

APPROVAL

**Province of Nova Scotia
Environment Act, S.N.S. 1994-95, c.1 s.1**

APPROVAL HOLDER: CERTAINTEED CANADA, INC.

SITE PID: 40212409, 40228009, 40228017, 40228371, 40228389,
40229676, 40767014, 40959975, 40959983, 41152893,
41517319

APPROVAL NO: 2025-6366450-00

EXPIRY DATE: May 4, 2036

Pursuant to Part V of the Environment Act, S.N.S. 1994-95, c.1 s.1 as amended from time to time, approval is granted to the Approval Holder subject to the Terms and Conditions attached to and forming part of this Approval, for the following activity:

Industrial - Minerals - Surface Mine



Administrator: Malcolm MacNeil

Effective Date: May 4, 2026

The Minister's powers and responsibilities under the Act with respect to this Approval have been delegated to the Administrator named above. Therefore, any information or notifications required to be provided to the Minister under this Approval can be provided to the Administrator unless otherwise advised in

writing.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change

Approval Holder: CERTAINTEED CANADA, INC.

Project: Antrim Gypsum Project

Site:

PID	Civic #	Street Name	Street Type	Community	County
40212409					
40228009	1477	LAKE EGMONT	RD.	LAKE EGMONT	HALIFAX COUNTY
40228017					
40228371					
40228389					
40229676				CARROLLS CORNER	HALIFAX COUNTY
40767014	1537	LAKE EGMONT	RD.	LAKE EGMONT	HALIFAX COUNTY
40959975					
40959983					
41152893	1480	LAKE EGMONT	RD.	LAKE EGMONT	HALIFAX COUNTY
41517319					

Approval No: 2025-6366450-00

File No: 92100-30-BED-2025-6366450

Reference Documents

- Application submitted November 26, 2025 and attachments.
- Industrial Approval Additional Information - Antrim Gypsum, Project 12 February 2026

1. Definitions

- Act means Environment Act, 1994-95, c.1, s.1, and includes, unless the context otherwise requires, the regulations made pursuant to the Act, as amended from time to time.
- Clearing means work that consists of cutting and disposing of all trees, brush, slashing and fallen timber.

- c. Construction means all work that includes but is not to be limited to, grubbing, production Facility and all other infrastructure, required to prepare the Site for operations.
- d. Day(s) means calendar day unless otherwise stated.
- e. Department means the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change, and the contact for the Department for this approval is:
Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change
Central Region, Bedford Office
30 Damascus Road, Suite 115
Bedford, Nova Scotia B4A 0C1

Phone: (902) 424-7773
- f. Disturbed Area means any area of the Site that has been stripped of vegetation and is susceptible to erosion.
- g. Facility means the open pit mine, mineral processing plant, stockpiles, and associated works on Site.
- h. Grab sample means an individual sample collected in less than thirty (30) minutes and which is representative of the substance sampled.
- i. Grubbing means work that consist of removing and disposing of all stumps, roots, downed timber, embedded logs, humus, root mat and topsoil from areas of excavations and embankments.
- j. Minister means the Minister of Environment and Climate Change and includes any person delegated the authority of the Minister.
- k. Qualified Person as it relates to noise, means one who has certified post-secondary education and/or professional training in acoustics, and a minimum of 5 years of experience in the field of environmental noise, or as otherwise authorized by the Department.
- l. Qualified Person as it relates to air quality, means one who has certified post-secondary education and/or professional training related to ambient (outdoor) air quality, and a minimum of 5 years of experience in the field of ambient (outdoor) air quality, or as otherwise authorized by the Department.
- m. Rehabilitation as defined in the Environment Act. In this Approval, definition of reclamation is synonymous with rehabilitation.
- n. Site means a place where a designated activity and/or undertaking is occurring or may occur.
- o. Third-party qualified professional means an individual or other party not affiliated with or controlled by the Approval Holder(s) and includes an individual or party retained by or financially compensated by the Approval Holder(s) to provide the requisite services in an objective, neutral, impartial and unbiased manner.

