



Environment and Labour

Environmental Assessment Branch

PO Box 697
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2T8

RID#5

Tel:(902) 424-2387
Fax(902) 424-0503

Mark McLean, B.Sc., MES
Environmental Assessment Officer

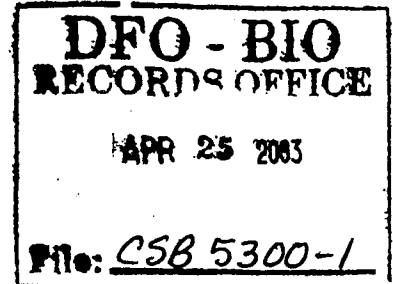
2003-224-01712

File no: 40100-34-70

April 23, 2003

Mr. Paul Buxton, Project Manager
Global Quarry Products
P.O. Box 2113
Digby, NS B0V 1A0

13905



Dear Mr. Buxton:

RE: Whites Point Quarry and Marine Terminal, Digby County, Nova Scotia

As you are aware, Global Quarry Products' proposed quarry expansion beyond the currently approved 3.9 ha at Whites Point, Digby County will require an Environmental Assessment from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour (NSDEL). I also understand that during previous discussions you were informed by Mr. Phil Zamora of the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) that the project will require a Comprehensive Study under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. As noted in Mr. Zamora's letter of April 14, 2003, the NSDEL, DFO and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency are working towards a harmonized environmental assessment review, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

In addition to the MOU, a Draft Scoping Document is being prepared that will include aspects of the project and the assessment that must be addressed in the Comprehensive Study Report to meet the requirements of both the federal and provincial environmental assessments. Both the Draft Scoping Document and a draft MOU will be circulated for public review and comment before being finalized. Global Quarry Products is also able to make comments on both of these documents once they are released for review.

Once an MOU is finalized, the project will require a single Comprehensive Study Report which must address the requirements of both the federal and provincial environmental assessment legislation. At the end of the environmental assessment, both DFO and the NSDEL will release their respective decisions on the assessment of this project.

GQP is not to commence work on any aspect of the proposed expansion of the Whites Point Quarry until all approvals, if warranted, are issued by the regulatory departments and/or agencies. If you have any questions please contact me at (902) 424-2387 or Cheryl Benjamin at (902) 424-3960. Thank you.

Sincerely,

for/ Mark McLean
Environmental Assessment Officer

- cc. P. Zamora
D. McDonald
B. Petrie