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Reg. # 2227

Jason Coish
Senior Vice-President
Newcrete Investments Ltd.
2800 Trans-Canada Highway
St. John's NL A1B 3M7
E-mail: Jason.coish@newcrete.ca

Dear Jason Coish:

RE: Victoria River Quarry (the 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. Upon consideration of the comments received, please be advised that an Environmental Preview Report (EPR) is required.

The EPR is necessary to inform the significance of the potential effects of the undertaking on the surrounding environment, and to explore the effects of alternatives. Additional information requirements include, but are not limited to:

- justification for sourcing sand and gravel in the Victoria River region as opposed to less remote and more accessible locations in central Newfoundland, including a discussion of possible alternative sources of sand and gravel that would meet the company's needs;
- an analysis of alternate quarry locations and access routes to minimize the potential effects on the Victoria River watershed and caribou migration routes;
- an analysis of the potential cumulative effects of the Project on the Victoria River watershed, wildlife and wildlife habitat in the area in consideration of existing and proposed mining activities, road and transmission line development and other development near the proposed Project area;
- identification of any public access routes to the river that may be present within the boundaries of the proposed site, and measures that will be undertaken to preserve public access to the river while restricting public access to work sites;

- details on the expected longevity of the quarry and an estimate of the total volume of sand and gravel present that could be extracted from the site;
- an Archaeological Impact Assessment for Project activities that would occur on the east side of the proposed access road;
- a Water Resources Management Plan;
- a Visibility Management Plan; and
- public consultation.

An Environmental Assessment Committee will be appointed for the purpose of providing you with technical and scientific advice regarding the preparation of the EPR. As per the legislative requirements, within 60 days of this letter you will be issued guidelines for the completion of the EPR. Please be reminded that, in accordance with the **Environmental Protection Act**, project activities may not proceed until the proposal is released from environmental assessment.

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

Sincerely,



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

Cc: Chris Tibbs, MHA – Grand Falls-Windsor-Buchans