route 433, near the Town of Bide Arm. Maps of the proposed site are attached in Appendix 1. These maps include a location map, application map for the lease, and an aerial photo of the site.

Distances: >3 km to nearest house

- *Physical Features:*

Physical requirements for the mink farm to be added to the site include mink sheds (12-16 in total), a storage shed, perimeter fencing, temporary manure storage and new/upgraded access roads. A total area of 8-10 acres will be leveled to encompass the sheds and fencing. The main farm area will be situated with a treed buffer maintained to limit exposure. Additional land will be developed, as required, for manure spreading. Each of the required physical features are further described below:

Road

Access to the site from Route 433 will be gained using existing access roads adjacent to the site. Access will be upgraded and extended to reach the proposed main farm area. No water bodies are to be crossed in upgrading the required access.

Mink Sheds

The proposed mink sheds for this farm will be 400-600 ft long by 22-40 ft wide. Each shed will hold four to eight rows of mink cages. The sheds are to be constructed using simple post and beam wooden construction, with galvanized aluminum sheeting attached for roofing, as well as a fibreglass skylights, and a plastic fabrene material used on the exterior sides (to enable natural light penetration).

An automatic watering system will be installed in the sheds such that the mink will have access to a continuous supply of water. Artesian well(s) will be used to provide the necessary water requirements.

Storage/Auxiliary Sheds

One small shed (2,000 square feet) will be constructed on-site to provide storage space for equipment and materials as well as a small staff room/facilities.

Perimeter Fencing

Fencing of the farm site will be completed as per the requirements established by the Department of Natural Resources.

Manure Storage

A temporary manure storage area will be constructed, consisting of a concrete pad and bucking wall, covered by a heavy tarp to prevent washout by precipitation. This facility will be constructed and located in keeping with the Environmental Guidelines for Livestock Producers. For the ultimate 10,000 breeder operation around 12,000 cubic feet of storage will be required. Manure pads will be added in increments to meet the breeder requirements for the upcoming production season. The facility(s) will provide for temporary storage or composting, with the manure ultimately being used on fields to be developed by the proponent.

- ***Construction:***

Project construction is projected to occur from July/August 2007 through to November 2010. Construction will be undertaken in a staged approach to meet the requirements of the expanding farm. Following are the projected construction requirements for each phase:

- *July/August 2007 - November 2007*
 - Upgrade/Extend Access
 - Level Land

- 3-5 Mink Shed(s) for initial breeding stock (2,000-2,500 females)
- 1 Storage/Auxiliary Shed
- Perimeter Fencing
- Manure Storage Pad (3,200 cubic feet, for 2,500 breeders)
- *July 2008 - November 2008*
- 1-3 Mink Sheds for expansion to 3,000-4,000 breeders
- Manure Storage Pad (3,200 cubic feet, for additional 2,500 breeders)
- *July 2009 - November 2009*
- 2-4 Mink Sheds for expansion to 5,500-7,000 breeders
- Manure Storage Pad (3,200 cubic feet, for additional 2,500 breeders)
- *July 2010 - November 2010*
- 3-4 Mink Sheds for expansion to 10,000 breeders
- Manure Storage Pad (3,200 cubic feet, for additional 2,500 breeders)

The main site will be selected to minimize clearing and leveling requirements and to utilize a natural buffer to minimize visibility. Construction involves simple structures with low potential for environmental impact. Good drainage will be maintained under the mink sheds to minimize the potential for pollution and pest production.

- ***Operation:***

The process of farming mink is closely tied to the natural breeding cycle of the animal. For mink farming in Newfoundland and Labrador the primary seasons are as follows:

- Breeding - Breeding to start in early March;
- Whelping - The breeding females will start having their kits as early as April 20th. Litters may range from as few as three to as many as 13, but four or five is the average;
- Weaning - Separating the kits from their mother and getting them on solid food starts after six to eight weeks, in late June or early July;
- Growth and Furring - From August through to pelting time in November/December the focus is on kit growth and proper fur development;
- Grading and Pelting - Prior to pelting, mink are graded such that the best performers can be retained as breeding stock. Pelting starts in November and can continue to early December.

C.B. Mink plans to start with 2,000-2,500 disease free, high quality mink females from an established farming operation. On average mink produce between four to five offspring. In 2008 the projected kit production will be approximately 8,000-12,000 kits. Over the following three to five years the operation will expand to 10,000 female breeders, producing up to 50,000 kits per annum.

