

**From:**  
**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Cc:** [Premier](#); [Minister, Env](#); [Brad Johns \(mlabradjohns@gmail.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry - Climate Change (Flooding)  
**Date:** October 30, 2025 1:34:18 PM

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**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE \*\***

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WSP EA Registration Addendum – 2025-09-10

Section 2.1.3 – Environmental Effects Assessment – High Flows

“East Uniacke Road would experience **a minor increase of 3.0%** for both a 1:20-year and 1:100-year flow.”

During the July 2023 flooding of the Sackville River Watershed, the Sackville River Bridge at East Uniacke Road was underwater, photos attached. Other bridges downstream were washed out and much of Bedford was under water. Exactly how does the 2023, real world event compare to the predicted 1 in 20 and 1 in 100-year rainfall events?

WSP is advocating that the expanded quarry will have negligible effect, based on model information. There are 2-year-old, real-world data and experience that needs to be accounted for! If we simply apply 3% more water to the 2023 observed conditions, what is the result? Will the Sackville River Bridge be washed out? Will the nearby homes, that are at nearly the same elevation as the bridge deck, be flooded or washed away? Why are there not flood plan maps included in the EA Addendum showing the impacts of this predicted increase in flows and the related water levels?

The even greater questions that should be answered are:

How did the existing Quarry site contribute to the 2023 flooding and damages?

What is NCCI’s liability with respect to the 2023 and future damages?

Before the quarry development, the entire area (~67ha) was a growing forest and wetlands, capable of accepting and holding rainfall, a 100% natural flood mitigation tool. Now it consists of wetlands damaged by forestry operations (WSP 2023), damaged and destroyed wetlands (WL7-2015 and the one at the north end of MA1), and ~6.7ha of impermeable quarry and infilled areas that dump water and sediment directly toward the provincially mapped wetlands of the Sackville River Headwaters.

These questions need to be clearly addressed for the protection of infrastructure and the welfare of everyone living along the Sackville River.

President

The Partridge Lane Residents Association







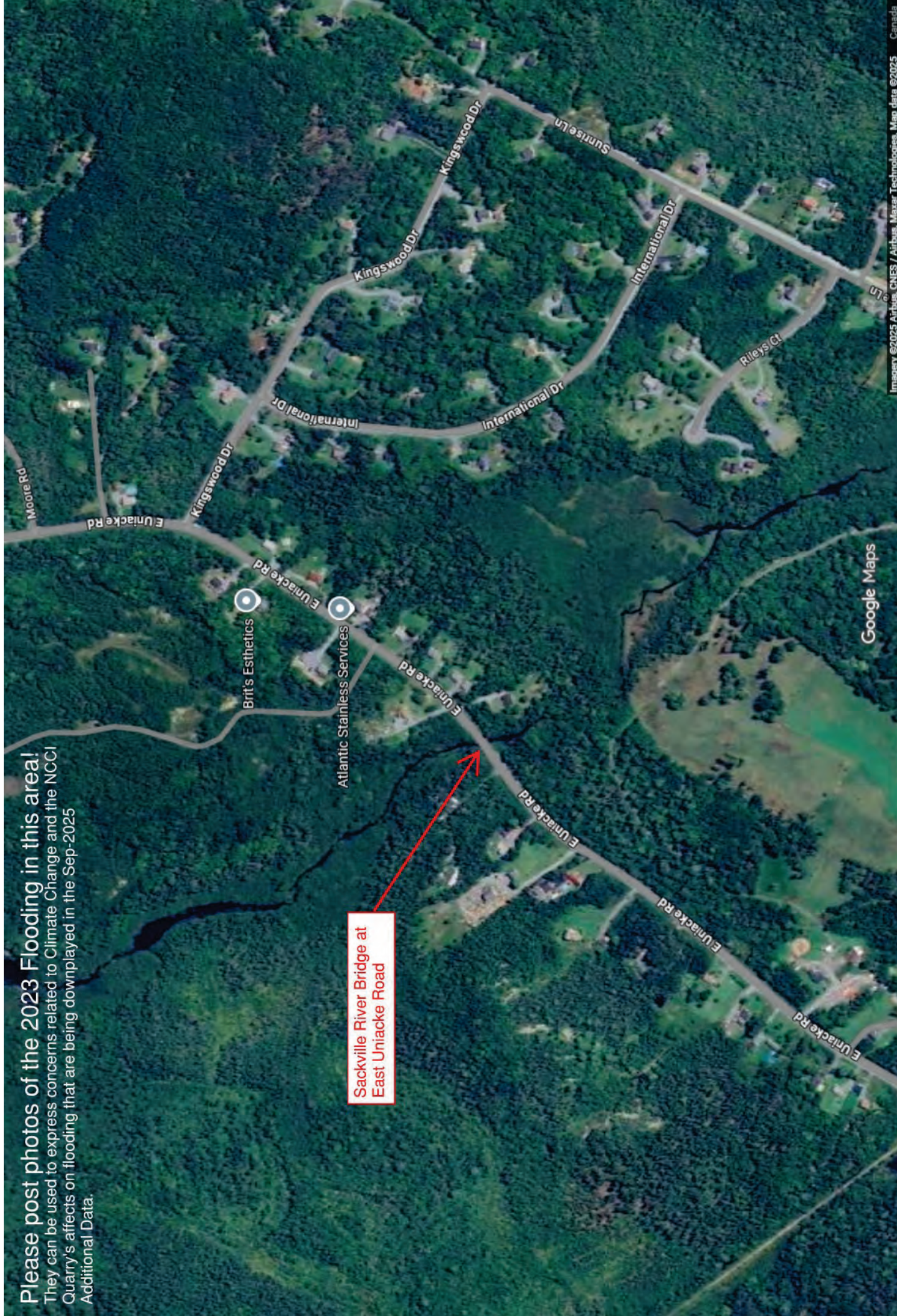






Please post photos of the 2023 Flooding in this area!  
They can be used to express concerns related to Climate Change and the NCCI  
Quarry's affects on flooding that are being downplayed in the Sep-2025  
Additional Data.

Sackville River Bridge at  
East Uniacke Road



Google Maps



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**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Cc:** [Premier](#); [Minister, Env](#); [Brad Johns \(mlabradjohns@gmail.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry - Non-Compliant Blast Monitoring  
**Date:** October 30, 2025 3:24:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [Blast Monitoring Article - 2025-10-22 - For Email - BSP.pdf](#)

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**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE \*\***

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The attached report documents and provides clear evidence of non-compliances with blast monitoring conducted by the NCCI Quarry. At the 27-Oct-2025 CLC meeting, the Partridge Lane Residents Association, CLC Representative, requested all the blast monitoring reports and blast designs to allow the community to further investigate. This request was denied.

This report follows up on complaints I have submitted to NSECC-ICE on this subject in 2025:

11-Jun-2025: Email Subject: Mount Uniacke Quarry - Blast Experience & Complaint (NSECC Inspector Tanya Hunter followed up on this complaint verbally as described in the attached report.)

12-Aug-2025: Email Subject: Mount Uniacke NCCI Quarry - Blast Monitoring Non-Compliance

20-Oct-2025: Email Subject: RE: attention Wetlands dept (NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry)

(There has been no acknowledgement of receipt or follow-up on these submissions as of this time.)

Once again the Community has had to monitor and prove a literally earth-shaking non-compliance of the NCCI Quarry! Where is NSECC-ICE? Why does NSECC-ICE dismiss the concerns of the Community so readily and yet believe every lie that NCCI tells them? Where is the feedback promised from NSECC-ICE? I'm still waiting on the feedback that was promised in the 25-Sep-2023 meeting where I presented the non-compliances that halted the expansion application in 2023! This feedback was promised in writing, with specific references to the applicable regulations.

On 18-Sep-2023, I and other community members presented the 2023 non-compliances to the NSECC-EA group. As part of that meeting the NSECC-EA group indicated they would include all that information as part of the public comments on the EA Expansion.



Where is that data on the public record? To my knowledge, it does not appear on the EA Application website with the other public comments (I have downloaded and reviewed all those files).

Given this latest evidence, the Community has now demonstrated that NCCI has been non-compliant since inception. Not that we hadn't done that in 2023, and continued to demonstrate those and other non-compliances continued to exist as of June 2025 when NSECC renewed the existing NCCI IA.

At what point will NSECC and the Minister realize NCCI, its owners, and associated companies have no intention of following the regulations?

Given NCCI's behavior over the last decade, the Expansion Application needs to be denied, and the existing IA should be immediately revoked. Furthermore, they should be made to restore wetland WL7 (WSP-2015), restore the wetland at the northern end of Lot MA1 (WSP-2015), and fully remediate the site.

President

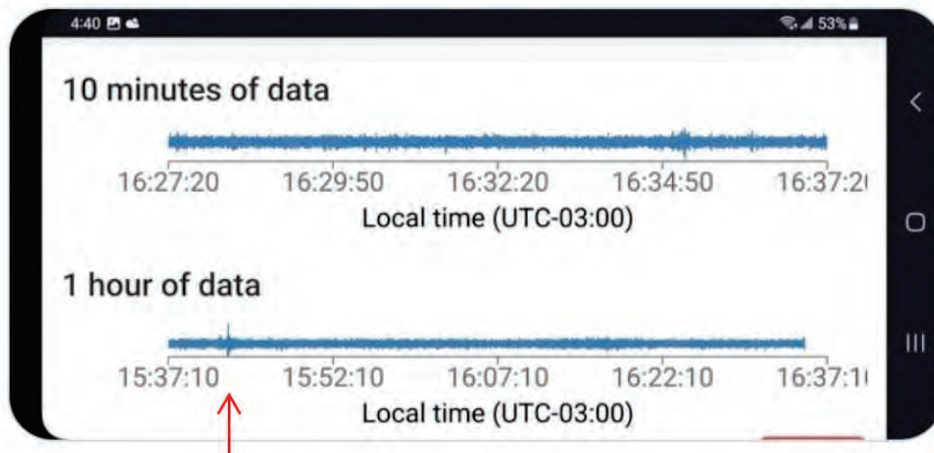
The Partridge Lane Residents Association

## NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry – Blast Monitoring Non-Compliances

For a decade, August 2015 to present, the Community of Mount Uniacke and surrounding areas have been subject to excessive quarry blast vibrations through the air and ground. These blasts have originated at the NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry, located off Uniacke Mines Road. Residents have reported damage to homes and wells and terrified pets as impacts of these blasts. Complaints have been repeatedly submitted to NCCI and the Nova Scotia Department Environment and Climate Change (NSECC). NSECC is the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for quarries in Nova Scotia. Each time a complaint is submitted, the response is that the blast monitoring report indicates the blast meets the requirements of the Industrial Approval. Some residents have been told the blast monitoring report indicates “you didn’t even feel the blast”. Which I personally find very offensive, as I know what I felt in my home 4km away.

Following an appeal of the original quarry approval in 2015, NSECC required the establishment of a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) to facilitate dialogue between the Quarry and Community. The Community has repeatedly requested advanced notification of blasts via the CLC and directly to NSECC. Such notification would allow community members to record the effects of the blasts on their homes either professionally or personally. All such requests have been denied. The Quarry very much wants to keep the Community in the dark, to the extent that all CLC meeting minutes are declared private and confidential, and NSECC has allowed them to do this.

■ The seismograph at the Dalhousie Earth & Environmental Sciences dept recorded the blast around 3:40pm ADT.



**Figure 1 – Dalhousie University Seismograph (4-Oct-2023)**



**Photos 1 & 2 – Quarry Blast from Cockscomb Lake (4-Oct-2023)**

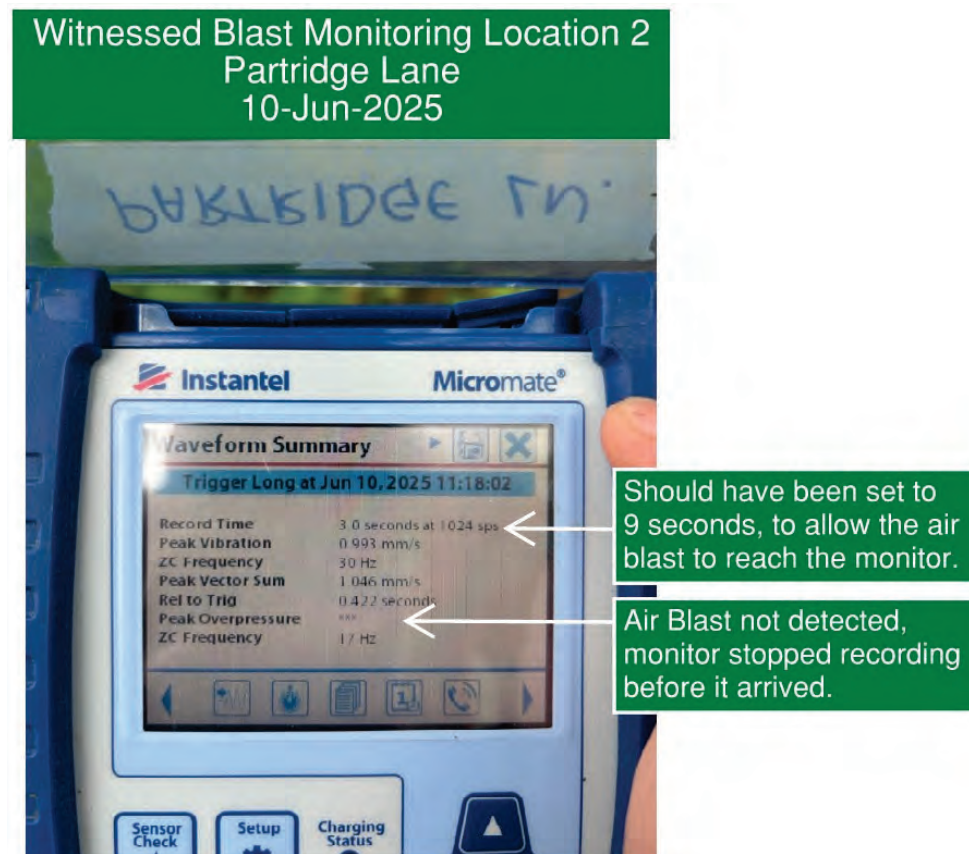
On 4-Oct-2023, NCCI pushed the size of a blast to the extent that complaints were received as far away as Lower Sackville and Hammonds Plains, 19km away. This blast also registered on the seismograph at Dalhousie University in Halifax ~50km away (Figure 1). As a stroke of luck, residents of Cockscomb Lake managed to witness, take photos, and record video of this blast from their boat, 6km away (Photos 1 & 2). The response again was that the blast monitoring report showed compliance with the regulations. The additional complaints, photos, and video, at least made NSECC pay attention. NSECC decreed the next blast had to be monitored by NSECC Inspectors. Based on documents received by FOIPOP, one NSECC Inspector observed the blast at the Quarry and a second observed the blast from Tim Hortons, across from the Mount Uniacke Fire Hall. No NSECC Representatives bothered to audit the blast monitoring sites or process. As the date of this blast was known (10-Apr-2024), specific community members were tipped off by friends in government. Through that tip, the community for the first time was able to happen upon the Blast Monitoring Technician and equipment set up on Partridge Lane (Photo 3).

