



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
RURAL/AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Thursday, April 6, 2023

PAGE NO.

ACTION

AGENDA, April 6, 2023

Approve

Supplementary Agenda

Receive

MINUTES

2-7

Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
- March 9, 2023

Approve

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ACTION

Land Referral

8-33

Cameron Kral, Planning Technician
Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410295
Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)

Recommendation

RURAL REPORTS

34

Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic
Development – Rural Bursary Policy Discussion

Discussion

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKORURAL/AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGThursday, March 9, 2023

PRESENT:

Chair	Clint Lambert
Directors	Judy Greenaway Shirley Moon Chris Newell Mark Parker Michael Riis-Christianson Stoney Stoltenberg
Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services Nellie Davis, Regional Manager of Economic Development John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 12:45 p.m. Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Others	Shane Brienen, District of Houston – arrived at 12:48 p.m., left at 12:55 p.m., returned at 1:03 p.m. Martin Elphee, District of Fort St. James Andrew Kemp, Engagement Specialist, Immigration Programs, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division - left at 1:14 p.m. Aireen Luney, Manager of Program Development and Promotion, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division - left at 1:14 p.m. Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle Sarrah Storey, Village of Fraser Lake Deb Zehr, Executive Director, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division. - left at 1:14 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lambert called the meeting to order at 12:43 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2023-2-1

“That the Rural/Agriculture Committee Agenda for March 9, 2023 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes -February 9, 2022 Moved by Director Parker
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2023-2-2 "That the minutes of the Rural/Agriculture Committee meeting of February 9, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Land/Mining Referral

Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410290 and Notice of Work No. 2000276-202201 Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Moved by Director Parker
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2023-2-3 "That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application No. 7410290 and Notice of Work No. 2000276-2022- 01."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM - Deb Zehr, Executive Director, Andrew Kemp, Engagement Specialist, Immigration Programs, and Aireen Luney, Manager of Program Development and Promotion Ministry of Municipal Affairs Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division RE: Provincial Nominee Program – via Zoom

Chair Lambert welcomed Deb Zehr, Executive Director, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division. Ms. Zehr introduced Andrew Kemp, Engagement Specialist, Immigration Programs and Aireen Luney, Manager of Program Development and Promotion, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division RE: Provincial Nominee Program.

Ms. Zehr provided an overview of the BC Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP). The Program is an economic immigration pilot program.

- Ability for the Province to design, administer and determine the criteria to nominate economic immigrants to the government for permanent residency
- The RDBN's past participation in the Pilot Program
- To attract entrepreneurs
- Currently 50 communities represented across the province with populations 75,000 or less.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM - Deb Zehr, Executive Director, Andrew Kemp, Engagement Specialist, Immigration Programs, and Aireen Luney, Manager of Program Development and Promotion Ministry of Municipal Affairs Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division RE: Provincial Nominee Program – via Zoom (Cont'd)

- Pilot Program due to end in March 2024
 - o An external 3rd party evaluation is currently being conducted of the program
 - Input from communities valuable
 - o COVID 19 pandemic Impacts to the program and processing times
 - o Received over 118 applications
 - o 37 applications have arrived with families and are establishing business
 - o Some applicants are at the end stage of the program and received permanent residency
 - o Challenges of a pilot program and learning
 - o Managing the need for small communities
 - Relationship building with small communities is a benefit
 - Creating a profile of communities on the Provincial Nominee Program website
 - Noticing a shift of those coming to smaller communities due to on the ground support
 - o RDBN resuming participation in the Program
- Skills attraction a priority
 - o Aware of labour pressures
 - o Design mandate for the BC PNP is used to compliment the federal government administered pathways for temporary or permanent residents
 - Target people in certain occupations or sectors
 - Healthcare workers Health Authorities
 - Early Childhood Educators
 - Veterinarians and veterinarian technicians
 - Currently connecting with those individuals through the BC PNP
 - o Collaborating Connecting with Northern Development Initiative Trust
 - o Continue to connect with federal programs to create pathways to bring workers to smaller centers
- Significant increase of immigrants to Canada and B.C.
- Challenges regarding accreditation for foreign workers
- Concerns about money laundering and sex trafficking through immigration programs
 - o Fraud and Program Integrity
 - o Antifraud and Investigation Unit has been established
- Lack of housing and rental inventory in communities impacting the ability to recruit workers
- Entrepreneur and skilled worker streams
 - o How to increase attraction and retention in small communities
 - o Working to horizontally collaborate between all stakeholders
- Repercussions if BC PNP applicants are unable to complete the program but remain in the community
 - o Process and review of BC PNP applicants.