2. Scope

- a. This Approval (the "Approval") relates to the Approval Holder(s) and their application and all documentation submitted to the Department prior to the issuance of this approval for the Surface Mine situated at or near Antrim Gypsum Project.
- b. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure the designated activity is carried out in accordance with this Approval and reference documents, including the application and supporting documentation.
- c. The Approval Holder(s) shall maintain a minimum separation distance of thirty (30) metres between the Facility and outer property boundaries of the Site unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Department.

3. General

- a. Unless otherwise specified in this approval, the Approval Holder(s) shall conduct the Designated Activity in accordance with the following provisions:
 - i. The Act, as amended from time to time;
 - ii. Any standard or guideline adopted by the Department, as amended from time to time, which includes but is not limited to the following:
 - (a) Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change Guidelines for Environmental Noise Measurement and Assessment, October 2023, as amended from time to time.
 - (b) Contingency Planning Guidelines published by Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change dated October 2019 as amended from time to time.
- b. Nothing in this Approval relieves the Approval Holder(s) of the responsibility for obtaining and paying for all licenses, permits, approvals or authorizations necessary for carrying out the work authorized to be performed by this Approval which may be required by municipal by-laws, provincial or federal legislation, or other organizations. The Minister does not warrant that such licenses, permits, approvals or other authorizations will be issued.
- c. No authority is granted by this Approval to enable the Approval Holder(s) to commence or continue the designated activity on lands which are not in the control or ownership of the Approval Holder(s). It is the responsibility of the Approval Holder(s) to ensure that such a contravention does not occur. The Approval Holder(s) shall provide, to the Department, proof of such control or ownership upon expiry of any relevant lease or agreement. Failure to retain said authorization may result in this Approval being cancelled or suspended.
- d. If there is a discrepancy between the reference documents and the terms and conditions of this Approval, the terms and conditions of this Approval shall apply.

- e. Any request for renewal or amendment of this Approval is to be made in writing, to the Department, at least ninety (90) days prior to the Approval expiry.
- f. The Approval Holder(s) shall 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 the approval from a parent company to a subsidiary or an affiliate is deemed to be a transfer requiring consent.
- g. If the Minister cancels or suspends this Approval, the Approval Holder(s) remains subject to the penalty provisions of the Act.
- h. The Approval Holder(s) shall advise the Department in writing prior to any proposed extensions or modifications to the Activity and/or the Site. An amendment to this Approval may be required before implementing any extension or modification.
- i. The Approval Holder(s) shall immediately notify the Department of any incidents of non-compliance with this Approval.
- j. The Approval Holder(s) shall bear all expenses incurred in carrying out the environmental monitoring required under the terms and conditions of this Approval.
- k. All sampling and analysis shall be performed in accordance with the following as amended from time to time: Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, or the analytical methods section of Health Canada's guideline technical document for the parameter of concern. All samples shall be collected by persons trained in appropriate sample collection procedures.
- l. Unless specified otherwise in this Approval, all samples required to be collected by this Approval shall be collected, preserved and analysed, by qualified personnel, in accordance with recognized industry standards and procedures that are all deemed acceptable to the Department.
- m. Unless written authorization is received otherwise from the Minister, all samples required by this Approval shall be analyzed by a laboratory that meets the requirements of the Department's "Policy on Acceptable Certification of Laboratories" as amended from time to time.
- n. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that this Approval, or a copy, is present on Site while personnel are on Site.
- o. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that personnel directly involved in the designated activity are made fully aware of the terms and conditions of this Approval.
- p. Upon any changes to the Registry of Joint Stock Companies information, the Approval Holder(s) shall provide a copy to the Department within five (5) business days.

4. Air Quality

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that air emissions from the designated activity do not contribute to an exceedance of the maximum permissible ground level concentrations of contaminants specified in the Air Quality Regulations.
- b. The use of oil as a dust suppressant is prohibited.
- c. At the request of the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall retain a third-party qualified person to develop a plan for conducting an air assessment in accordance with the Department's "Air Assessment Guidance Document, 2023", as amended from time to time. The assessment shall include, but is not limited to, ambient monitoring, dispersion modelling, and source testing. The plan shall be submitted to the Department for review and acceptance and implemented upon request.
- d. The Approval Holder(s) will provide any additional information and/or make changes to the plan for conducting an air assessment as required by the Department.