The community member in question challenged the location of the blast monitor. It was placed in a plastic tote, on loose gravel and moss at the driveway of 96 Partridge Lane. Immediately next to the tote, visible in the photo, is a bedrock outcropping. Knowing our homes are built on bedrock and the vibration carries directly through bedrock from the quarry, the community member requested the tote be moved to the bedrock. The Monitoring Technician called their supervisor and the request was denied. The community member proceeded to Morning Breeze Drive to record video of the blast to share with the community. As the quarry was fully aware of scrutiny on this blast, it was tiny compared to its predecessors and those that followed.





**Photo 3 – Witnessed Blast Monitoring Location 1 (10-Apr-2024)**



**Photo 4 – Witnessed Blast Monitoring Location 2 (10-Jun-2025)**

On 10-Jun-2025, the Quarry conducted another blast that shook homes. Feeling the effects of the blast on his home (90 Partridge Lane), the owner immediately left to go directly to the Quarry to register a complaint. As he was leaving his home, he noticed a person in the woods on his property, ~100m from his home. The homeowner immediately confronted the intruder and discovered they were the Quarry's Blast Monitoring Technician. The Technician then proceeded to inform the homeowner of how minimal the blast was and presented the results of the blast, directly from the blast monitor display. The homeowner photographed the display presented (Photo 4). The homeowner was not able to witness the blast monitoring setup as they only managed to reach Technician as they were exiting his property to Partridge Lane. The homeowner was able to follow the tracks of the Technician to the location of the monitoring, which was conducted in a soft, muddy area next to the brook that passes through his property into Cockscomb Lake.

Following the 10-Jun-2025 blast, I lodged a complaint specific to the blast with NSECC and included the observations above as supporting data to the event and behavior of the Quarry. Through multiple calls and a video conference with the NSECC Inspector assigned (Tanya Hunter), I was able to get NSECC to understand the community was questioning the validity of the blast monitoring. As part of this process, NSECC revealed they place 100% faith in the reports provided to them, after all the reports are provided by "professionals". As a professional, I was very quick to point out that such faith is misguided; as the AHJ, NSECC should be independently verifying that monitoring is being properly completed. These conversations also revealed the actual requirements of the blast monitoring (Figure 2).

- e) The Approval Holder shall ensure that all blasts are monitored for concussion and ground vibration to ensure that the limits in Table 2 are not exceeded:

Table 2			
Blasting Limits			
Parameters	Maximum	Monitoring Frequency	Monitoring Station
Concussion (Air Blast)	128 dBL	Every Blast	Within 7 m of the nearest structure not located on the Site
Ground Vibration	0.5 in/sec (12.5 mm/s)	Every Blast	Below grade or less than 1 m above grade in any part of the nearest structure not located on the Site

- f) The monitoring station for blasting shall be as indicated in Table 2. Additional monitoring stations for blasting may be specified as required by the Department.

**Figure 2 – Industrial Approval # 2014-091797 – Blasting Requirements (pdf Page 10)**



The community has finally caught a break, the blast monitor witness accounts, the requirements defined in Figure 2, and consultation with an independent blast monitoring professional (P.Eng.) have revealed the following non-compliances:

1. Blast monitoring has never been conducted at what may be the closest structure to the quarry. This structure is located off-grid, on Uniacke Mines Road, see Appendix A – Blast Monitoring Distances to Structures (Homes).
2. The blast monitoring reports (Appendix C) indicate the closest structure is a home on Partridge Lane, yet no address is provided. The three closest homes on Partridge Lane are civic addresses 76, 90, and 96. These homeowners have never been approached to allow blast monitoring on their properties, let alone in accordance with the requirements.
3. The monitoring locations witnessed (Appendix B – Witnessed Blast Monitoring Locations – Partridge Lane) are over 250m and 150m respectively from the closest structure on Partridge Lane, civic address 76.
4. Placing the microphone (air blast sensor) and geophone (ground vibration sensor) inside a plastic tote, which is then placed on the ground, does not meet industry practice or the manufacturer's instructions on using the Instantel, Micromate® blast monitoring equipment. Refer to Photo 3 above and Appendix D – Micromate® Operator Manual (Section 14, pages 113 to 119). The geophone must be attached to the ground to measure the movement, and the microphone must be in free air, both must be pointed toward the blast. Placing the microphone inside a tote or even in a wooded area obstructs the air blast, resulting in a lower than actual measurement.

The Community has limited access to the blast reports, what is available was sourced via FOIPOP to NSECC. The following non-compliances are sourced from that data and are also identified in Photo 4 above and Appendix C – Blast Monitoring Reports and Comments:

5. The ground vibration of the blast travels much faster than the air blast. The ground vibration acts as a trigger to start the recording at the blast monitor. Based on the distance between the blast and monitoring sites, the duration of this recording must be configured in the monitor. Given the distance to the Partridge Lane monitoring sites, this setting should be 9 seconds or more. The blast reports reveal this setting to be either 3 or 6 seconds. For the reports monitored for 3 seconds, the air blast was not captured, yet the report indicates there was not one sufficient to monitor. For the reports monitored for 6 seconds the monitoring is cut-off mid blast, and highest value is reported.
6. Each time a blast monitor is turned on, it completes a self-diagnostic. If this diagnostic passes, "Passed" is displayed to the operator, if it fails "Check" is displayed to the operator. A blast monitor should not be used if there is a "Check" message displayed; the problem should be resolved before the blast. The 10-Apr-2024 report indicates "Check" for the vertical vibration sensor, yet the report presents the data as valid and negligible.



Based on these non-compliances and the Quarry's behavior, it is the Community's position that gross negligence and even possibly fraud have been occurring in Mount Uniacke since the inception of the NCCI Quarry. The blast monitoring methods employed appear to mask the true magnitude of the blasts. Personal experience with these blasts and many others support this opinion. Larger blasts are to the benefit of the Quarry; they produce larger volumes and finer aggregate. This reduces mechanical crushing costs, results in less blasts, and reduces the costs to design and monitor those blasts. The Province of Nova Scotia needs to put a stop to this abuse, deny the proposed quarry expansion, and close the NCCI Quarry permanently.

Sincerely,

President  
The Partridge Lane Residents Association  
22-Oct-2025

**Attachments:**

Appendix A - Blast Monitoring Distances to Structures (Homes)  
Appendix B - Witnessed Blast Monitoring Locations – Partridge Lane  
Appendix C - Blast Monitoring Reports and Comments  
Appendix D - Instantel Micromate® Manual

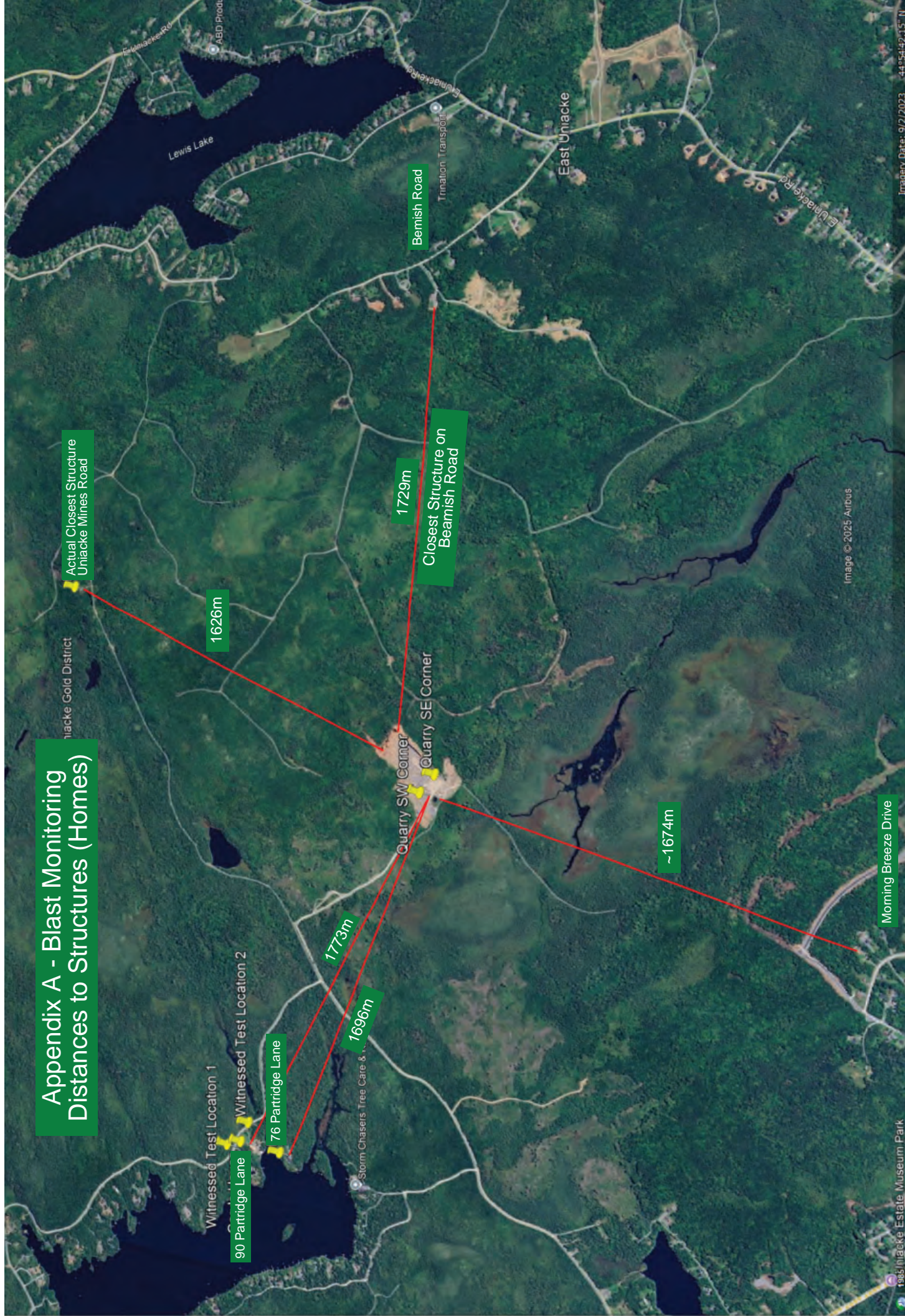
Where file size limits are a concern for transmission, the following link provides access to the Micromate® (blast monitor) Manual, on the manufacturer's website.

[https://www.instantel.com/sites/instantel.com/files/media/2020-06/721u0201\\_rev\\_06\\_-\\_micromate\\_operator\\_manual.pdf](https://www.instantel.com/sites/instantel.com/files/media/2020-06/721u0201_rev_06_-_micromate_operator_manual.pdf)

This information can also be sourced via internet search for **Instantel Micromate® Manual**.

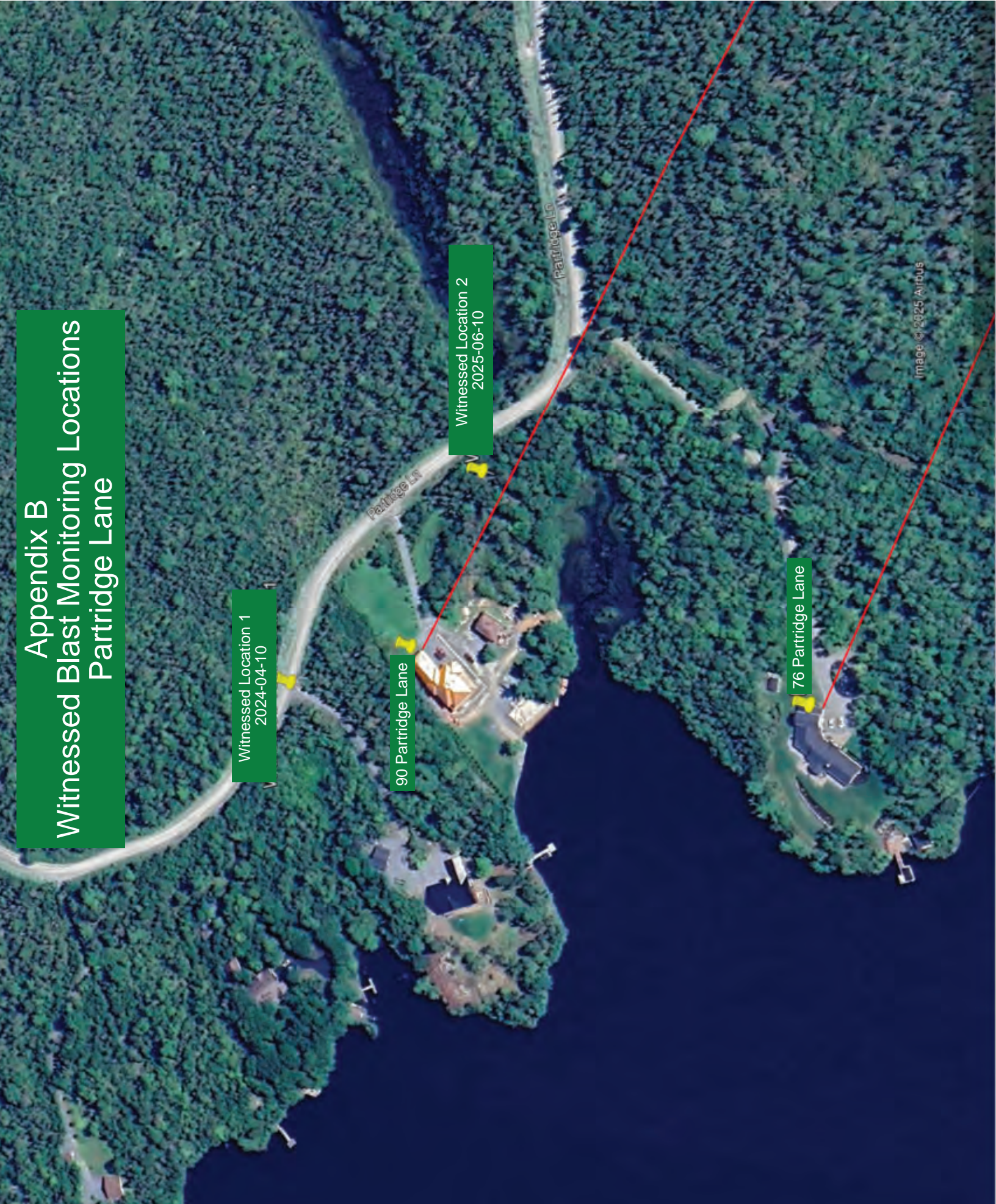


# Appendix A - Blast Monitoring Distances to Structures (Homes)





Appendix B  
Witnessed Blast Monitoring Locations  
Partridge Lane



Witnessed Location 1  
2024-04-10

90 Partridge Lane

Witnessed Location 2  
2025-06-10

76 Partridge Lane

Image © 2025 Airbus



## Appendix C Blast Monitoring Reports & Comments

**BME Engineering Ltd.**  
61 Bluewater Road  
Bedford, NS B4B 1G8  
902-430-2830

January 16, 2025

**NCCI**  
Via email [redacted] nccorp.ca

**Re: Summary of Blast Monitoring, 2024 – Mount Uniacke Quarry  
Mount Uniacke, NS**

This summarizes the blast monitoring conducted in 2024 at the Mount Uniacke Quarry. There were two blasts at the quarry in 2024. Both blasts were monitored by BME Engineering Ltd.