Chair Lambert thanked Ms. Zehr, Ms. Luney and Mr. Kemp for attending the meeting.

RURAL REPORTS

BC Rural Center "Keeping it Rural" Conference June 1-2, 2023 in Kelowna Moved by Director Stoltenberg
 Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2023-2-4 "That the Committee recommend that the Board authorize attendance of Rural Directors at the 2023 Keeping it Rural Conference June 1-2, 2023, in Kelowna, BC."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGRICULTURE DISCUSSION

VERBAL REPORTS - Director Parker

Veterinary Shortage and Food Security

- Awaiting finalization of Economic Impact Study
- Conversation with Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena-Bulkley Valley and he will bring forward the Economic Impact Study and concerns to the Canadian Minister of Agriculture
- Frustration regarding the lack of information from the Province concerning future funding for seats in the veterinarian medicine program at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine on the University of Saskatchewan campus.

Receipt of Verbal Reports Moved by Director Stoltenberg
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

RDC.2023-2-5 "That Director Parker's verbal report be received."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Northwest Trade Expo May 5-6 in Smithers Moved by Director Stoltenberg
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2023-2-6 "That the Committee recommend that the Board approve spending \$550 from Rural Government for the rental of an RDBN booth at the Northwest Trade Expo."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

BC Provincial Nominee Program

Director Parker brought forward the BC Provincial Nominee Program for discussion. He also mentioned having further conversation with Deb Zehr, Executive Director, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Immigration Services & Strategic Planning Division regarding veterinarian shortages and the BC PNP program and skilled workers. The Committee directed staff to bring forward a memorandum at the March 23, 2023 Board meeting for consideration.

Veterinary Drug Regulations

Director Moon spoke of the Veterinary Drug and Medicated Feed Regulation program and that with the veterinarian shortages impacting the ability for farmers to administer medication to their herds this may be an area to research further. She noted that the regulations provide government with an opportunity to administer a veterinarian licence in areas where there are no professionals. Director Moon discussed researching possible options for areas experiencing veterinarian shortages.

Veterinary Drug Regulations Research

Moved by Director Moon
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2023-2-6

"That the Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to further investigate the veterinary drug and medicated feed regulation and licencing requirements."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Wildlife Property Enhancement – Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

Director Stoltenberg mentioned that residents in Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) have started a group to enhance properties for wildlife in the winter months. He noted that the group is wanting to have their properties recognized by the Province and be provided signage to identify the enhancement of wildlife habitat. The group is working to formalize their status as a society. Director Parker mentioned that farm properties have access through the Environmental Farm Plan program where there is signage initiatives that can be accessed to identify reduced impacts on the environment.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2023-2-7

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:38 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Clint Lambert, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
Corporate Services



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural/Agriculture Committee

To: Chair and Committee
From: Cameron Kral, Planning Technician
Date: April 06, 2023
Subject: Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410295

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

That the attached comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application No. 7410295

BACKGROUND



This application, by Omineca Aggregate Ltd., is for a Licence of Occupation to develop an aggregate quarry. The application area covers 9.86 ha of Crown Land approximately 20 km west of the District of Vanderhoof. The site is accessed through the existing Canfor quarry, off Kluskus FSR.

Proposed operations include blasting and drilling to remove soil, and screening and crushing to process aggregate. The quarry is expected to operate seasonally from March to November with a maximum annual production of 33,000 tonnes. The subject property is zoned Agricultural (Ag1) which does not permit aggregate processing. The RDBN Zoning Bylaw cannot regulate the removal of soil, but the applicant will be required to apply for a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) from the Regional District for the screening and crushing of aggregate.

During operations, topsoil and overburden will be stripped and stored for reclamation. On pit completion, all final benches will be scaled and secured by rock berms. The quarry floor will consist of native blasted rock and no external fill will be placed in the pit.

The application area does not overlap any known Caribou or ungulate winter range habitat, or any known watercourses. However, an unnamed waterbody is located approximately 250 m southeast of the application area.

Mitigation measures for noise, dust and sightlines were provided by the applicant (see Management Plan). The nearest dwelling is approximately 1.25 km away.

The application area is within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and requires Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) approval. As of the writing of this report, the RDBN has not yet received an ALR application. Staff have contacted the agent and they are looking into it.