5. Noise

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that noise generated from the designated activity complies with the criteria identified in the Department's "Guidelines for Environmental Noise Measurement and Assessment, 2023", as amended from time to time.
- b. At the request of the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall retain a qualified person to develop a plan to monitor noise in accordance with the Department's "Guidelines for Environmental Noise Measurement and Assessment, 2023", as amended from time to time. The plan shall be submitted to the Department and implemented upon request.
- c. The Approval Holder(s) shall provide any additional information and/or make any amendment to the plan to monitor noise that is required by the Department.

6. Surface Water

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure the Site is developed and maintained to prevent contaminants from being discharged into a water resource or beyond the property boundary.
- b. Monitoring during construction: The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that the following water quality limits are met in the water resource downstream of construction activities:
 - i. Total Suspended Solids, Clear Flows (Normal Background Conditions):
 - (a) Maximum increase of 25 mg/l from background levels for any short term exposure (24 hour or less);
 - (b) Maximum average increase of 5 mg/l from background levels for longer term exposure (inputs lasting between 24 hours and 30 days);

- ii. Total Suspended Solids, High Flow (Spring Freshets and Storm Events):
 - (a) Maximum increase of 25 mg/l from background levels at any time when background levels are between 25 mg/l and 250 mg/l;
 - (b) Maximum increase of 10% over background levels when background is >250 mg/l;
- c. Additional surface water monitoring may be required at the request of the Department.
- d. No authority is granted by this Approval to enable the Approval Holder(s) to discharge surface water onto adjoining lands without the authorization of the affected landowner(s).
- e. The Approval Holder(s) shall install and maintain erosion and sedimentation controls in line with industry best practices (e.g., Nova Scotia Environment Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook for Construction Sites) as work progresses. The controls shall remain in place until areas disturbed by construction activities are stabilized so that the risk of release of sediment to a water resource has been mitigated.
- f. The Approval Holder(s) shall immediately contact the Department should sulphide bearing material be encountered on the Site.
- g. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that surface water runoff that may be impacted by petroleum hydrocarbons from the Site is collected and directed for necessary treatment prior to discharge from Site.
- h. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that erosion control materials are clean, non-erodible, non-acid generating, non-watercourse derived and non-toxic.
- i. Any silted water pumped from work areas shall be directed to vegetated areas, settling ponds, or other treatment devices that mitigate the risk of release of sediment to a water resource.
- j. The Approval Holder(s) shall limit the size of the disturbed area and the removal of riparian vegetation to the area of construction activities as outlined in the supporting documentation.
- k. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that the following activities take place at a distance of a minimum of thirty (30) metres from a surface watercourse or wetland in an area such that a release will not enter a surface watercourse or wetland:
 - i. Fuel storage, refueling, and/or lubrication of equipment
 - ii. Washing of machinery or equipment
 - iii. Storage of equipment, excavated/stockpiled materials, and potential contaminants