We conducted blast monitoring on April 10, 2024, and December 12, 2024, during the blasts at the Mount Uniacke Quarry in Mount Uniacke, NS. We conducted monitoring at three locations for each blast: at the nearest house on Partridge Lane and 12 Morning Breeze, and Beamish Road, as shown on the attached Figure 1. The results were:

Home owners at the 3 closest homes on Partridge Lane have never been approached to allow blast monitoring on their properties.

### April 10, 2024 Blast

Location	Ground Vibration	Air Pressure
Seismograph 1: Partridge Lane*	0.84 mm/sec	110.6 dB
Seismograph 2: Morning Breeze	0.71 mm/sec	115.6 dB
Seismograph 3: Beamish Road	5.34 mm/sec	117.2 dB
Guideline (for nearest house)	12.5 mm/sec, maximum	128 dB, maximum

### December 12, 2024, Blast

Location	Ground Vibration	Air Pressure
Seismograph 1: Partridge Lane	0.6 mm/sec	<88 dB
Seismograph 2: Morning Breeze*	<0.3 mm/sec	<121 dB
Seismograph 3: Beamish Road	1.3 mm/sec	<88 dB
Guideline (for nearest house)	12.5 mm/sec, maximum	128 dB, maximum

<100 db is a highly unusual reading.

\* The vibration and air pressure were both below the trigger level at the Morning Breeze location. The air pressure was below detectable levels at Partridge Lane and Beamish Road locations.

The results meet the guidelines. Please contact us if you have any questions.  
Regards,

Likely because the monitoring equipment was not setup according to IA requirements or the user manual for the equipment.

Senior Geotechnical Engineer  
[redacted]@NeilEng.com

*Geotechnical Engineering and Inspection/Testing*

Given the distance between the blast and the sensor, the Recording Time should have been set for 9 seconds. Air concussion is cut-off mid detection below.



## Event Report

**Date/Time** Long at 16:10:04 April 10, 2024  
**Trigger Source** Geo: 0.300 mm/s, Mic: 120.0 dB(L)  
**Range** Geo: 254.0 mm/s  
**Record Time** 6.0 sec at 1024 sps  
**Operator/Setup:** Operator/factory.MMB

**Serial Number** UM21010 V 11-0AK Micromate ISEE  
**Battery Level** 3.8 Volts  
**Unit Calibration** January 11, 2024 by Instantel  
**File Name** UM21010\_20240410141004.IDFW

### Notes

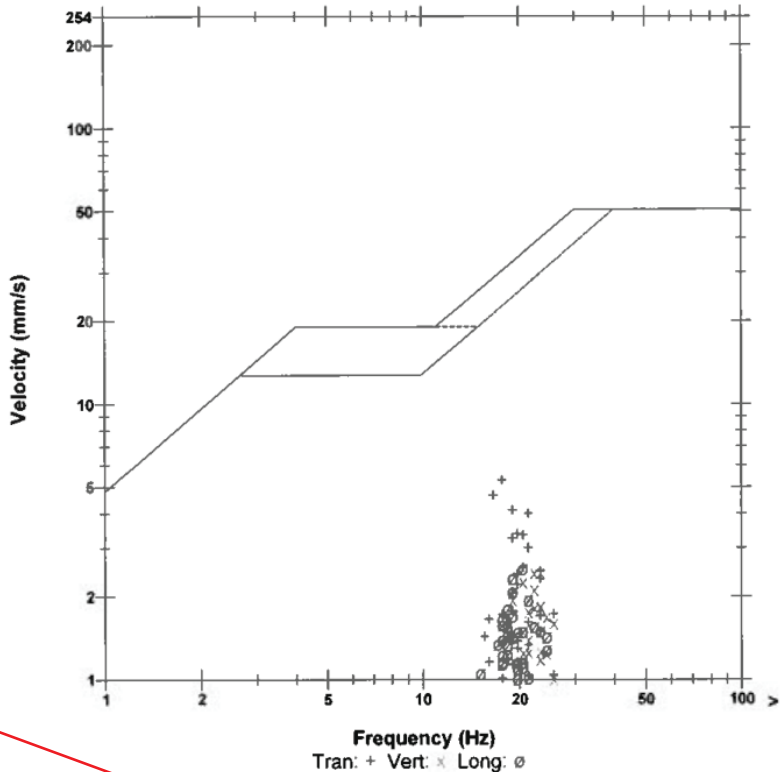
**Location:** BEAMISH  
**Client:**  
**User Name:**  
**General:**

**Microphone** Linear Weighting  
**PSPL** 117.2 dB(L) at 5.931 sec  
**ZC Freq** 22 Hz  
**Channel Test** Passed (Freq = 20.5 Hz Amp = 1269 mv )

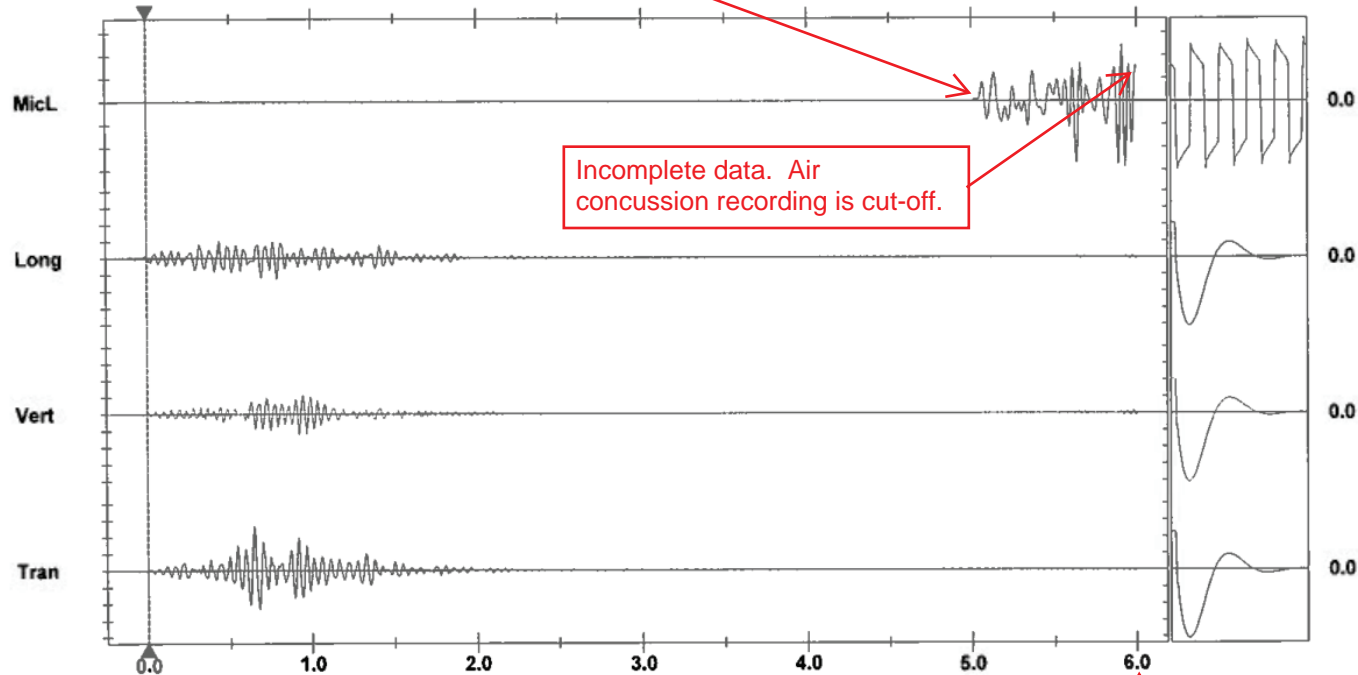
	Tran	Vert	Long	
PPV	5.297	2.459	2.530	mm/s
ZC Freq	18	23	20	Hz
Time (Rel. to Trig)	0.646	0.924	0.789	sec
Peak Acceleration	0.125	0.057	0.052	g
Peak Displacement	0.046	0.017	0.020	mm
Sensor Check	Passed	Passed	Passed	
Frequency	7.5	7.5	7.5	Hz
Overswing Ratio	4.6	4.7	4.6	

**Peak Vector Sum** 5.340 mm/s at 0.646 sec

### USBM RI8507 And OSMRE



Time delay to sensor, between ground vibration trigger and sound waves is ~5 seconds.



Incomplete data. Air concussion recording is cut-off.

Sensor Check

Recording Time should be 9 seconds based on the distance.

Given the distance between the blast and the sensor, the Recording Time should have been set for 9 seconds. Air concussion is cut-off mid detection below.



## Event Report

**Date/Time** Tran at 16:10:08 April 10, 2024  
**Trigger Source** Geo: 0.300 mm/s, Mic: 120.0 dB(L)  
**Range** Geo: 254.0 mm/s  
**Record Time** 6.0 sec at 1024 sps  
**Operator/Setup:** Operator/factory.MMB

**Serial Number** UM12125 V 10-90GC Micromate ISEE  
**Battery Level** 3.8 Volts  
**Unit Calibration** December 19, 2023 by InstanTel  
**File Name** UM12125\_20240410131008.IDFW

### Notes

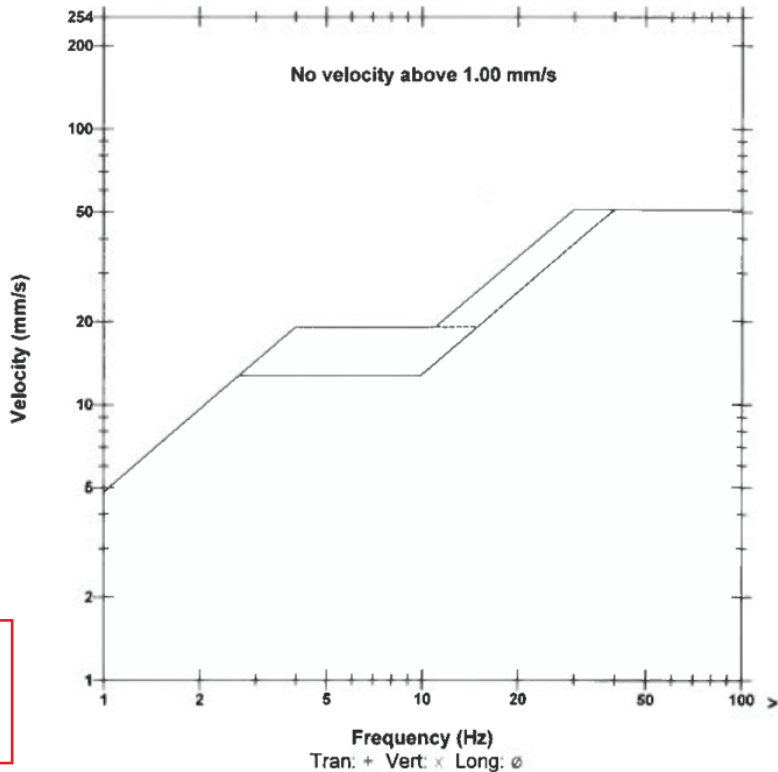
**Location:** Morning Breeze Dr  
**Client:**  
**User Name:**  
**General:**

**Microphone** Linear Weighting  
**PSPL** 115.6 dB(L) at 5.989 sec  
**ZC Freq** N/A  
**Channel Test** Passed (Freq = 20.5 Hz Amp = 1400 mv )

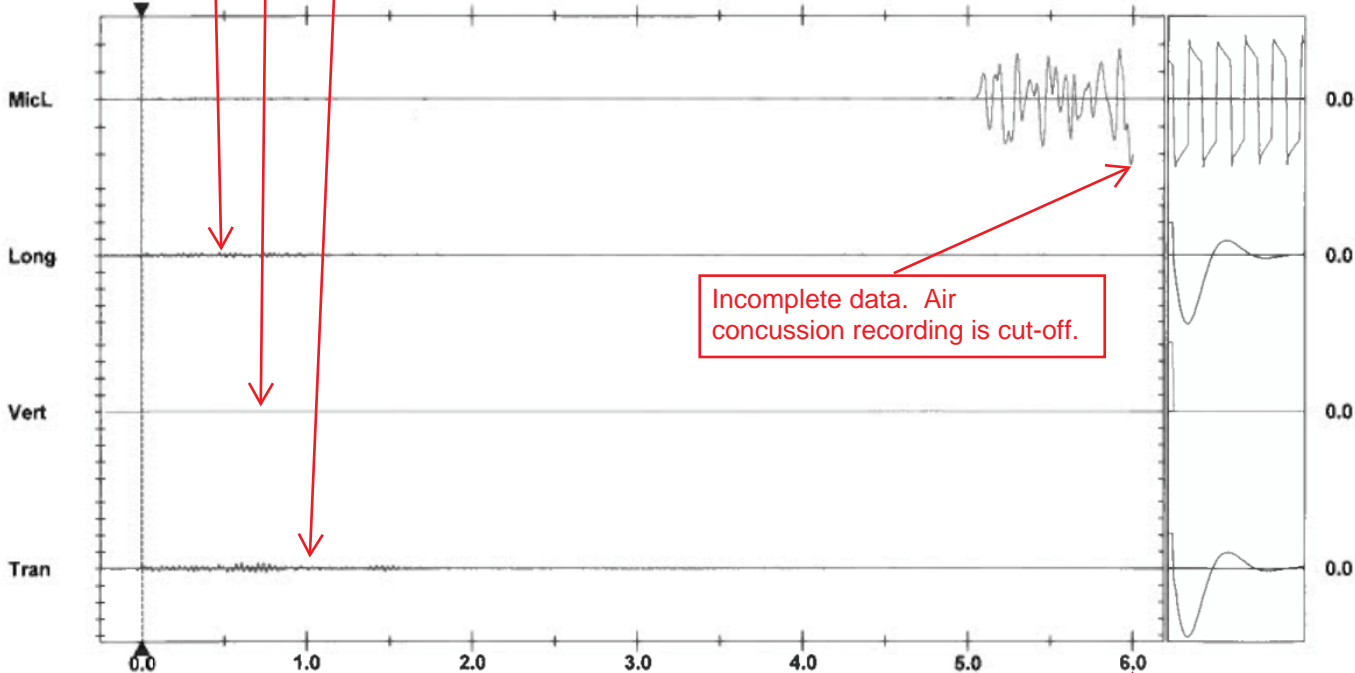
	Tran	Vert	Long	
PPV	0.709	0.039	0.378	mm/s
ZC Freq	27	>100	28	Hz
Time (Rel. to Trig)	0.606	-0.094	0.741	sec
Peak Acceleration	0.026	0.005	0.012	g
Peak Displacement	0.004	0.000	0.002	mm
Sensor Check	Passed	Check	Passed	
Frequency	7.3	1024.0	7.3	Hz
Overswing Ratio	4.2	0.0	4.7	

**Peak Vector Sum** 0.714 mm/s at 0.606 sec  
**N/A:** Not Applicable

### USBM RI8507 And OSMRE



Check indicates sensor failed internal diagnostics during setup. This should have been rectified before the blast. Ground Vibration Data is invalid.