ATTACHMENTS

- Comment Sheet
- Applicant Submission
- Management Plan

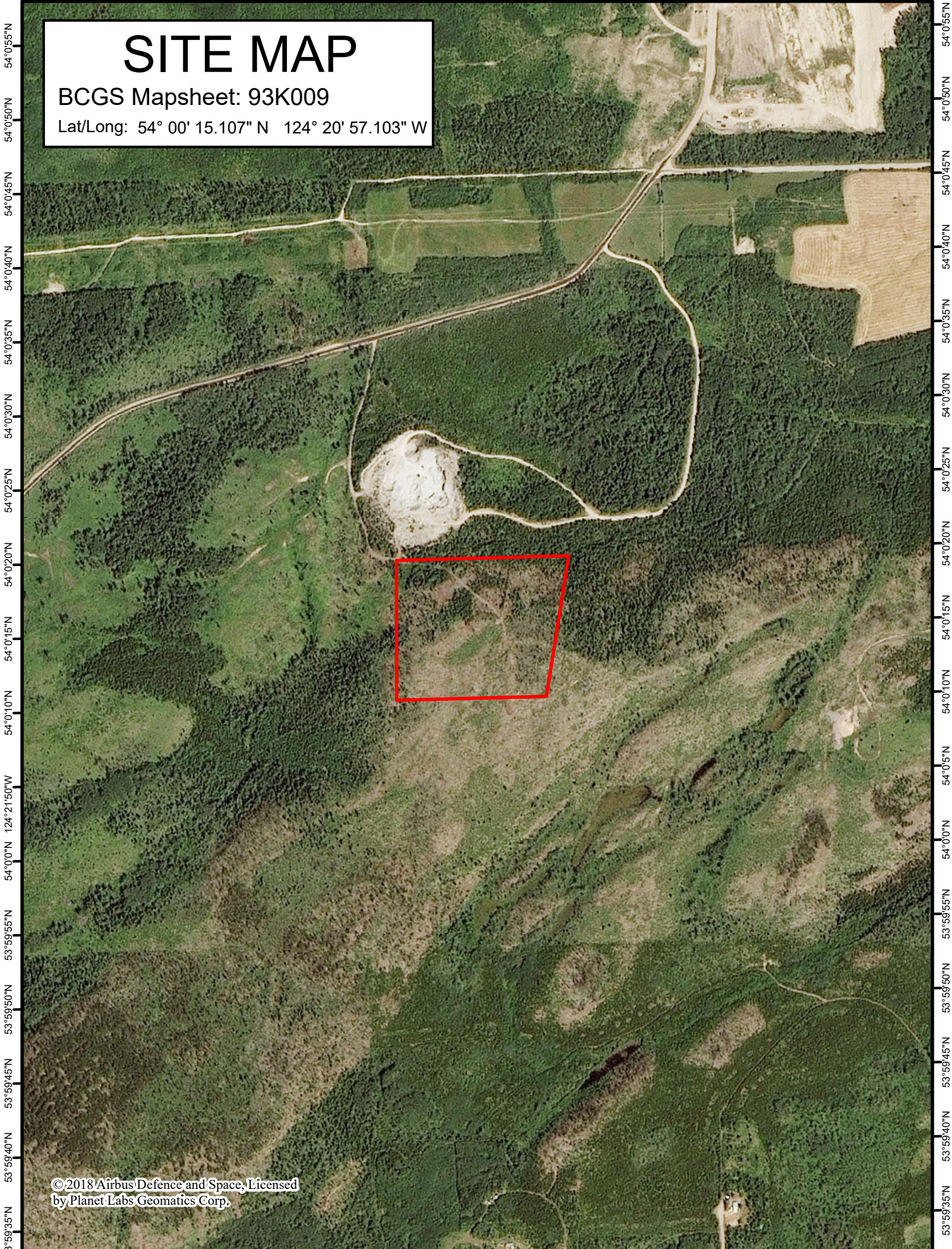


Electoral Area:	Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)
Applicant:	Omineca Aggregate Ltd.
Existing Land Use:	Forestry
Zoning:	Agricultural (Ag1)
OCP Designation:	Agriculture (Ag)
Proposed Use Comply with Zoning:	No
If not, why?	The RDBN Zoning Bylaw cannot regulate excavating, drilling and blasting for the removal or deposit of soil. However, sifting, sorting, crushing, separating, screening or washing for aggregate processing is not permitted in the Ag1 Zone. The applicant will be required to apply for a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) from the RDBN for the processing of aggregate.
Agricultural Land Reserve:	Yes
Access:	Kluskus FSR
Building Inspection:	Yes
Fire Protection:	No
Other comments:	The proposal requires ALC approval.