This proposed operation will consist only of the farm. The proponent will be utilizing external suppliers for feed supply and pelting.

Waste Production/Handling

Waste production from a mink farm consists of two primary waste streams, manure and urine from the mink, which is mixed with wood shavings and straw from the nest boxes, and carcasses. Manure production varies with the time of year, with lower volumes produced from late-November through May, as the farm is populated only with breeding stock, and larger and increasing volumes produced from June through November, as the kits grow. The mixing of the manure/urine with the wood shavings/straw produces a very manageable solid waste product. Carcasses are the primary waste stream from pelting. The projected maximum waste production for a 10,000 female mink farm is as follows:

- Manure 1,800 tonnes
- Shavings/Straw 250 tonnes
- Carcasses 50 tonnes

Waste Collection

With all animals held in cages the manure and urine collects directly under these cages, in the sheds. In a vast majority of cases the mink return to the same spot to deposit their waste on an ongoing basis. In addition, straw and/or wood shavings are used in the nest boxes and the manure/urine becomes mixed with the straw/shavings that fall through the cage, producing a more manageable waste product. For hygiene purposes and to reduce odour, waste will be collected from the sheds on a regular basis, consisting of every two weeks from mid-June though to October and less often during cooler periods.

Waste is to be collected using a small articulating tractor which is capable of operating in the sheds. A special attachment will be purchased which enables the tractor to easily collect the waste in an efficient manner. The proponent also has existing equipment that will be utilized for waste collection, stockpiling and spreading.

Waste Handling and Disposal

The handling and disposal of the waste from the mink farm will be undertaken using approved manure management strategies and in accordance with best practices being developed for the industry. The primary handing and disposal methodologies to be used will include short-term stockpiling, land application and potentially composting.

Short-term Stockpiling

Stockpiling of manure will only take place on a short-term basis, to accumulate for land application or composting. Stockpiling will be done in an approved manner and

at a site on the farm of sufficient distance and location from the sheds and wells to ensure no risk of contamination. Tarping of the stockpiles will be utilized to improve fly control.

Land Application

A total of 150 female mink (plus kits and males) per acre is the recommended maximum from the “Environmental Farm Practice Guidelines for Livestock Producers in Newfoundland and Labrador” for manure spreading. As such, for a 10,000 female farm the recommended minimum acreage for manure spreading would be 66.67 acres. The site has a land base of 150 acres, with the potential to clear over half this acreage over time for spreading.

Carcasses

Pelting will not take place on-site, the mink will be forwarded to a pelting facility for processing and disposal of carcasses. Although a decision has not been made on the pelting contractor to be utilized, options include the Nova Scotian Co-op or established pelting operations in the province, such as Charleston Mink or Viking Fur.

- ***Occupations:***

The proposed farm will require a projected 8-10 employees during the construction and operations phases. This will include one site foreman and the remainder as general labourers. This labour pool will meet the requirements for farm construction during the first three years as well as ongoing farm operations as the farm grows from 2,000-2,500 female breeders to a proposed 10,000 female breeders by the fourth or fifth year.

- ***Project-Related Documents:***

Letter of support from the Town of Bide Arm. (Appendix 2)

APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:

Approvals required for the construction and operations phases for Mr. Reid’s farm include the following:

- Waste Management Certificate - Government Services Centre - Approval required prior to 2008 operations

SCHEDULE:

The initial land development and construction phase for this project will start in July or August 2007. Land clearing and leveling, the construction of mink sheds and the installation of a manure storage pad will be completed prior to the transfer of the breeding stock in April 2008.

FUNDING:

Funding for this operation will consist primarily of private investment. Mr. Reid plans to apply for assistance through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (repayable loans), Human Resources and Social Development (HRSD)/Service Canada and/or the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment (wage subsidies), the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF), the Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development (Small and Medium Enterprise Fund) and the Farm Credit Corporation (repayable loans). No approvals have been granted to date.