**Time Scale:** 0.50 sec/div **Amplitude Scale:** Geo: 2.000 mm/s/div Mic: 5.000 pa.(L)/div  
**Trigger =** [Symbol]





## Event Report

**Date/Time** Long at 16:10:06 April 10, 2024  
**Trigger Source** Geo: 0.300 mm/s, Mic: 120.0 dB(L)  
**Range** Geo: 254.0 mm/s  
**Record Time** 6.0 sec at 1024 sps  
**Operator/Setup:** Operator/Partridge Ln .MMB

**Serial Number** UM19292 V 10-90GC Micromate ISEE  
**Battery Level** 3.8 Volts  
**Unit Calibration** January 22, 2024 by Instantel  
**File Name** UM19292\_20240410131006.IDFW

### Notes

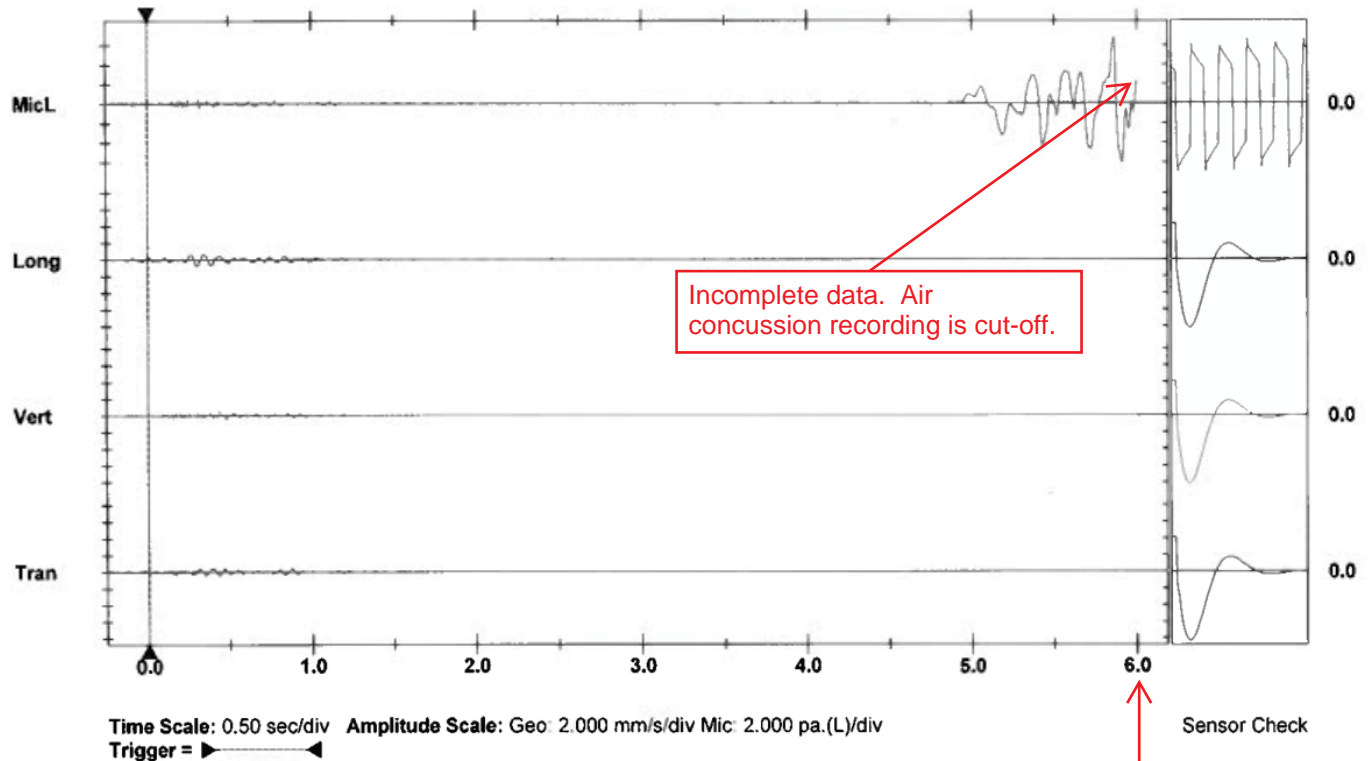
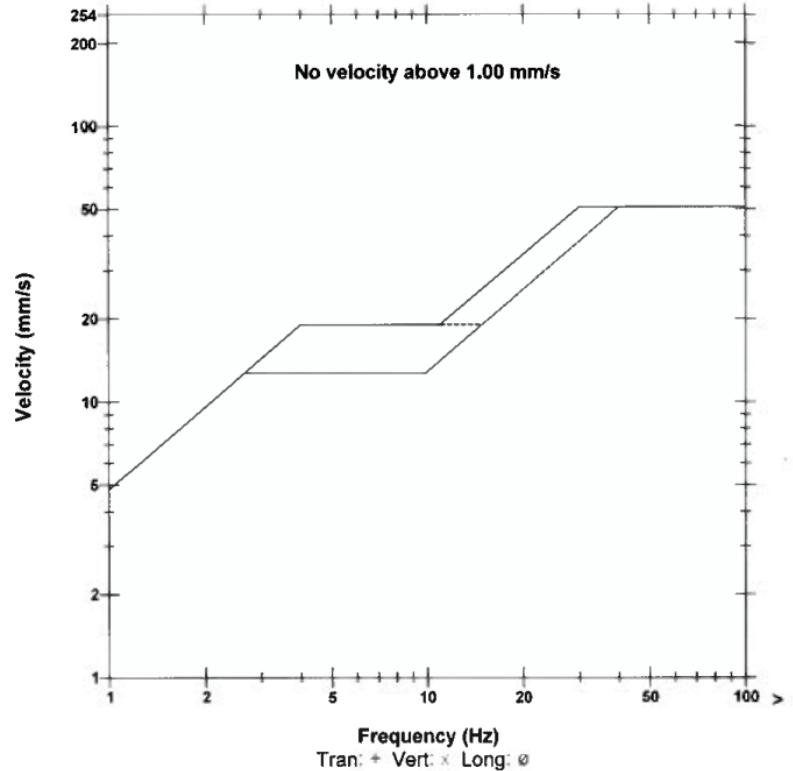
**Location:** Partridge Ln  
**Client:**  
**User Name:**  
**General:**

**Microphone** Linear Weighting  
**PSPL** 110.6 dB(L) at 5.860 sec  
**ZC Freq** 4.8 Hz  
**Channel Test** Passed (Freq = 20.5 Hz Amp = 1378 mv)

	Tran	Vert	Long	
PPV	0.449	0.457	0.733	mm/s
ZC Freq	12	15	11	Hz
Time (Rel. to Trig)	0.436	0.441	0.301	sec
Peak Acceleration	0.013	0.016	0.010	g
Peak Displacement	0.005	0.004	0.009	mm
Sensor Check	Passed	Passed	Passed	
Frequency	7.3	7.5	7.5	Hz
Overswing Ratio	4.8	4.7	4.5	

Peak Vector Sum 0.845 mm/s at 0.389 sec

### USBM RI8507 And OSMRE





## Event Report

**Date/Time** Tran at 15:23:18 December 12, 2024  
**Trigger Source** Geo: 0.300 mm/s, Mic: 121.0 dB(L)  
**Range** Geo: 254.0 mm/s  
**Record Time** 3.0 sec at 1024 sps  
**Operator/Setup:** Operator/factory.MMB

**Serial Number** UM11886 V 10-90GC Micromate ISEE  
**Battery Level** 3.8 Volts  
**Unit Calibration** December 19, 2023 by InstanTel  
**File Name** UM11886\_20241212152318.IDFW

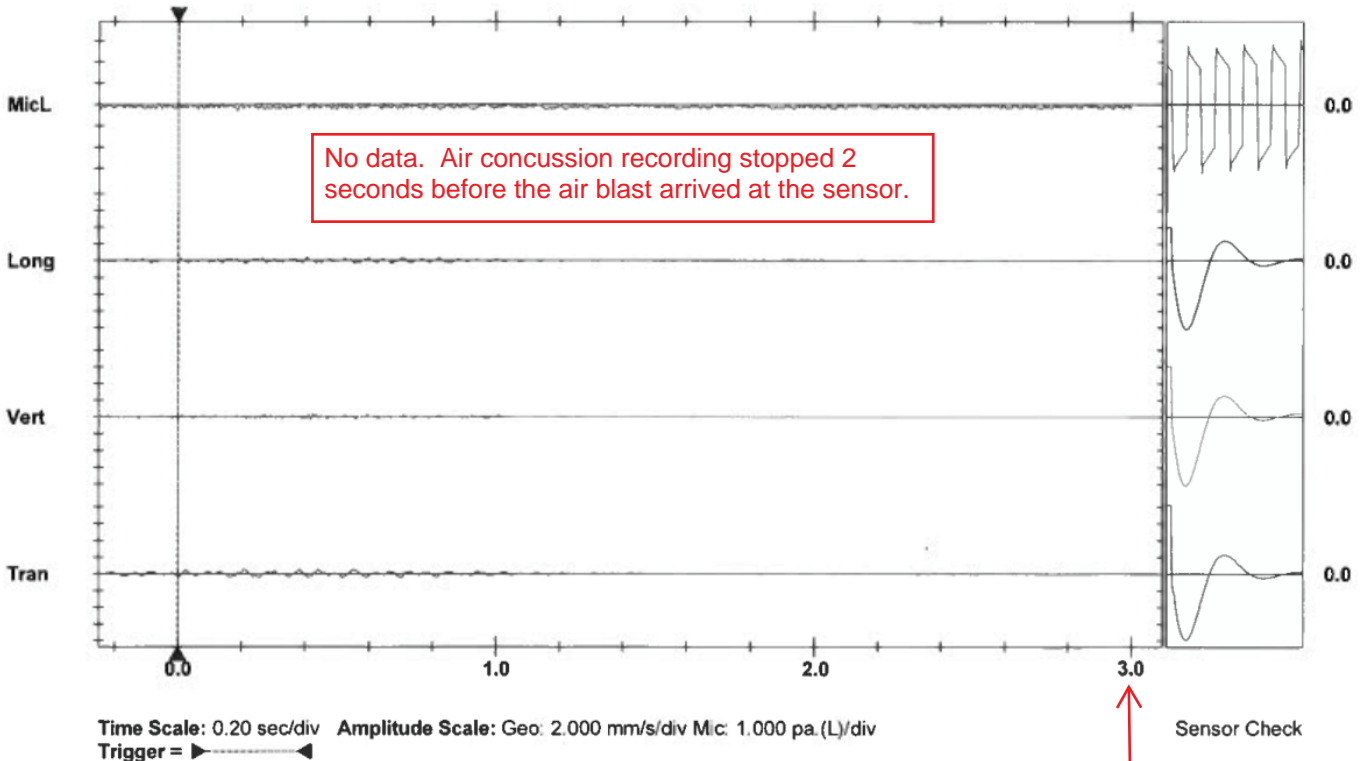
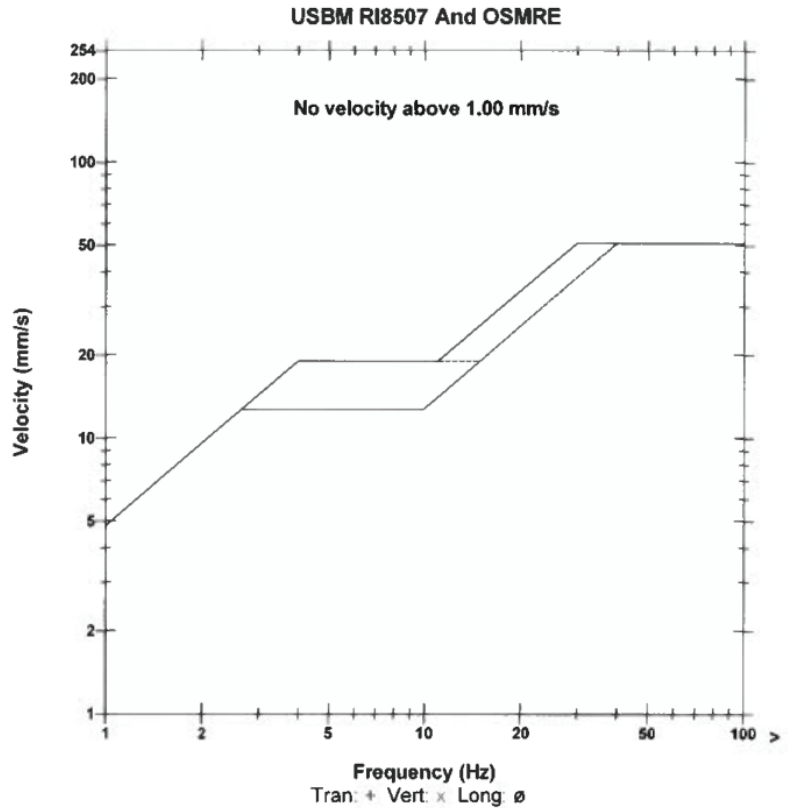
### Notes

**Location:** Partridge  
**Client:**  
**User Name:**  
**General:**

**Microphone** Linear Weighting  
**PSPL** <88 dB(L)  
**ZC Freq** 16 Hz  
**Channel Test** Passed (Freq = 20.5 Hz Amp = 1535 mv )

	Tran	Vert	Long	
PPV	0.512	0.402	0.363	mm/s
ZC Freq	12	57	39	Hz
Time (Rel. to Trig)	0.210	0.425	0.406	sec
Peak Acceleration	0.012	0.019	0.012	g
Peak Displacement	0.005	0.002	0.003	mm
Sensor Check	Passed	Passed	Passed	
Frequency	7.5	7.7	7.5	Hz
Overswing Ratio	3.5	3.3	3.5	

**Peak Vector Sum** 0.594 mm/s at 0.210 sec  
**N/A:** Not Applicable





## Event Report

**Date/Time** Long at 15:23:16 December 12, 2024  
**Trigger Source** Geo: 0.300 mm/s, Mic: 121.0 dB(L)  
**Range** Geo: 254.0 mm/s  
**Record Time** 3.0 sec at 1024 sps  
**Operator/Setup:** Operator/Partridge Ln.MMB

**Serial Number** UM19292 V 10-90GC Micromate ISEE  
**Battery Level** 3.8 Volts  
**Unit Calibration** January 22, 2024 by Instantel  
**File Name** UM19292\_20241212152316.IDFW