SITE MAP

BCGS Mapsheet: 93K009

Lat/Long: 54° 00' 15.107" N 124° 20' 57.103" W



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File Number: 7410295

Site # 1 of 1 - APPLICATION AREA: 9.86

TYPE: LICENCE

PURPOSE: QUARRYING

SUBTYPE: LICENCE OF OCCUPATION

SUBPURPOSE: ROCK FOR CRUSHING

LOCATION: BEARHEAD HILL

IMAGERY: SPOT 2018-2020

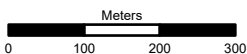
Produced by
Ministry of Forests
Northern Service Centre
FrontCounterBC

Date: March 9, 2023

Scale: 1:10,000 *

* if printed on 8.5X14 page

Projection: BC Albers
Datum: NAD 83



Legend

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Crown Land Application | Protected Areas |
| Area to be Deleted | Provincial Park |
| Primary Survey Parcel | Protected Area |
| Subdivision | OIC Ecological Reserve |
| Municipality | Recreation Area |
| Privately Owned Parcel | |
| Surveyed Rights of Way | Base Mapping Features (20K) |
| Surveyed Road R/W | River or Stream |
| Gas/Oil R/W District Lot | River or Stream - Dry |
| Power Transmission R/W | Lake |
| Gas/Oil R/W | Reservoir - Definite |
| Telecom R/W District Lot | Glacier/icefield |
| Miscellaneous R/W | Contour - 20m interval |
| Surveyed Road R/W | Transportation - Lines (20K) |
| Highway | Airfield |
| Railway | Road |
| Surveyed Road R/W | Forest Service Road |
| | Road Permit |
| | Trail |
| | Rail Line |

All measurements are approximate.

124°21'45"W 124°21'35"W 124°21'25"W 124°21'15"W 124°21'5"W 124°20'55"W 124°20'45"W 124°20'35"W 124°20'25"W 124°20'15"W 124°20'5"W

SITE MAP

BCGS Mapsheet: 93K009

Lat/Long: 54° 00' 15.107" N 124° 20' 57.103" W

015649393 015649423
Sec 8, TP 13

017043166

Keith Rd

POWER TRANSMISSION R/W Plan 5595
POWER TRANSMISSION R/W Plan 8349
Statutory RoW

Kluskus FSR

1919581 KLUSKUS

015758346

015852326

93K.009

Sec 6, TP 13

Sec 5, TP 13

1919451

11497291

1919161

025971816

Negaard Cree

Sec 32, TP 4
025971824

Sec 31, TP 4 015650286

BEARHEAD HILL

93F.099

015630439

011793422

008274134

004172990

1217741

File Number: 7410295

Site # 1 of 1 - APPLICATION AREA: 9.86

TYPE: LICENCE

PURPOSE: QUARRYING

SUBTYPE: LICENCE OF OCCUPATION

SUBPURPOSE: ROCK FOR CRUSHING

LOCATION: BEARHEAD HILL

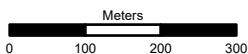
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| Area to be Deleted | Provincial Park |
| Primary Survey Parcel | Protected Area |
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| Privately Owned Parcel | |
| Surveyed Rights of Way | Base Mapping Features (20K) |
| Surveyed Road R/W | River or Stream |
| Gas/Oil R/W District Lot | River or Stream - Dry |
| Power Transmission R/W | Lake |
| Gas/Oil R/W | Reservoir - Definite |
| Telecom R/W District Lot | Glacier/Icefield |
| Miscellaneous R/W | Contour - 20m interval |
| Highway | Transportation - Lines (20K) |
| Railway | Airfield |
| Surveyed Road R/W | Road |
| | Forest Service Road |
| | Road Permit |
| | Trail |
| | Rail Line |