7. Surface Water Monitoring

- a. Within 90 days of the effective date of this Approval, the Approval Holder(s) shall submit to the Department for review and acceptance, a Surface Water Compliance Program (SWCP) prepared by a Third-party qualified professional that includes:
 - i. A conceptual site model which includes at a minimum detailed Site plan(s) (site boundaries, property boundaries, water course names, flow direction, site infrastructure, etc) and potential sensitive receptors;
 - ii. Proposed surface water sampling locations with GPS coordinates (UTM NAD83 or WGS84);
 - iii. Toxicants and parameters to be sampled and the frequency of sampling;
 - iv. Background calculations, as appropriate for the Site and sampling location, and supporting data sets along with any other supporting information or rationale for the statistical methods used;
 - v. Proposed compliance criteria and methods for determining compliance (eg. statistical trends, Biomet lookup tool, Major Ion Calculator, etc), including all data used in any derivations and complete technical rationale for the proposed compliance criterion;
 - vi. An explanation by the Third-party qualified professional for any proposed compliance criteria exceeding Tier 1 Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) or background (including supporting data sets);
 - vii. Quality Assurance / Quality Control Program; and
 - viii. Any other item(s) requested by the Department.
- b. Once accepted by the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall:
 - i. Conduct surface water sampling in accordance with the current SWCP;
 - ii. Comply with the compliance criteria outlined in the current SWCP; and
 - iii. Ensure the current SWCP remains in place until a revised SWCP is accepted by the Department in writing.
- c. On or before October 1st of each year, the Approval Holder(s) shall recommend to the Department for acceptance a SWCP for the following calendar year. The program shall include:
 - i. If the recommended program includes proposed revisions, the recommended SWCP shall include:
 - (a) A review and recommendation(s) by a Third-party qualified professional of the current SWCP;
 - (b) Identification of any proposed changes and the rationale for the changes, including all data and technical rationale;

- (c) All items required by this Approval to be included in a SWCP; and
 - (d) Revision number and date.
- ii. If the recommended program does not include proposed revisions, the recommended SWCP shall include:
 - (a) A review and recommendation(s) by a Third-party qualified professional of the current SWCP;
 - (b) A letter indicating there are no proposed changes to the most recently accepted monitoring program referencing the most recent revision number; and
 - (c) Summary table(s) of all sampling, including: toxicants and parameters, frequency, location, and compliance criteria.
- d. Upon request by the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall amend in a timeframe acceptable to the Department: toxicants, parameters, sampling frequencies, sampling locations and/ or compliance limits in the accepted SWCP.
- e. If surface water quality exceeds the criteria authorized by this Approval, within three (3) months of the exceedance, the Approval Holder(s) shall submit to the Department a Corrective Action Plan, for review and acceptance, prepared by a Qualified Professional.
 - i. Corrective Action Plan shall include, but not limited to, the following:
 - (a) Identify potential source(s) of the non-compliance;
 - (b) Identify and evaluate contributing factors associated with the non-compliance;
 - (c) Identify additional data collection required to assess risk(s) associated with the non-compliance, design and implement appropriate mitigation measure(s);
 - (d) Proposed mitigation measure(s) required to maintain compliance with criteria authorized by this Approval;
 - (e) A timeline for when any proposed mitigative measures are expected to be implemented and how long it will take to do so; and
 - (f) A proposed plan and timeline for monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented mitigation measure(s).
 - ii. The Approval Holder(s) shall implement the Corrective Action Plan upon acceptance by the Department.
- f. Notwithstanding the requirements of this Approval, the Approval Holder(s) shall upgrade environmental control measures if surface water monitoring indicates adverse environmental effects are attributable to activities at the Facility.

Environmental control measures shall be upgraded in a manner and timeframe acceptable to the Department.

- i. The Approval Holder(s) shall take all mitigative and remedial measures required to restore surface water quality to the criteria limits authorized by this Approval.
- g. The Approval Holder(s) shall retain a thirty (30) metre undeveloped buffer on all adjacent watercourses and wetlands unless specific approval has been given to alter the watercourse/wetland. The Approval Holder(s) shall obtain written authorization from the Department to encroach within these limits, unless for the purpose of installing surface and/or groundwater monitoring station(s).

8. Groundwater Monitoring

- a. Within 90 days of the effective date of this Approval, the Approval Holder(s) shall submit to the Department for review and acceptance a Groundwater Compliance Program (GWCP) prepared by a Third-party qualified professional that includes:
 - i. A conceptual site model which includes at a minimum detailed Site plan(s) (site boundaries, property boundaries, water course names, groundwater flow direction, site infrastructure, etc) and potential sensitive receptors;
 - ii. Proposed groundwater sampling locations and well heights with GPS coordinates (UTM NAD83 or WGS84);
 - iii. Toxicants and parameters to be sampled and the frequency of sampling;
 - iv. Background calculations, as appropriate for the Site and sampling location, and supporting data sets along with any other supporting information or rationale for the statistical methods used;
 - v. Proposed compliance criteria and methods for determining compliance (eg. statistical trends, etc), including all data used in any derivations and complete technical rationale for the proposed compliance criteria;
 - vi. An explanation by the Third-party qualified professional for any proposed compliance criteria exceeding Tier 1 EQS or background (including supporting data sets);
 - vii. Quality Assurance / Quality Control program; and
 - viii. Any other item(s) requested by the Department.
- b. Once accepted by the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall:
 - i. Conduct groundwater sampling in accordance with the current GWCP;
 - ii. Comply with the compliance criteria outlined in the current GWCP; and
 - iii. Ensure the current GWCP remains in place until a revised GWCP is accepted by the Department in writing.