Wade Reid

Mr. Wade Reid

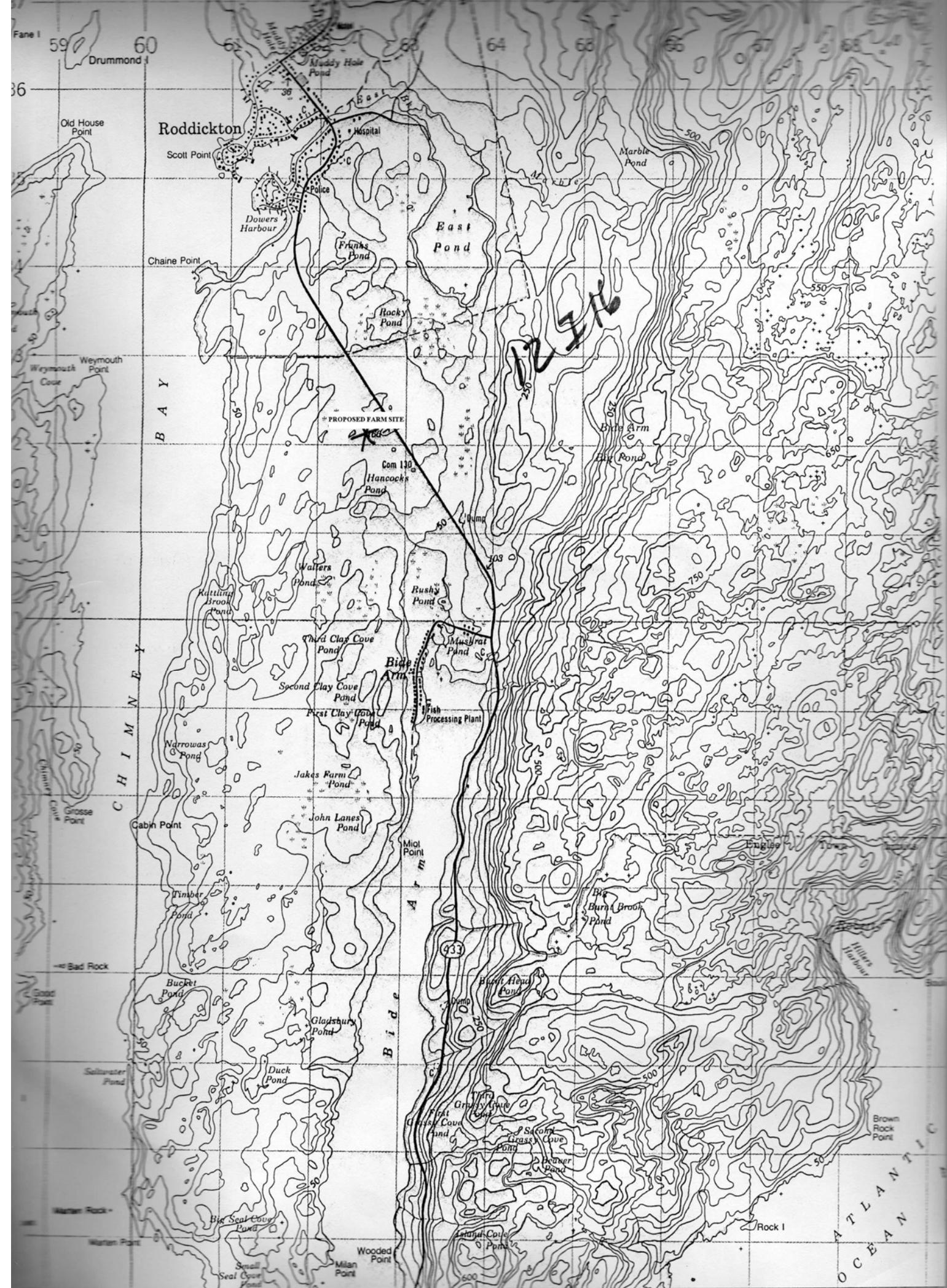
President

May 28/07

Date

APPENDIX 1

SITE MAPS



12716-275

WADE REID
W-130367

C.B.C.
File No. 395-5830-40
12716-275

297,200 E

Trees
Marsh

12716-275

HANCOCKS POND



Existing Access

APPENDIX 2

LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM TOWN OF BIDE ARM

Town of Bide Am
P.O. Box 420
Bide Am, N.L. A0K 1J0

2007-05-25

Mr. Wade Reid
P. O. Box 388
Bide Arm, NL
A0K 1J0

Dear Mr. Reid:

The Town of Bide Ainn is pleased to support the venture of C. B. Mink Incorporated with its endeavor to commence a mink farm within the area.

We acknowledge the lack of entrepreneurs in this area and recognize that challenges are part of the process of getting a business established. We believe that this proposed initiative will create a new exciting economic boost for the area in whole. It is for this reason that we are giving our full support.

All the best toward a long and successful establishment.

Yours truly,

Henry Basby

Tennis Cassell
Deputy Mayor

105