

Environmental Assessment Approval

Approval Date: **NOV 14 2013**

**Mink Oil Production Plant
Spec Environmental Solutions Inc.,**

Digby County, Nova Scotia

The Mink Oil Production Plant (the "Undertaking"), proposed by Spec Environmental Solutions Inc. (the "Approval Holder"), Digby County, Nova Scotia is approved pursuant to Section 40 of the *Environment Act* and Section 18(a) of the *Environmental Assessment Regulations*. This Approval is subject to the following conditions and obtaining all other necessary approvals, permits or authorizations required by municipal, provincial and federal acts, regulations and by-laws before commencing work on the Undertaking. It is the responsibility of the Approval Holder to ensure that all such approvals, permits or authorizations are obtained before commencing work on the Undertaking.

This Environmental Assessment Approval is based upon the review of the conceptual design, environmental baseline information, impact predictions, and mitigation presented in the Registration Document.

Terms and Conditions for Environmental Assessment Approval

1.0 General Approval

- 1.1 The Environmental Assessment Approval for the Undertaking is limited to the Undertaking as described in the Environmental Assessment Registration Document.
- 1.2 Expansion, modification or relocation of any aspect of the Undertaking from that proposed in the registration information must be submitted to the Environmental Assessment Branch for review and may require an environmental assessment (EA).
- 1.3 The Approval Holder must, within two years of the date of issuance of this Approval, commence work on the Undertaking unless granted a written extension by the Minister.
- 1.4 The Approval Holder must not transfer, sell, lease, assign or otherwise dispose of this Approval without the written consent of the Minister. The sale of a controlling interest of a business or a transfer of an approval

from a parent company to a subsidiary or an affiliate is deemed to be a transfer requiring consent.

- 1.5 The Approval Holder must implement all mitigation and commitments in the Registration Document, unless approved otherwise by Nova Scotia Environment (NSE).
- 1.6 The Approval Holder must provide a report to NSE's Environmental Assessment Branch one year following construction of the Undertaking. The report must include, but not be limited to, site development, mitigation plans, monitoring results, and compliance with the Terms and Conditions of the EA Approval.

2.0 Project Infrastructure and Activities

- 2.1 Prior to clearing and/or construction, the Approval Holder must submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for review and approval by NSE with the following information:
 - a) An Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Undertaking. The EPP must include, but not be limited to:
 - i) a reporting schedule for existing ground and surface water monitoring
 - ii) a secondary containment plan for contaminated water and/or spills at site.
 - iii) the effective sealing of floor drains.
 - b) A contingency plan that meets NSE's Contingency Planning Guidelines and addresses accidental occurrences, including the location of spill equipment kept on-site, emergency phone numbers, and staff training. The contingency plan at minimum shall include:
 - i) an assessment of any reasonable foreseeable emergency scenario associated with the release of a substance, including both on-site and offsite, which could adversely affect public health and safety, the environment and property.
 - ii) the assessment, as a minimum, should take into consideration access roads to and from the site, and adjacent watercourses, wetlands and habitats.
- 2.2 The Approval Holder must adhere to the EMP once finalized and accepted by NSE. Construction work can only commence upon receiving NSE approval for the EMP.

2.3 The Approval Holder must update and revise the EMP at the request of NSE, at any time during construction or operation of the Undertaking.

2.4 All revisions to the EMP must be forwarded to NSE for review and approval.

3.0 Watercourse Crossings and Wetlands

3.1 The Approval Holder must obtain an approval from NSE for the construction of watercourse crossings, as specified in the *Activities Designation Regulations*.

3.2 The Approval Holder must obtain an approval from NSE for wetland alterations, as specified in the *Activities Designation Regulations*.

4.0 Flora and Fauna

4.1 Clearing of vegetation must be conducted outside of the breeding season for most bird species (May 1 to August 31), unless otherwise approved by NSE.

4.2 The Approval Holder must use native species to re-vegetate exposed soil in forest and riparian zones.

5.0 Air Quality and Noise

5.1 The Approval Holder must not burn any materials generated as a result of construction activities.

5.2 The Approval Holder must conduct air quality monitoring or dust monitoring at the request of NSE.

6.0 Public Consultation

6.1 The Approval Holder must form, at the request of NSE, a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) The *NSE Guidelines for the Formation of a Community Liaison Committee* shall be used for the guidance of the Approval Holder and community.

6.2 The Approval Holder must provide, for review and approval by NSE, procedures for hearing and responding to community concerns raised during the construction and operation of the Undertaking.

7.0 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq

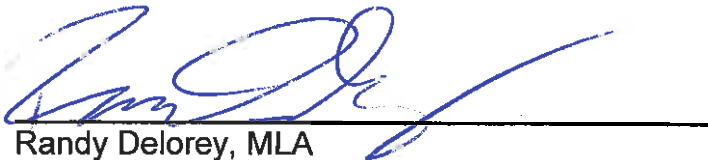
- 7.1 The Approval Holder must solicit CLC membership from the Mi'kmaq community if a CLC is requested to be formed by NSE.

8.0 Archaeological and Heritage Resources

- 8.1 The Approval Holder must cease work and contact the Special Places Coordinator, Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage immediately upon discovery of an archaeological site or artifact unearthed during any phase of the proposed Undertaking. If the find is of certain or suspected Mi'kmaq origin, the Approval Holder must also contact the Executive Director of the Kwilmukw Maw-Klusuaqn Negotiation Office.

9.0 Decommissioning and Site Reclamation

- 9.1 The Approval Holder must provide NSE with a finalized abandonment plan, for review and approval, six months prior to the permanent shut down of the Undertaking.



Randy Delorey, MLA
Minister of Environment