### Notes

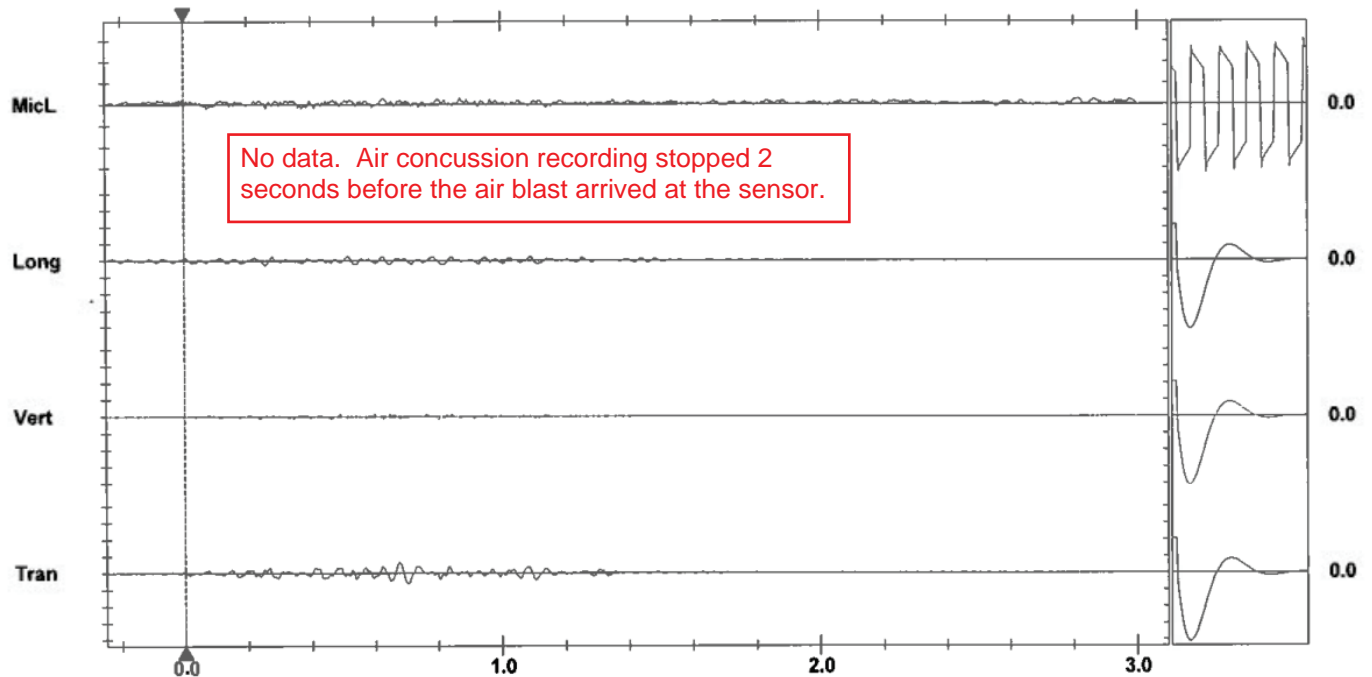
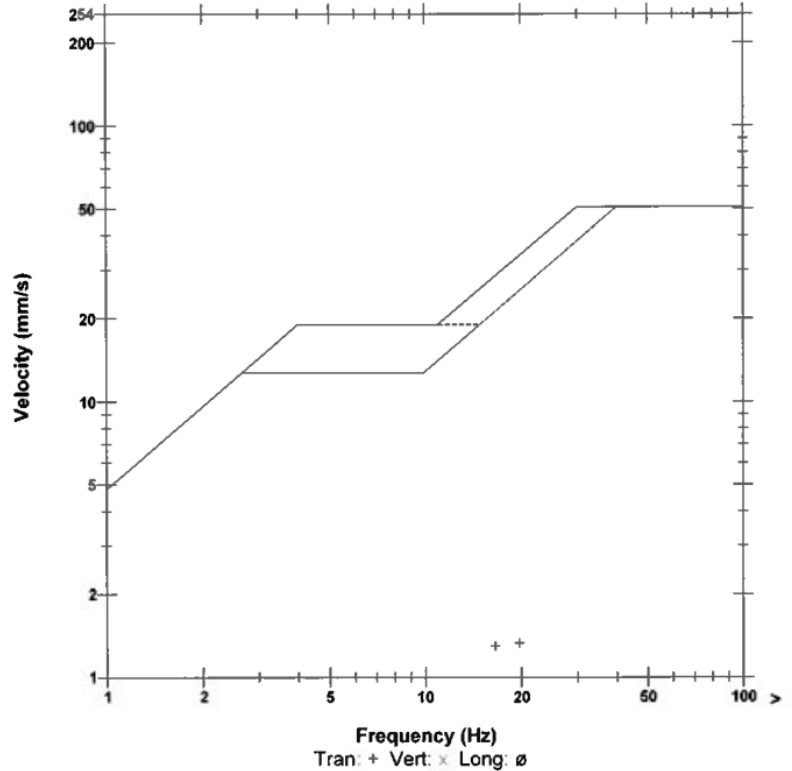
**Location:** BEAMISH  
**Client:**  
**User Name:**  
**General:**

**Microphone** Linear Weighting  
**PSPL** <88 dB(L)  
**ZC Freq** 16 Hz  
**Channel Test** Passed (Freq = 20.5 Hz Amp = 1593 mv)

	Tran	Vert	Long	
PPV	1.332	0.402	0.544	mm/s
ZC Freq	20	21	17	Hz
Time (Rel. to Trig)	0.675	0.487	0.256	sec
Peak Acceleration	0.035	0.016	0.016	g
Peak Displacement	0.012	0.003	0.005	mm
Sensor Check	Passed	Passed	Passed	
Frequency	7.1	7.5	7.3	Hz
Overswing Ratio	5.0	5.0	4.7	

**Peak Vector Sum** 1.358 mm/s at 0.675 sec  
**N/A:** Not Applicable

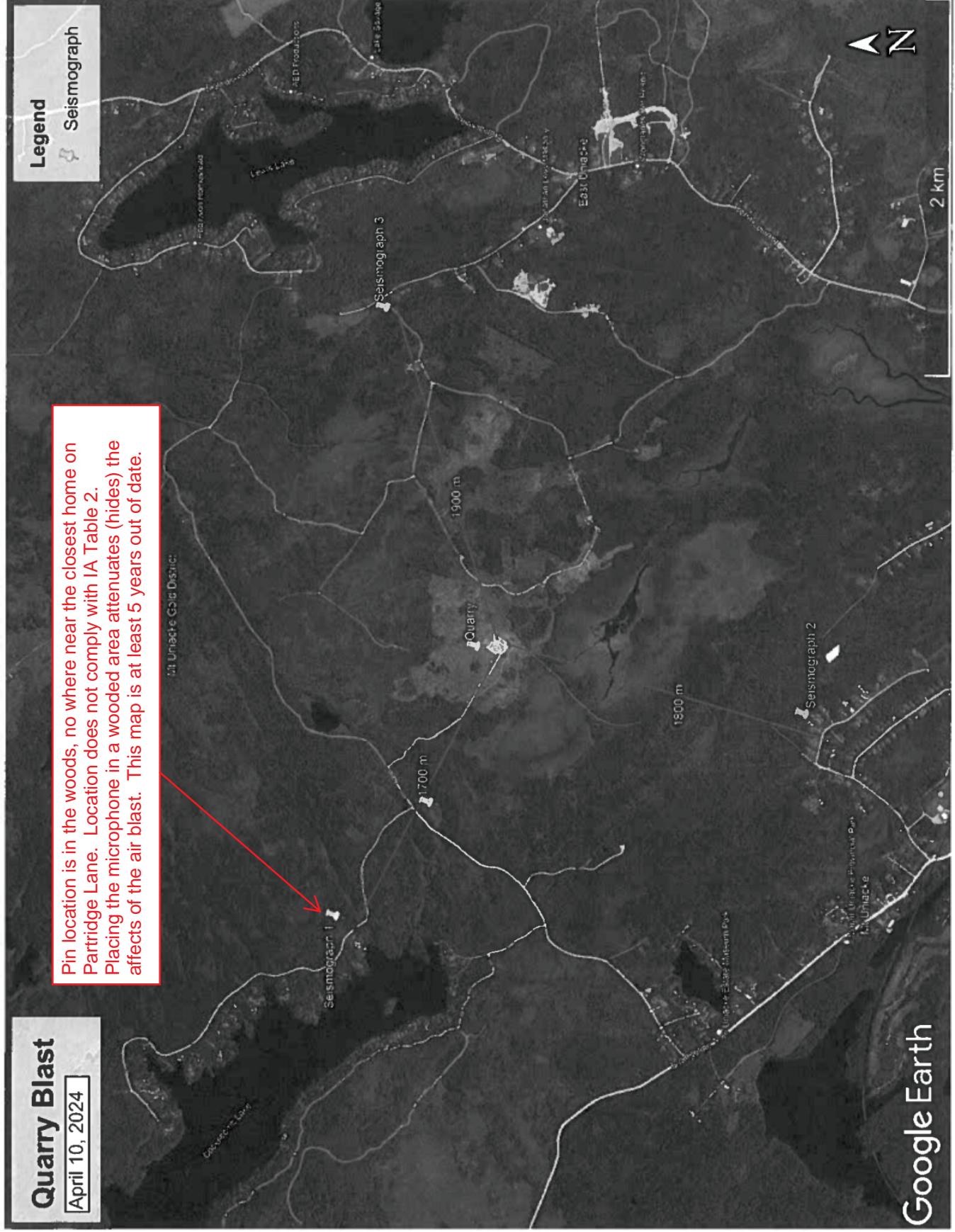
USBM RI8507 And OSMRE



**Time Scale:** 0.20 sec/div **Amplitude Scale:** Geo: 2.000 mm/s/div Mic: 1.000 pa.(L)/div  
**Trigger =**

Sensor Check







**Submission ID**

7029a606

**Submission date**

30/10/2025 16:02

**Submission status**

SUBMITTED



All comments received from the public consultation will be posted on the department's website for public viewing, following the necessary redactions of personal information in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. **By submitting your comments to the Department, you are consenting to the posting of your comments on the department's website.**

The name, email address, and contact information of people who submit comments on behalf of an organization, such as a community group, business, or non-government organization (NGO) will be included with their comment posted on the website.

The name, email address, and contact information of individuals will be removed before their comments are posted on the website.

## Privacy Notice

Your personal information submitted as comments on an Environmental Assessment Project is collected in accordance with the Nova Scotia Environment Act, Environmental Assessment Regulations, and the Nova Scotia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

We collect and use your personal information to administer the environmental assessment review process, to verify comments, and to assess the project's proximity to you.

We may only use or disclose your personal information for another purpose if we are authorized by law to do so, or if we obtain your consent.

By submitting your personal information to us, you acknowledge that the information provided to us is correct and accurate, and you understand that any personal information you provide is collected, used, and disclosed for the purpose of administering the review process.

To read more about how government respects your privacy when interacting with us, review our full [privacy statement](https://beta.novascotia.ca/privacy) (<https://beta.novascotia.ca/privacy>). For questions about how your personal information is handled by the program, you may contact us at 902-424-3600 or [ea@novascotia.ca](mailto:ea@novascotia.ca) (<mailto:ea@novascotia.ca>).

**Select a Project:**

Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion Project



**Comments:**

I work from home and have been here for most of the blasts at the Uniacke Mines Road quarry. To consider extending this quarry is scary. When the UMR quarry blast happens, it rattles the houses, land and people in the surrounding area. I live just over 1 KM from the quarry and it feels like an earthquake. We have had to get a secondary water treatment system last year because of the new minerals and contaminants showing up in our water making it undrinkable.

We have a three year old house and there are already cracks in the basement from these blasts. There is no warning of the blasts. There have been nobody on our land monitoring the blasts, and I understand our house is one of the closest to the Quarry. Not once have we had someone ask to test on our land. We have video cameras that run 24-7.

How can a quarry be granted expansion when they are blasting beyond what is allowed. The blasts are not to be felt beyond 1 KM. If that's the case, then why are these blasts showing up on the Dalhousie Seismic Department equipment in Halifax? These blasts are being felt as far away as Vaughan, NS. There are photos of blast monitoring equipment set up on moss and loose rock to monitor these blasts. These numbers can not be accurate due to the unsolid surfaces. All this to say the blast numbers are skewed and incorrectly recorded.

The residents of this community live in fear that this expansion will be approved. The quality of life here will continue to decline with explosions that are not monitored properly, wetlands that have been destroyed, toxic chemicals leaching into our water system, dangerous nitrate levels risking our wetlands and water systems. These facts are backed with substantial evidence and clearly show this quarry is not following the rules. How can they be granted expansion and rewarded for breaking the rules? Who with the quarry has a hold on the government officials that makes government turn a blind eye to these infractions. How can Department of Environment not attend a crucial meeting with the community to address these concerns? The Municipal of East Hants has written letters against the quarry expansion.

I walk and bike in our beautiful area. The amount of truck traffic on UMR is astounding. There are drivers that show no concern for the area and residents. Trucks have slid off Uniacke Mines Road in icy and non-icy conditions. There are children who live and play on UMR.

The municipality has approved a plan to expand the area by up to 5,000 homes. Why would anyone want to move here knowing that there is a quarry 1-2 KMS from their home?

Please, please, please do not approve this quarry expansion. There is an abundant amount of evidence to support the decision to no allow expansion.

We just want peace in our area and look forward to a growing community. We do not want a community that is held hostage to a quarry that has NOT followed the rules and a government that has remained unsupportive of their growing community.

**Name:**

**Email:**

**City/Town**

**Postal Code**

**Attachment(s):**



Drag & drop or [choose file](#) to upload

Maximum file size per file: 10 MB

Accepted file types: doc, docx, jpg, jpeg, pdf, png, xls, xlsx

Maximum number of files allowed: 10

## Please note:

**By submitting your comments, you are consenting to the posting of your comments on the department's website.**

☒ Yes, I agree (must be selected to proceed)

---

## Uploaded document(s)

No documents to display.

**From:**  
**To:** [Premier](#)  
**Cc:** [Minister, Env; Environment Assessment Web Account; paulwozneymia@gmail.co; lisalachancemla@gmail.com; info@mombourquette.ca; info@lainrankin.ca; mlabradjohns@gmail.com; mperry@easthants.ca; emoussa@easthants.ca; eroulston@easthants.ca](#)  
**Subject:** Uniacke Mines Road Quarry Expansion  
**Date:** October 30, 2025 4:15:23 PM  
**Importance:** High

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You don't often get email from [redacted]@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE \*\***

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Dear Premier Houston and copied parties,

I am a resident at [redacted]. I work from home and have been here for most of the blasts at the Uniacke Mines Road quarry. To consider extending this quarry is scary. When the UMR quarry blast happens, it rattles the houses, land and people in the surrounding area and tens of KMs outside our area. I live just over 1 KM from the quarry, and it feels like an earthquake. We had to get a second water treatment system last year because of the new minerals and contaminants showing up in our water making it undrinkable.

We have a three-year-old house and there are already cracks in the basement from these blasts. There is no warning of the blasts. There has been nobody on our land monitoring the blasts, and I understand our house is one of the closest to the Quarry. Not once have we had someone ask to test on our land. We have video cameras that run 24-7.

