



INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Environment

SWAMP POINT AGGREGATE MINE RECEIVES APPROVAL

VICTORIA – Vancouver-based Ascot Resources Ltd. has received a provincial environmental assessment certificate for a proposed aggregate quarry and ship-loading facility at Swamp Point on the Portland Canal following a comprehensive review by B.C.'s Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).

The project site is located 50 km south of Stewart. The project's lifespan is anticipated to be 18 years, with a maximum production capacity of 3.3 million tonnes of aggregate per year. Ascot Resources (the proponent) anticipates that the aggregate will be shipped as far south as California.

The environmental assessment concluded the project will have no significant environmental, social or health effects on the surrounding area. In addition, the proponent will still need to obtain the necessary provincial approvals and leases following receipt of an environmental assessment (EA) certificate.

The provincial EA certificate contains 78 commitments that the proponent must implement throughout the various phases of the project. Some key commitments include:

- Locate in-pipe flow regulating valves at strategic locations to help control the volume of water diverted from Steep Creek to Reservoir Lake and the volume of water withdrawn from Reservoir Lake.
- Prepare a surface erosion prevention and sediment control plan prior to construction.
- Appoint an Environmental Coordinator who will be responsible for implementing and monitoring all environmental programs.

Capital costs are estimated between \$27.5 million and \$44 million. The project is expected to create 20 to 50 direct, non-seasonal jobs. There will also be opportunities for contractors to provide support services to the operation and to provide or deliver supplies to the site. Ascot Resources intends to maximize local employment and contracting activities, primarily from the Nass Valley communities of Stewart and Prince Rupert.

More information on the environmental certificate can be found at www.eao.gov.bc.ca.

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