- c. On or before October 1st of each year, the Approval Holder(s) shall recommend to the Department for acceptance a GWCP for the following calendar year. The program shall include:
 - i. If the recommended program includes proposed revisions, the recommended GWCP shall include:
 - (a) A review and recommendation(s) by a Third-party qualified professional of the current GWCP;
 - (b) Identification of any proposed changes and the rationale for the changes, including all data and technical rationale;
 - (c) All items required by this Approval to be included in a GWCP; and
 - (d) Revision number and date.
 - ii. If the recommended program does not include proposed revisions, the recommended GWCP shall include:
 - (a) A review and recommendation(s) by a Third-party qualified professional of the current GWCP;
 - (b) A letter indicating there are no proposed changes to the most recently accepted monitoring program referencing the most recent revision number; and
 - (c) Summary table(s) of all sampling, including: toxicants and parameters, frequency, location, and compliance criteria.
- d. Upon request by the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall amend in a timeframe acceptable to the Department: toxicants, parameters, sampling frequencies, sampling locations and/ or compliance limits in the accepted GWCP.
- e. All monitoring wells shall be properly maintained and shall be fitted with a protective well casing and secured.
- f. The Approval Holder(s) shall inspect and document the physical condition of each monitoring well during each groundwater sampling event and maintenance performed as required. Any required maintenance shall be completed within a timeframe acceptable to the Department. The results of the monitoring well assessment and any associated repair work shall be documented in the Annual Surface and Groundwater Monitoring Report.
- g. Monitoring wells that cannot be repaired shall be decommissioned and replaced to the satisfaction of the Department, in a timely manner. The decommissioning and replacement of monitoring wells shall be documented in the Annual Surface and Groundwater Monitoring Report.
- h. The Approval Holder(s) shall report immediately to the Department any plans to decommission monitoring well(s).

- i. For newly installed monitoring wells, the Approval Holder(s) shall:
 - i. Ensure the drilling and installation is overseen by a Qualified Professional;
 - ii. Ensure that the elevation of the top of well casing is surveyed relative to an appropriate fixed reference point at the Site which is also referenced to mine water levels; and
 - iii. Within 30 days of completion of monitoring well installation, submit to the Department the borehole log(s) showing well construction, ground elevation, and UTM NAD83 or WGS84 Coordinates.
- j. Monitoring well maintenance and decommissioning shall be completed under the supervision of a Qualified Professional.
- k. If groundwater quality exceeds the criteria listed in the Department approved GWCP, the Approval Holder(s) shall:
 - i. Within nine (9) months of a non-compliant result submit, to the Department for review and acceptance, a Corrective Action Plan prepared by a Qualified Professional, that includes, but not limited to, the following:
 - (a) Identify potential source(s) of the non-compliance;
 - (b) Identify and evaluate contributing factors associated with the non-compliance;
 - (c) Identify additional data collection required to assess risk(s) associated with the non-compliance, design and implement appropriate mitigation measure(s);
 - (d) Proposed mitigation measure(s) required to maintain compliance with criteria authorized by this Approval;
 - (e) A timeline for when any proposed mitigative measures are expected to be implemented and how long it will take to do so; and
 - ii. A proposed monitoring plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented mitigation measure(s).
 - iii. The Approval Holder(s) shall implement the Corrective Action Plan upon written acceptance by the Department.
- l. Notwithstanding the requirements of this Approval, the Approval Holder(s) shall upgrade environmental control measures if groundwater monitoring indicates adverse environmental effects are attributable to activities at the Facility. Environmental control measures shall be upgraded in a manner and time frame acceptable to the Department.