How can a quarry be granted expansion when they are blasting beyond what is allowed? The blasts are not to be felt beyond 1 KM. If that's the case, then why are these blasts showing up on the Dalhousie Seismic Department equipment in Halifax? These blasts are being felt as far away as Vaughan, NS. There are photos of blast monitoring equipment set up on moss and loose rock to monitor these blasts. These numbers cannot be accurate due to the unsolid surfaces. All this to say the blast numbers are skewed and incorrectly recorded.

The residents of this community live in fear that this expansion will be approved. The quality of life here will continue to decline with explosions that are not monitored properly, wetlands that have been destroyed, toxic chemicals leaching into our water system, dangerous nitrate levels risking our wetlands and water systems. These facts are backed with substantial evidence and clearly show this quarry is not following the rules. How can they be granted expansion and rewarded for breaking the rules? Who

with the quarry has a hold on the government officials that makes government turn a blind eye to these infractions. How can the Department of Environment not attend a crucial meeting with the community to address these concerns? The Municipality of East Hants has written letters against the quarry expansion.

I walk and bike in our beautiful area. The amount of truck traffic on UMR is astounding. There are drivers that show no concern for the area and residents. Trucks have slid off Uniacke Mines Road in icy and non-icy conditions. There are children who live and play on UMR.

The municipality has approved a plan to expand the area by up to 5,000 homes. Why would anyone want to move here knowing that there is a quarry 1-2 KMS from their home?

**Please, please, please** do not approve this quarry expansion. There is an abundant amount of evidence to support the decision to **not approve** the expansion.

We just want peace in our area and look forward to a growing community. We do not want a community that is held hostage to a quarry that has **NOT** followed the rules and a government that has remained **unsupportive** of their growing community.

I ask that you:

#1) be transparent before making this life altering decision for so many of your citizens - answer the 'Questions Letter' sent by the Mount Uniacke community on Oct 10/25

#2) give MU the Town Hall they're demanding BEFORE decision day, which is November 12. To engage with them, in person, for a 2 hr, Q&A session. and,

#3) DENY THIS EXPANSION PROJECT - choose instead to APPROVE your citizens 'rights' to enjoy where they live and to protect the natural environment. Which is what the Dept. of Environment is mandated to do - are they not? PUT PEOPLE OVER PROFITS.....

Respectively submitted with kindness,



**From:**  
**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Cc:** [Premier](#); [Minister, Env](#); [Brad Johns \(mlabradjohns@gmail.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry - Non-Compliant Blast Monitoring Setup  
**Date:** October 30, 2025 4:20:15 PM

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**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE \*\***

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

The following and attached are additional information in support of concern email:  
30-Oct-2025: Email Subject: NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry - Non-Compliant Blast Monitoring

The attached image (01) is a witnessed, NCCI, blast monitoring arrangement on Partridge Lane. This arrangement **does not** meet the regulations, industry standards, or the manufacturer's instructions for the use of the equipment. This arrangement masks the intensity of the blast and has been used to generate the NCCI blast monitoring reports. For a decade the Community of Mount Uniacke and surrounding areas have been reporting excessive blast impacts, these reports are real! This is how NCCI has been generating the lie to the Community and NSECC that what is being felt is not real.

Images 02 and 04 are examples of industry standard blast monitoring setups in soil, using the same equipment as the NCCI Quarry. Image 03 is a closeup of the geophone (ground vibration sensor). The spikes create the bound between the soil and sensor to fully capture the ground movement (vibration). The most important thing to note, is the microphone and geophone are not inside a plastic tote!

None of these images meet the requirements of the NCCI Industrial Approval, which requires the geophone to be attached to a foundation, at or below grade. This would be accomplished by mechanical means such as bolting.

President  
The Partridge Lane Residents Association









Calibrated: July 10, 2025  
Cal. by: SERVICE at Instantel Inc.  
Next Cal. Due: July 10, 2026  
Made in Canada

**Instantel**







Witnessed Blast Monitoring Location 1  
Partridge Lane  
10-Apr-2024

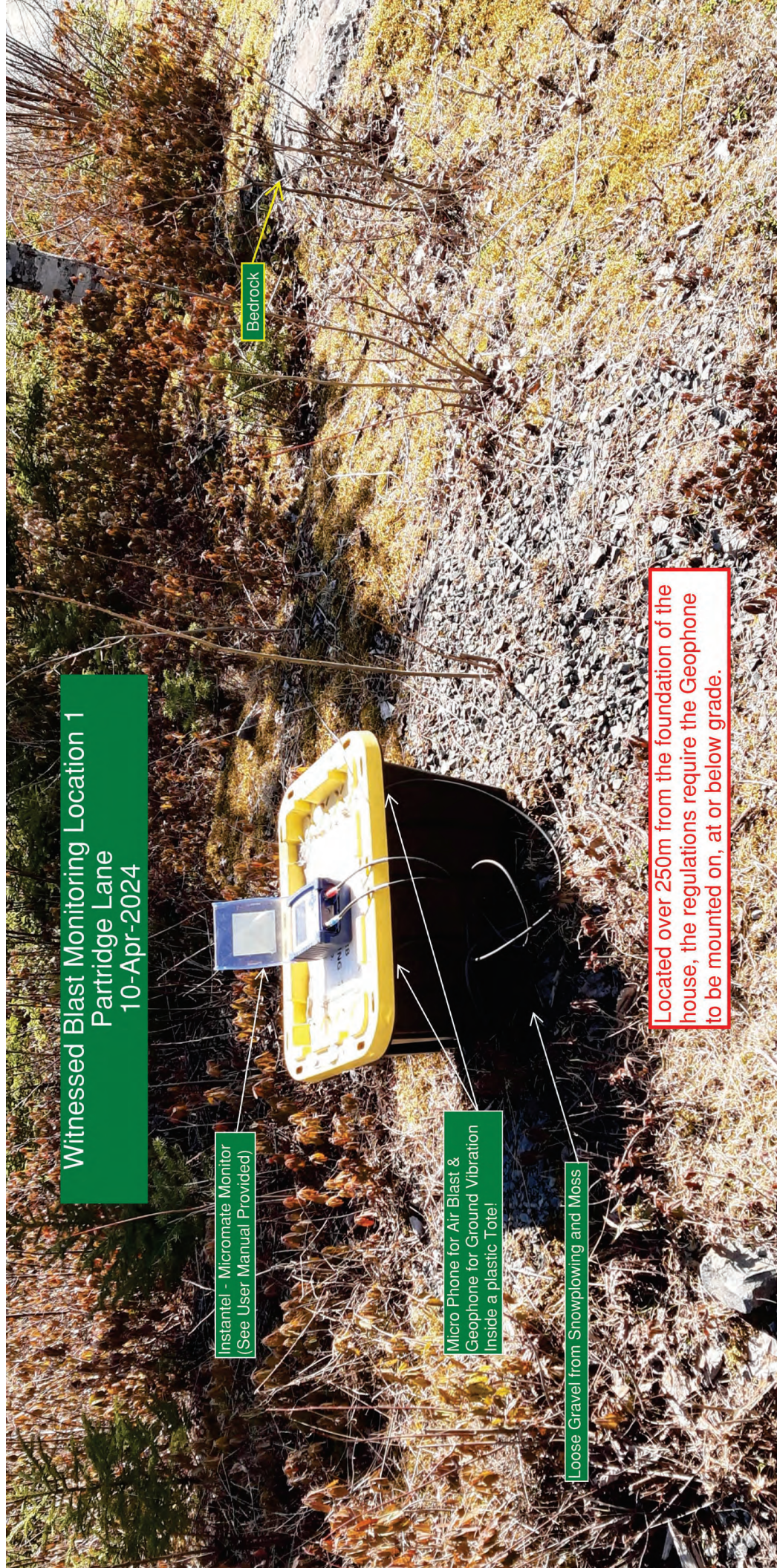
Instantel - Micromate Monitor  
(See User Manual Provided)

Micro Phone for Air Blast &  
Geophone for Ground Vibration  
Inside a plastic Totel

Loose Gravel from Snowblowing and Moss

Bedrock

Located over 250m from the foundation of the house, the regulations require the Geophone to be mounted on, at or below grade.





**From:**  
**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** MAARS Response - Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion  
**Date:** October 30, 2025 4:57:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [MAARS Response - Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion.pdf](#)

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To Whom It May Concern,

Attached is the written submission, provided on behalf of the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate and the Native Council of Nova Scotia, as it relates to the Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion undertaken by NCCI.

Thank you,

Habitat Impact Advisor  
Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate  
80 Walker Street, Suite 3  
Truro, Nova Scotia, B2N 4A7  
(902) 895-2982 - [mapcmaars.ca](mailto:mapcmaars.ca)



# Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council



The Maritime Regional Aboriginal Leaders  
Intergovernmental Council of Aboriginal Peoples  
Continuing to Reside on Traditional Ancestral Homelands

## Forums

- ☐ Leaders Congress
- ☐ MAPC Commissions/Projects
- ☐ MAARS Secretariate
- ☐ MAPC Administration

### MAPC Regional Administrative Office

80 Walker St. Unit 3  
Truro, N.S., B2N 4A7

Tel: 902-895-2982  
Fax: 902-895-3844  
Toll Free: 1-855-858-7240  
Email: [frontdesk@mapcorg.ca](mailto:frontdesk@mapcorg.ca)

### Native Council of Nova Scotia

P.O. Box 1320  
Truro, N.S., B2N 5N2

Tel: 902-895-1523  
Fax: 902-895-0024  
Email: [chiefaugustine@ncns.ca](mailto:chiefaugustine@ncns.ca)

### Native Council of Prince Edward Island

6 F.J. McAuley Court  
Charlottetown, P.E.I., C1A 9M7

Tel: 902-892-5314  
Fax: 902-368-7464  
Email: [chief@ncpei.com](mailto:chief@ncpei.com)

### New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council

320 St. Mary's Street  
Fredericton, N.B., E3A 2S4

Tel: 506-458-8422  
Fax: 506-451-6130  
Email: [chiefdiotte@nbapc.org](mailto:chiefdiotte@nbapc.org)

### Newfoundland Indigenous Peoples Alliance

212 Main St., Box 203  
Port Saunders, NL A0K 4H0

Tel: 709-861-9101/9102  
Email: [newfoundlandindigenous@gmail.com](mailto:newfoundlandindigenous@gmail.com)

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Environmental Assessment Branch  
P.O. Box 442  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 2P8

## RE: Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion Project

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Native Council of Nova Scotia (NCNS), the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate (MAARS) is providing comments to the Environmental Assessment Branch of the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change regarding the Environmental Assessment Registration Document (EARD) for the Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion being undertaken by Northumberland Capital Corporation Inc (NCCI). MAARS did previously have a brief phone conversation with the consultants, WSP, on September 18th, 2023, to discuss the project to answer a few questions regarding the current footprint and aerial imagery.

MAARS would like to request that the project proponent, NCCI, contact the NCNS for consultation and engagement on this project. This project has received significant criticism from the public, including instances of non-compliance with the Nova Scotia Environment Act, and the NCNS is due appropriate consultation on a project that may have real impacts upon community members residing in or using this area.

During field assessments, no surveys for Mainland Moose were conducted, despite the area being less than 5 km of a known concentration area and scoring highly on the Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) outlined in the Recovery Plan for the Moose (*Alces alces Americana*) in Mainland Nova Scotia<sup>1</sup>. MAARS requests that the proponent complete habitat suitability monitoring, as well as targeted terrestrial surveys to confirm potential interactions of

---

<sup>1</sup> Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables, *Recovery Plan for the Moose (Alces Alces Americana) in Mainland Nova Scotia*.

this project with Mainland Moose. We also request that a Wildlife Management Plan be developed, including provisions for continuous Mainland Moose monitoring throughout the lifetime of the quarry. This is especially important given that the Mainland Moose Recovery Plan lists mining and quarrying as a high impact activity, with serious impacts due to habitat fragmentation, hazards due to dramatic changes in terrain, and population fragmentation/isolation.

Development across Mainland Moose habitat continues to shrink the area acceptable to an already at-risk species that is also culturally significant to the Mi'kmaq people. With this, we call upon the Province of Nova Scotia to commit seriously to the Recovery Plan for Mainland Moose and implement the second objective: *To enhance connectivity to improve genetic health and demographic parameters and to support symmetrical exchange of migrants between each pair of localized groups within the Eastern mainland (Cumberland/Colchester, Pictou/Antigonish/Guysborough) and the Tobeatic.* It is not acceptable to continually decimate or fragment the habitat available to Mainland Moose.

MAARS raises concerns around the Mitigation and Management Measures for Avifauna (Section 6.6.4), which lacks consideration of the potential impacts blasting can have on migratory species. Mitigation measures for all avifauna (birds and bats) must also include consideration for the timing of activities outside of key migration and nesting periods for both birds and bats. The timing of vegetation management and herbicide spraying are also key factors in protecting migratory bats, and these activities, as well as removals of potential roosting habitat, must be done outside the key season for these species.

Given the presence of two at-risk bird species (Canada Warbler and Common Nighthawk) specific mitigation measures around nesting birds are lacking within the EARD. While a bird survey was completed, it is important to emphasize the need to educate employees on the nesting and migrating bird species that have been found within and around the study area. While ensuring that employees will be made aware of the need to check areas for activity and nests before undertaking activities which would disturb established surfaces, there is an equally important need to ensure employees are educated on what to look for.

We note that within the EARD (Section 6.4, Page 58) that there was no documented vegetation surveys completed, including both vascular and non-vascular plants. We were unable to find further information in this section regarding any on-the-ground surveys that were completed or any future plans for in-season plant surveys. MAARS requests clarification on the plans for in-season plant surveys and how these will be completed.

MAARS has significant concerns around the lack of targeted surveys relating to several areas outlined in Section 5.2 Biological Environment. Targeted surveys for all potentially impacted biophysical features must be completed to gather a complete understanding of site use, including but not limited to, winter pellet surveys, herpetofauna surveys, winter bird surveys, and terrestrial and migratory bat surveys. We note that while migratory bats are not currently listed under the Species at Risk Act (SARA), they have been assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) as endangered and are likely to be listed within the lifetime of the project. Additionally, the *Guide to Addressing Wildlife Species and Habitat in an*

*EA Registration Document*<sup>2</sup> highlights the priority species and habitats to be considered, which is inclusive of those species assessed by COSEWIC as endangered. The complete lack of biophysical assessments does not provide an appropriate understanding of the impacts of this expansion on wetlands, terrestrial wildlife, avifauna, and fish and fish habitat.

The use of the ACCDC database is not a sufficient one-to-one substitute for a ground survey. As presented, the Biological Environment assessment (Section 5.2) does not meet the requirements, nor the best practices. As such, the Biological Environment assessment is deficient and does not provide an accurate and fulsome assessment of the project development area, or account for seasonal changes in the environment.

Wetland habitats are known to provide important ecosystem functions, as well as habitat for numerous aquatic, terrestrial, and plant species. As such, any impact to the functions of these habitats can have significant effects on the ecosystem. Within the area there is a total of approximately 1 hectare, or 10 wetlands, which are expected to be directly lost because of this project. Given the importance of these habitats, MAARS requests to review the wetland compensation plans when they are available.

We raise concerns that despite a water balance analysis, there still has not been any hydrogeological assessment completed for this project and the proponent has not installed any pre-development monitoring wells. In accordance with the *Guide to Preparing an EA Registration Document for Pit and Quarry Developments in Nova Scotia*<sup>3</sup>, Section 6.1.3, the proponent must complete pre-development well water surveys to obtain baseline conditions across seasonal fluctuations before this project can be approved. A comprehensive water quality monitoring program, including detailed sampling protocols and designated monitoring well locations, as outlined in the above-mentioned NS Guide, has not yet been provided. MAARS would request that NCCI complete regular, random sampling, with a minimum of 12 samples per year, equivalent to at least one sample per month, and complete monitoring well sampling following any blasting events or significant rainstorms.

Even though there are not any residential wells within 1km of the proposed quarry area, there are several that fall within 2km of the area. While this falls outside of the 800m requirement of the blasting separation distances set out in the *Pit and Quarry Guidelines*<sup>4</sup>, there has been significant concern from those nearby of impacts to the water table and well water. Given these concerns, it is recommended that NCCI complete well monitoring both within the pit, as above-mentioned, and complete both baseline and compliance monitoring of all wells within a minimum of a 2km radius of the project area. While there is no literature readily available to support testing outside of the 800m, we would recommend this be done to address the significant concerns from the public around water quality impacts from blasting.

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<sup>2</sup> Nova Scotia Department of Environment, *Guide to Addressing Wildlife Species and Habitat in an EA Registration Document*.

<sup>3</sup> Nova Scotia Department of Environment, *Guide to Preparing an EA Registration Document for Pit and Quarry Developments in Nova Scotia*.

<sup>4</sup> NSEL (Nova Scotia Environment and Labour), *Pit and Quarry Guidelines*.



As noted in the EARD (Section 5.3.4), there is a known archaeological site within 5 km of the study area and multiple other known sites within 7km of the study area; however, no shovel testing was conducted. Without any evidence of shovel testing, it is difficult to accept the conclusion that the proponent does not anticipate any adverse effects. Due to the proximity to many other archeological resource sites in the area, we cannot agree with the generalized statement that this project will not impact Mi'kmaq access and use of this site for fish, fowl, and game.

Given the proximity to significant archaeological sites, we strongly recommend that shovel testing be conducted at regular intervals prior to any ground disturbance. An archaeologist should also be present during these activities to ensure the protection of any potential cultural resources. On our review of the report, the proponent needs to conduct further archaeological investigations in and around this site, considering the report noted proximity to other sites in the area and the impacts of continuing to disturb historic Mi'kmaq resources.

### ***For contextual purposes***

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We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that it is important for all proponents of projects to understand that the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Community represented by the NCNS is included within the definition of the word “Indian” of Section 91(24) of the *Constitution Act*, 1982. The Supreme Court of Canada in a landmark decision in *Daniels v. Canada (Indian Affairs and Northern Development)*, 2016 SCC 12, declared that “the exclusive Legislative Authority of the Parliament of Canada extends to all Indians, and Lands reserved for the Indians” and that the word “Indians” in s.91(24) includes the Métis and non-Status Indians<sup>5</sup>. Since 2004, in multiple decisions passed by the Supreme Court of Canada: *Haida Nation*<sup>6</sup>, *Taku River Tlingit First Nation*<sup>7</sup>, and *Mikisew Cree First Nation*<sup>8</sup>, has established that,

“Where accommodation is required in decision making that may adversely affect as yet unproven Aboriginal Rights and title claims, the Crown must balance Aboriginal concerns reasonably with the potential impact of the decision on the asserted right or title and with other societal interests.”

Further, both the Government of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada are aware that the “Made in Nova Scotia Process” and the *Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Consultation Terms of Reference* does not circumvent the Provincial Government’s responsibility to hold consultations with other organizations in Nova Scotia that represent Indigenous Peoples of Nova Scotia. While the proponent may have to engage with the thirteen Mi'kmaq First Nations through the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs, represented by the Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO), the KMKNO does not represent the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Community who have elected to be represented by the NCNS since 1974.

We assert that the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Communities, as 91(24) Indians, are undeniably heirs to Treaty Rights and beneficiaries of Aboriginal Rights as substantiated by Canada’s own Supreme

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<sup>5</sup> *Daniels v. Canada (Indian Affairs and Northern Development)*, 2016 SCC 12, [2016] 1 S.C.R. 99

<sup>6</sup> *Haida Nation v. British Columbia (Minister of Forests)*, (2004), 2 S.C.R. 511

<sup>7</sup> *Taku River Tlingit First Nation v. British Columbia (Project Assessment Director)*, (2004), 3 S.C.R. 550

<sup>8</sup> *Mikisew Cree First Nations v. Canada (Minister of Canadian Heritage)*, (2005), 3 S.C.R. 388

Court jurisprudence. As such, there is absolutely an obligation to consult with the Off-Reserve Community through their elected representative body of the NCNS. The Crown's duty is to consult with all Indians, not only the Indian Act Bands.

For over forty years, the three Native Council partners of the Maritime Aboriginal People's Council (MAPC) have continued to be the Aboriginal Peoples Representative Organizations representing and advocating for the Rights and issues of the Mi'kmaq/Wolastoqiyik/Peskotomuhkati/Section 91 (24) Indians, both Status and non-Status, continuing to reside on their unceded Traditional Ancestral Homelands. In the early 1970s, the communities recognized the need for representation and advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the off-Reserve community of Aboriginal Peoples, "the forgotten Indian". Women and men self-organized themselves to be the "voice to the councils of government" for tens of thousands of community members left unrepresented by Indian Act-created Band Councils and Chiefs. Based on the Aboriginal Identity question, Statistics Canada (2021 Census - 25% sample) enumerate 25,415 off-Reserve Aboriginal Persons in New Brunswick, 42,580 in Nova Scotia, and 2,865 in Prince Edward Island.

Each Native Council in their respective province asserts Treaty Rights, Aboriginal Rights, with Interest in Other Rights confirmed in court decisions, recognized as existing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada in Part II of the Constitution Act of Canada, 1982. Each Native Council has established and maintains Natural Harvesting Regimes, and each have a co-management arrangement with DFO for Food, Social, and Ceremonial use of aquatic species, through the: Najiwsgetaq Nomehs (NBAPC), the Netukulimkewe'l Commission (NCNS), and the Kelewatl Commission (NCPEI).

The Native Council of Nova Scotia was organized in 1974 and represents the interests, needs, and rights of Off-Reserve Status and Non-Status Section 91(24) Indians/Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal Peoples continuing to live on our Traditional Ancestral Homelands throughout Nova Scotia as Heirs to Treaty Rights, Beneficiaries of Aboriginal Rights, with Interests to Other Rights, including Land Claim Rights.

The Native Council of Nova Scotia (NCNS) Community of Off-Reserve Status and Non-Status Indians/Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal Peoples supports projects, works, activities and undertakings which do not significantly alter, destroy, impact, or affect the sustainable natural life ecosystems or natural eco-scapes formed as hills, mountains, wetlands, meadows, woodlands, shores, beaches, coasts, brooks, streams, rivers, lakes, bays, inland waters, and the near-shore, mid-shore and off-shore waters, to list a few, with their multitude of in-situ biodiversity. Our NCNS Community has continued to access and use the natural life within those ecosystems and eco-scapes where the equitable sharing of benefits arising from projects and undertakings serve a beneficial purpose towards progress in general and demonstrate the sustainable use of the natural wealth of Mother Earth, with respect for the Constitutional Treaty Rights, Aboriginal Rights, and Other Rights of the Native Council of Nova Scotia Community continuing throughout our Traditional Ancestral Homeland in the part of Mi'kma'ki now known as Nova Scotia.

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We would appreciate an opportunity to engage on the Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion directly with the proponent, Northumberland Capital Corporation Inc. We respectfully request that these

concerns be addressed in full and that further engagement with the Native Council of Nova Scotia and local communities be prioritized as this project moves forward. We look forward to further dialogue as we continue to advocate for the rights of Off-Reserve Status and Section 91(24) Indians/Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal Peoples of Nova Scotia. To continue to represent the interests and needs of the off-Reserve Aboriginal Community in Nova Scotia, we would like to request the opportunity to participate in early engagement in future Environmental Assessment Reviews.

Advancing Aboriginal Fisheries and Oceans Entities  
Best Practices, Management, and Decision-making

Habitat Impact Advisor, MAARS

Executive Director, MAARS & MAPC Projects

CC:

, Chief & President, NCNS  
Commissioner, Netukulimkewe'l Commission, NCNS



**From:**  
**To:**  
**Cc:** [Hants East MLA; Environment Assessment Web Account; Premier; Minister, Env; paulwozneymla@gmail.com; lisalachancemla@gmail.com; info@mombourquette.ca; info@iainrankin.ca; mlabradjohns@gmail.com; eroulston@easthants.ca; Michael Perry; kody.blois@parl.gc.ca; Elie Moussa](#)  
**Subject:** Official Objection to Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion and Request for Public Town Hall  
**Date:** October 30, 2025 9:52:26 PM

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**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE \*\***

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Dear Premier Houston, Minister Halman, and Environmental Assessment Team, and all included in this email,

I am writing to formally submit my objection to the proposed Mount Uniacke Quarry expansion and to request that this project not proceed without meaningful community engagement and further environmental testing.

I live [redacted] directly beside the Sackville River, and I am deeply concerned about the potential impacts this quarry operation and expansion could have on our water, air, soil, and the safety of local residents and wildlife.

**1. Request for a Public Town Hall**

I am requesting that the province hold a public town hall meeting in Mount Uniacke — not in HRM — so that residents most affected by this project can ask questions directly, share concerns, and receive transparent answers.<sup>[1]</sup> Our community deserves to be properly heard before any decisions are made.

**2. Request for Comprehensive Environmental Testing**

I also urge that independent and comprehensive environmental testing be conducted before any approvals are granted — not afterward.<sup>[1]</sup> Testing should include, but not be limited to:

- PFAS (forever chemicals)
- PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)
- VOCs (volatile organic compounds)
- Metals and particulate matter

Given our proximity to the Sackville River watershed, these tests are essential to protect both local drinking water and the surrounding ecosystem.

**3. Concern for Transparency and Public Safety**

Granting these requests may extend the decision-making timeline — and that is not a bad thing if it ensures that decisions are based on science, transparency, and community

input. The health of our families and environment should never be secondary to industrial convenience.

As a resident directly impacted, I respectfully ask that my objection and these requests be entered into the public record for the Environmental Assessment process.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

I hope you will prioritize community safety, transparency, and responsible environmental stewardship moving forward.

Sincerely,

Mount Uniacke Resident

**From:**  
**To:** [Premier](#)  
**Cc:** [Minister, Env; Environment Assessment Web Account; paulwozneymia@gmail.com; lisalachancemla@gmail.com; info@mombourquette.ca; info@iainrankin.ca; MLA Sackville - Uniacke; eroulston@easthants.ca; mperry@easthants.ca; kody.blois@parl.gc.ca](#)  
**Subject:** Request for Town Hall and Independent Contaminant Testing - Re: Northumberland Capital Corp. Inc, Quarry Expansion, Mount Uniacke  
**Date:** October 30, 2025 11:35:59 PM

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**Dear Premier Houston,**

We write as concerned residents of Mount Uniacke, living within two kilometers of Northumberland Capital Corp. (NCCI)'s quarry on Uniacke Mines Road.

Ten years ago, this community warned the former Liberal government that a quarry at this location posed serious environmental risks to sensitive wetlands and their ecosystems. Our concerns were dismissed then, and now history is repeating itself.

The provincial review process for such projects seems designed to outlast public concern. While proponents spend months or years preparing their submissions, the public has only 40 days to respond - an unreasonably short time to review complex technical data and obtain expert advice. This structure gives the appearance of consultation, not its reality.

By the time communities learn of these projects, the machinery of approval is already moving.

*On October 10, 2025,* [redacted], on behalf of our Mount Uniacke Opposition Team and the community, wrote to you and Minister Halman raising urgent questions. Among them were questions concerning proponent Andrew Rodgers' statements in his communications with NSECC staff and in his 'Application to Renew' (**dated between April 1 and May 6, 2025**) - these statements indicated that Mr. Rodgers 'seemingly' already believed his expansion request was approved. ***The community requested answers on that Oct. 10 letter before November 12.***

***To date, no response has been received.***

Given the following serious concerns, the absence of transparency, and the further testing required of the environment, we would like to ask you and Minister Halman to **hold a public Town Hall in Mount Uniacke before any decision is made**. If this requires delaying "Decision Day," such a delay would be both reasonable and necessary to ensure informed, science-based, and democratic decision-making.

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## **Documented Environmental Concerns**

Our opposition is grounded not in emotion, but in **documented violations and lab-verified contamination evidence**, much of which was submitted to your Department of Environment



over two years ago. Despite this, NCCI continues to operate without suspension or accountability.

### **Key Violations and Concerns:**

- **Illegal Wetland Alterations:**

- Wetland WL7 (WSP 2015) south of the quarry was illegally filled, destroying natural habitat.
- Aerial images (2023) show illegal alterations along the northern boundary; the current status is unknown.
- The fate of wetlands WL1–WL6 and watercourse WC1 is unreported on 2025 plans, raising further concern.
- Logging and quarry runoff now drain directly into the Sackville River Headwaters wetlands.

- **Future Wetland Destruction:**

- The 2025 WSP drawings show **10 additional wetlands slated for destruction.**
- The expansion would also encroach on the **Cockscomb Lake watershed**, a household water source.

### **Known Contamination:**

#### *Elevated Nitrite Levels*

The WSP report (*Sept. 16, 2025*) shows nitrite concentrations **nearly three times above safe limits for aquatic life**, discharging from an illegally located settling pond only 134 meters from wetlands.

**The report fails to assess the risk of algae blooms and toxic blue-green algae.**

### **Buried Waste:**

- Community evidence shows C&D waste, pyritic slate, and possibly contaminated soil used to fill WL7 - now part of the settling pond system.
- **These materials may be leaching metals, VOCs, PAHs, and PFAS into groundwater and wetlands.**
- **Despite repeated community requests, NSECC has not required testing for these toxins.**

We, therefore, **urge you not to approve this expansion** until **independent, science-based testing** is completed - testing arranged by the Department of Environment and billed to the proponent, if necessary, as the cost of doing business in Nova Scotia.

### **Deficient Blast Monitoring:**

- **Blast monitors have been considered misconfigured or incorrectly installed, leading to invalid data reports from the proponent's independent blast consultant,**

### **BME Engineering.**

- *Dysfunctional Community Liaison Committee (CLC):*
  - The CLC, required under NCCI's 2015 Industrial Approval, has failed to meet *the number of required property owner representations*, meet the quorum for scheduled meetings, **or communicate with residents, as required.**
  - - *A new member (since 2024), NCCI's own blast consultant Bruce MacNeil, presents an apparent conflict of interest* that further erodes credibility.
  - Despite these failings, the Department of Environment continues to assert **NCCI is "in full compliance."**
- 

## **Environmental Act Obligations**

Section 49(12) of the **Environment Act** requires the Minister to consider, in relation to all of the above:

- The sensitivity of the site and the surrounding environment;
- Public and Mi'kmaq concerns about adverse impacts;
- Known and potential effects on species and habitats;
- Cumulative impacts and compliance history; and
- Whether existing approvals adequately mitigate risk.