9. Groundwater

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall replace, at their expense, any water supply which has been lost or damaged as a result of the designated activity, as authorized and required by the Department.

10. Hydrology

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall continue to maintain hydrologic conditions at the Site as described in the Hydrological Pumping Plan until the natural hydrology is restored.
- b. Notwithstanding anything in this Approval, the Approval Holder shall continue to maintain hydrologic conditions at the Site as described in the Hydrological Pumping Plan until otherwise authorized in writing by the Department.
- c. If requested by the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall make changes to the Hydrological Pumping Plan.

11. Releases

- a. Releases shall be reported in accordance with the Act.
- b. Spills or releases shall be cleaned up in accordance with the Act.

12. Construction

- a. Prior to the start of construction, the Approval Holder(s) shall notify the Department that the stamped issued-for-construction drawings for all Project infrastructure described in the Industrial Approval Application are available on site. These drawings shall be delivered to the Department upon request.
- b. The Approval Holder(s) shall submit as-built drawing(s) and certification letter, prepared by a Qualified Professional, stating that the infrastructure and/or associated works has been constructed for its intended purpose and is in accordance with the design and specifications.
 - i. Within 30 days of completing the Initial Construction Phase.
 - ii. By April 30th of each subsequent year for any new construction completed in the preceding year after the Initial Construction Phase.
- c. The Approval Holder(s) shall immediately contact the Department should sulphide bearing material be encountered on the Site.

13. Blasting

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall have a technical blast design prepared by a Qualified Person which ensures the ground vibration and air concussion limits in this Approval can be achieved.
 - i. At the request of the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall submit a copy of the blast design.

- b. At the direction of the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall modify or cease blasting.
- c. No blasting shall occur on Sunday, on a statutory holiday prescribed by the Province, or on any day between 1800 and 0800 hours.
- d. The Approval Holder(s) shall not exceed the blasting limits listed in Table 2.
- e. Additional monitoring stations for blasting may be specified as required by the Department.
- f. Records of individual blast results shall be maintained by the Approval Holder(s) and made available to the Department upon request.

14. Reporting

- a. Upon the request of an Inspector, the Approval Holder(s) shall prepare and submit an annual report for any calendar year specified by the Inspector and submit the report by the due date and in the format required by the Inspector. The report shall contain the following information:
 - i. Annual Surface Water Monitoring Report;
 - ii. Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report;
 - iii. Blast Monitoring data;
 - iv. A summary and interpretation of any instances of non-compliance with this Approval and corrective action taken;
 - v. A summary of any complaints received and the corrective action taken;
 - vi. Summary of Community Liaison Committee meetings; and
 - vii. any other information required by the Department.
- b. Upon request, the Approval Holder(s) shall submit to the Department one (1) hard copy and an electronic version, including unlocked excel sheets, of the Annual Surface and Groundwater Monitoring Report(s) to the Department for each calendar year requested. The Annual Report(s) shall be prepared by a Qualified Professional and includes, but not be limited to, the following:
 - i. Surface Water:
 - (a) A review of field methodologies, including sampling techniques;
 - (b) A description of the surface water monitoring network and updated mapping showing all existing monitoring stations including those added within the year being reported on;
 - (c) Current and historical surface water quality data, in chronological tabular format, in comparison to criteria authorized by this Approval with exceedances highlighted;