Given the verified violations and contamination risks, proceeding with this expansion would contradict both the **intent and the letter of the Act**.

---

## **Our Requests**

Premier Houston, will you:

1. **Hold a Town Hall** in Mount Uniacke with Minister Halman before any decision is made?
2. **Suspend the approval process** until full, independent environmental testing is completed?
3. **Ensure compliance failures** by NCCI are investigated and enforced transparently?

Nova Scotians want to trust that their government will hold corporations accountable when they breach environmental laws. That trust depends on your leadership today, Premier Houston, not by approving another industrial project, but by standing with a community and its environment under clear and present threat.

We, therefore, urge you, respectfully but firmly, to **pause this approval process** and come to Mount Uniacke in person to engage directly with your constituents before any final decision is made.

Respectfully,

*on behalf of the Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion Opposition*

Residents of Mount Uniacke, Nova Scotia

(Within 2 km of the proposed quarry expansion site)



**From:** —  
**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Cc:** [Bowen, Lynn A](#); [Tutty, Bridget R](#)  
**Subject:** EA concerns with Uniacke Quarry expansion  
**Date:** October 31, 2025 1:29:54 AM

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Hello EA dept,

Recently several more very concerning violations, have surfaced. **I vehemently oppose the granting of an expansion to NCCI of the Uniacke Quarry.**

Why?

1. Improper blast monitoring accountability, suspected wrongdoings and NCCI's refusal to be transparent and provide all the blast reports and blast design records.
2. Uniacke quarry's contribution to the flooding of the Sackville River and the damages to nearby infrastructure and to homes locally and downstream on the SR and its flood plane. NCCI and it's 'expert' WSP are claiming the expanded quarry will have negligible effect, based on model information. There are 2-year-old, real-world data and experience that needs to be accounted for! If we simply apply 3% more water to the 2023 observed conditions, what is the result? Will the Sackville River Bridge be washed out? Will the nearby homes, that are at nearly the same elevation as the bridge deck, be flooded or washed away? Why are there not flood plan maps included in the EA Addendum showing the impacts of this predicted increase in flows and the related water levels?

The even greater questions that should be answered are: How did the existing Quarry site contribute to the 2023 flooding and damages? What is NCCI's liability with respect to the 2023 and future damages?

Before the quarry development, the entire area (~67ha) was a growing forest and wetlands, capable of accepting and holding rainfall, a 100% natural flood mitigation tool. Now it consists of wetlands damaged by forestry operations (WSP 2023), damaged and destroyed wetlands (WL7-2015 and the one at the north end of MA1), and ~6.7ha of impermeable quarry and infilled areas that dump water and sediment directly toward the provincially mapped wetlands of the Sackville River Headwaters.

These questions need to be clearly addressed for the protection of infrastructure and the welfare of everyone living along the Sackville River.

**Please DO NOT approve this expansion.** There are too many violations and non compliance issues that have not been enforced and NCCI have had a poor track record since inception in 2015.

A definite no!,

Mount Uniacke

**From:**  
**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Cc:** [Premier](#); [Minister, Env](#)  
**Subject:** NCCI Mount Uniacke Quarry - Letter of Concern.  
**Date:** October 31, 2025 1:44:48 PM

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Bonjour / Hello,

I am from Quebec city but now resides in Nova Scotia since June 2020. I fell in love with Nova Scotia. What was suppose to be a short term stay became my new home.

Nova Scotia is a beautiful province. Surrounded by water, it is a Gem for the country. Not only surrounded by water but also filled with beautiful lakes across the province. I am lucky to spend a lot of my time at Cockscomb lake in Mount Uniacke.

Every week I drive Uniacke mines road to access Partridge Lane, that same road the leads to the Mount Uniacke Quarry. That same quarry that is asking to expand from 4ha to 40ha.

I do not agree with this expansion for multiple reasons.

I am sure it has been brought to your attention multiple times. Uniacke Mines road is most often in a very bad condition. Potholes, wash board sections, dust (I feel bad for all those residents that cant even sit on there patio on there own property due the amount of dust), it is not surprising with the amount of trucks I see going back and forth to the quarry on my bike rides. It makes me feel rather unsafe when I am biking on Uniacke Mines road with the trucks.

That being said I would like to bring to your attention an other very serious concern I have. The Expansion Addendum report indicates the expanded quarry will cross on to the watershed that flows to Cockscomb Lake, the water to supply to our homes. I am concerned the quarry may affect the lake, wetlands, and everything that relies on that water source. Water is precious. We need it clean not contaminated with chemicals and dangerous high levels of nitrites as indicated in the WSP report.

I could talk about the way they measured the impact of the blasts, the fact that they did not respect their boundaries since the beginning, the value of properties that could go down, truck traffic but all this have already brought to your attention.

What frustrates me the most is the fact that the Department of Environment and Provincial Government have been advised of multiple violations of there OWN rules and regulations and yet no action has been taken to stop this Quarry. Plus, all the violations have been demonstrated in very professional way, multiple aerial pictures, and pictures with captions as evidence.



Why let a company expand if you know already they will not comply cause they haven't so far?

I am writing my concern but honestly I should not have to do it because the laws and regulations in place should be enough to address this without my intervention. As far as I remember I have always paid my taxes to this government.

A very disappointed citizen

Sincerely,

Mount Uniacke, NS

**From:**  
**To:** [Premier](#)  
**Cc:** [Minister, Env; Environment Assessment Web Account; lisalachancemla@gmail.com; info@mombourquette.ca; info@iainrankin.ca; mlabradjohns@gmail.com; mperry@easthants.ca; emoussa@easthants.ca; eroulston@easthants.ca; paulwozneymla@gmail.com; MLA Office](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Uniacke Mines Road Quarry Expansion  
**Date:** October 31, 2025 12:41:40 PM

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Good day premier and copied parties,

Following up to my email yesterday, attached is a photo taken of the UMR quarry yesterday (30-Oct-2025) and the apparent violations are identified in the photo. As the expansion application has resumed, it is very clear NCCI is still not respecting the regulations and continues to commit violations and harm to our beautiful community. How can the Department of Environment and you, the Premier, continue to allow this to happen and not protect our residents and environment? It is apparent that NCCI is not worried about these clear violations impacting its expansion application. They are mocking the government.

Respectively submitted with kindness.

On Oct 30, 2025, at 4:15 PM, [REDACTED]@icloud.com wrote:

Dear Premier Houston and copied parties,

[REDACTED]. I work from home and have been here for most of the blasts at the Uniacke Mines Road quarry. To consider extending this quarry is scary. When the UMR quarry blast happens, it rattles the houses, land and people in the surrounding area and tens of KMs outside our area. I live just over 1 KM from the quarry, and it feels like an earthquake. We had to get a second water treatment system last year because of the new minerals and contaminants showing up in our water making it undrinkable.

We have a three-year-old house and there are already cracks in the

basement from these blasts. There is no warning of the blasts. There has been nobody on our land monitoring the blasts, and I understand our house is one of the closest to the Quarry. Not once have we had someone ask to test on our land. We have video cameras that run 24-7.

How can a quarry be granted expansion when they are blasting beyond what is allowed? The blasts are not to be felt beyond 1 KM. If that's the case, then why are these blasts showing up on the Dalhousie Seismic Department equipment in Halifax? These blasts are being felt as far away as Vaughan, NS. There are photos of blast monitoring equipment set up on moss and loose rock to monitor these blasts. These numbers cannot be accurate due to the unsolid surfaces. All this to say the blast numbers are skewed and incorrectly recorded.

The residents of this community live in fear that this expansion will be approved. The quality of life here will continue to decline with explosions that are not monitored properly, wetlands that have been destroyed, toxic chemicals leaching into our water system, dangerous nitrate levels risking our wetlands and water systems. These facts are backed with substantial evidence and clearly show this quarry is not following the rules. How can they be granted expansion and rewarded for breaking the rules? Who with the quarry has a hold on the government officials that makes government turn a blind eye to these infractions. How can the Department of Environment not attend a crucial meeting with the community to address these concerns? The Municipality of East Hants has written letters against the quarry expansion.

I walk and bike in our beautiful area. The amount of truck traffic on UMR is astounding. There are drivers that show no concern for the area and residents. Trucks have slid off Uniacke Mines Road in icy and non-icy conditions. There are children who live and play on UMR.

The municipality has approved a plan to expand the area by up to 5,000 homes. Why would anyone want to move here knowing that there is a quarry 1-2 KMS from their home?

**Please, please, please** do not approve this quarry expansion. There is an abundant amount of evidence to support the decision to **not approve** the expansion.



We just want peace in our area and look forward to a growing community.  
We do not want a community that is held hostage to a quarry that has **NOT** followed the rules and a government that has remained **unsupportive** of their growing community.

I ask that you:

#1) be transparent before making this life altering decision for so many of your citizens - answer the 'Questions Letter' sent by the Mount Uniacke community on Oct 10/25

#2) give MU the Town Hall they're demanding BEFORE decision day, which is November 12. To engage with them, in person, for a 2 hr, Q&A session.  
and,

#3) DENY THIS EXPANSION PROJECT - choose instead to APPROVE your citizens 'rights' to enjoy where they live and to protect the natural environment. Which is what the Dept. of Environment is mandated to do - are they not? PUT PEOPLE OVER PROFITS.....

Respectively submitted with kindness,

**From:**  
**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Subject:** additional information RE: Proposed Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion  
**Date:** October 31, 2025 3:25:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [Message from C3350.msg](#)  
[Proposed Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion.msg](#)

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To whom it may concern

I have received new information from the attached map which causes additional concerns for Casel Holdings Ltd the developer (I am the owner) for which I want to add additional concerns to my previous submission of Oct 27<sup>th</sup> submission also attached.

If this Quarry is allowed to expand I will no longer be able to develop approximately 1 kilometer of partridge lane due to the quarry 1 KM development restriction. I will also not be allowed to develop almost a kilometre of my property along Uniacke Mines Road.

**I will be seeking compensation from the province should this quarry approval go forward.**

Sincerely

Owner

Casel Holdings Ltd.

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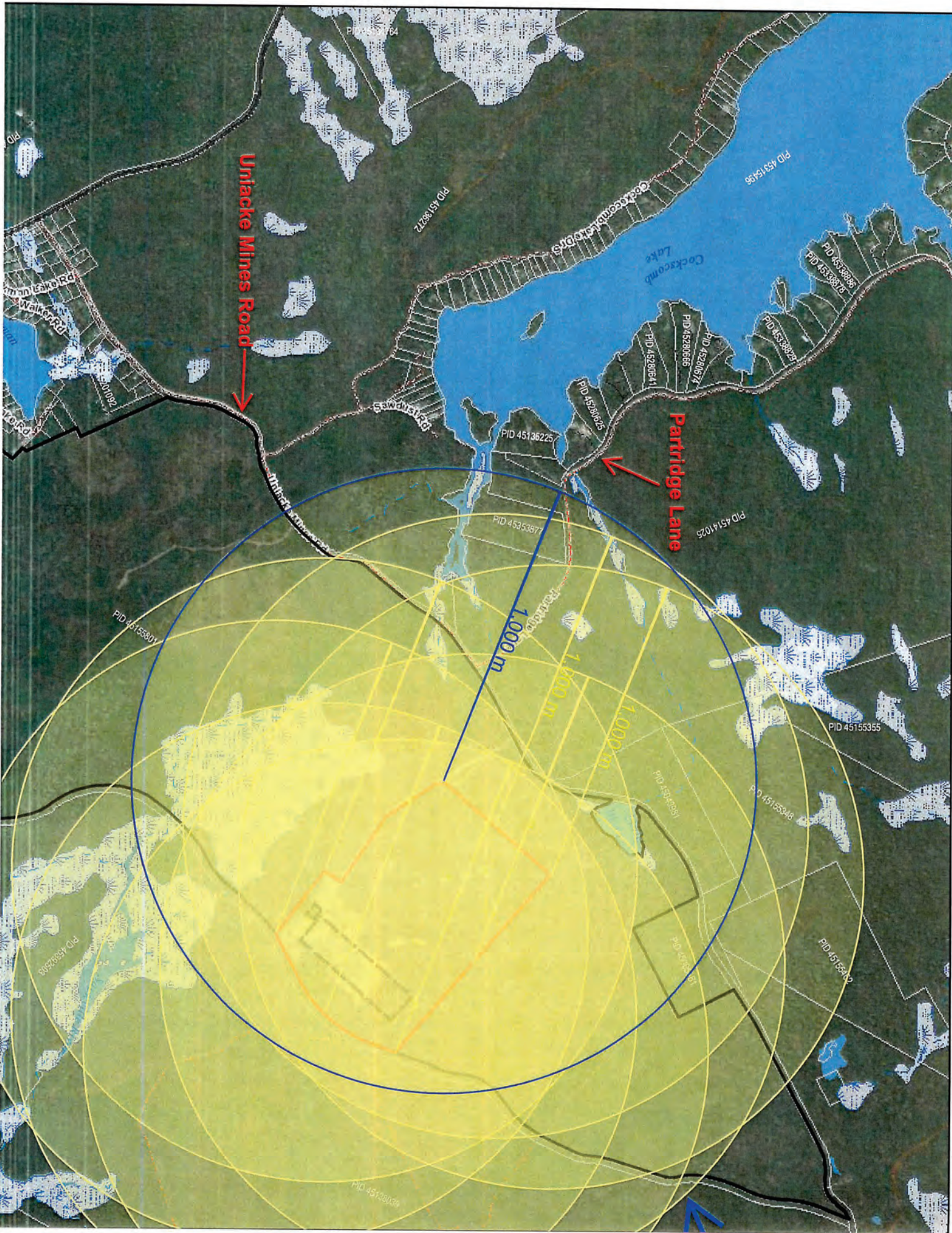
**From:** Environment Assessment Web Account <EA@novascotia.ca>  
**Sent:** October 27, 2025 11:57 AM  
**To:** [redacted]@cartmill.ca>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Proposed Mount Uniacke Quarry Expansion

Thank you for your e-mail sent to Nova Scotia Environment - Environmental Assessment Branch.

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your e-mail.

Please do not reply to this automatic reply message.







**From:**  
**To:** [Environment Assessment Web Account](#)  
**Subject:** Stop the proposed expansion of Mt Uniacke Quarry  
**Date:** October 31, 2025 3:50:16 PM

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EA NS,

I'm emailing to express my concern and disapproval of the proposed expansion of the Mt Uniacke Quarry. After reviewing much of the information available about the quarry online it appears they have not done a good job with abiding by all the environmental rules and regulations and have not been great partners in working with the local community.

I am all for economic development but in this case, it seems that this quarries proximity to very valuable lakefront properties who pay a significant amount of property tax. As well as the proximity to headwaters just makes it a poor place for a large quarry. In addition, given the companies very poor track record of following the environmental rules and policies they should certainly not be allowed to expand their quarry.  
Sincerely,

Dartmouth NS