- (d) A detailed interpretation of the surface water quality data including an analysis of spatial and temporal trends, graphical representation of relevant parameters by a Third-party qualified professional;
 - (e) The identification of any adverse impacts to surface water quality and quantity resources, including watercourses, wetlands, and aquatic life, as a result of site activities and associated recommendations, as applicable by a Third-party qualified professional;
 - (f) A figure showing the wetlands and surface water monitoring stations; and
 - (g) Laboratory certificates of analysis for the reporting year (electronic copy only).
- ii. Groundwater:
- (a) A review of field methodologies, including sampling techniques;
 - (b) A description of the groundwater monitoring network and updated mapping showing all existing monitoring stations including those added within the year being reported on;
 - (c) Current and historic static water level data, in chronological tabular format;
 - (d) Current and historical groundwater quality data, in chronological tabular format, in comparison to criteria authorized by this Approval with exceedances highlighted;
 - (e) A detailed interpretation of the groundwater quality data including an analysis of spatial and temporal trends, including graphical representation of relevant parameters, in relation to background and baseline data and relevant criteria by a Third-party qualified professional;
 - (f) A detailed interpretation of the groundwater elevation data including graphical representation and an analysis of trends including trends in vertical hydraulic gradients;
 - (g) The identification of any impacts to groundwater quality and quantity, beyond those authorized by this Approval, as a result of site activities by a Third-party qualified professional;
 - (h) The identification of any impacts or risk(s) to sensitive receptors, beyond those authorized by this Approval, as a result of Site activities by a Third-party qualified professional;
 - (i) A figure showing the wetlands and groundwater monitoring wells monitoring stations;

- (j) A summary of monitoring well assessment, any associated repair work, decommissioning and replacement wells; and
 - (k) Laboratory certificates of analysis for the reporting year (electronic copy only).
- c. Upon request, the Approval Holder(s) shall provide a report detailing the current and historical hydrology of the Site, including the effectiveness of the Hydrological Pumping Plan and any observed impacts. The data and interpretation shall be provided in a format acceptable to the Department.

15. Records

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that all records required by this Approval are maintained for a period of five (5) years and are to be made available to the Department upon request.
- b. A copy of project reports, reclamation documents and drawings, and inspection reports, shall be kept for the life of the designated activity and are to be made available to the Department upon request.

16. Reclamation

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall submit an updated Reclamation Plan and reclamation cost estimate prepared by a third-party Qualified Professional by November 24, 2028 for review and acceptance by the Department.
- b. The Approval Holder(s) shall review the most recent version of the reclamation plan for the designated activity at a minimum of every three (3) years thereafter and update the plan accordingly based on current conditions. Updates to the Reclamation Plan shall be accepted by the Department in writing prior to implementation.
- c. The Approval Holder(s) shall review the reclamation cost estimate provided to the Department at a minimum of every three (3) years based on the Reclamation Plan.
- d. All issued-for-construction drawings for an area shall be submitted to the Department prior to commencement of the work in that area.
- e. The Approval Holder(s) shall notify the Department when reclamation of an area(s) has been completed.
- f. The Department reserves the right to require modifications to the Reclamation Plan.

17. Reclamation Security

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall maintain for the site a financial security in a form and amount acceptable to the Department.
- b. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that any security posted is kept valid for the term of this Approval, as a minimum.

- c. Reclamation security in the value of no less than \$11,987,395 shall be posted with the Province on or before the specified dates in accordance with the installment schedule below:

Prior to the start of grubbing: \$4,595,000

Prior to mining: \$4,358,000

Prior to commencement of Phase 2 mining: \$3,034,395

- d. At the request of the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall submit an updated financial security cost estimate that is prepared by a third-party Qualified Professional.
- e. At the request of the Department, the Approval Holder(s) shall submit additional Financial Security based on updated cost estimates.
- f. The Financial Security shall only be released by the Province to the Approval Holder(s) after final reclamation of the area(s) has been completed to the satisfaction of the Minister.

18. Contingency/Emergency Response Plan

- a. The Approval Holder(s) shall maintain and follow a Contingency/Emergency Response Plan in accordance with the Department's Contingency Planning Guidelines, as amended from time to time. The Contingency/Emergency Response Plan shall be provided to the Department upon request.
- b. The Approval Holder(s) shall ensure that specific contingency measures are established to ensure hydrology is maintained in accordance with the Hydrological Pumping Plan.

19. Air Emissions

- a. If the Department determines that the designated activity is generating excessive odours, the Approval Holder(s) shall be required to take any measures required by the Department to address those odours.

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 structure not located on Site.