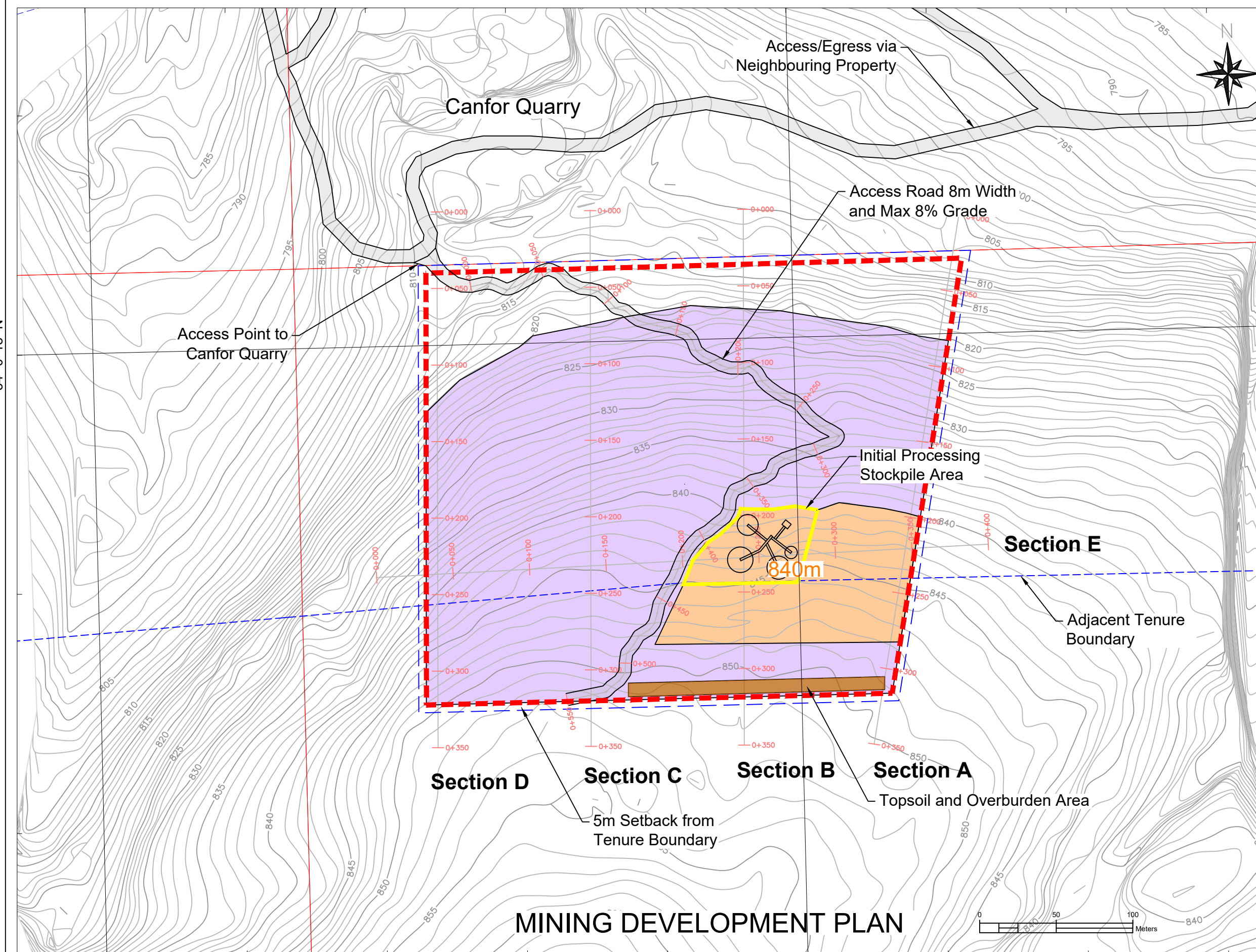
All measurements are approximate.

124° 21' 18" W

124° 20' 53" W

54° 0' 18" N

54° 0' 18" N



General Notes

LEGEND

- Processing Stockpile Area - 0.31ha
- Current Phase of Mining Area - 1.26ha
- Future Phase of Mining Area - 6.52ha
- Access Roads
- Topsoil and Overburden - 0.14ha
- Mine Footprint - 9.24ha
- Property Line
- Tenure Boundary 9.86ha

— 2022 Contours (2m)
 — Current Mining Phase Contours (10mx10m Quarry)
 — Creek

Current Phase of Mining Volume
 61,000m³

Height NAD 83 (CSRS)
 Orthometric
 CGVD28 HTv2.0
 from NRCan PPP



HOLMES MINING CONSULTANTS

No.	Revision/Issue	Date

Firm Name and Address

Omineca Aggregate Ltd.
 1005 Eastern Street
 Prince George, B.C.
 V2N 5R8

Project Name and Address

Engen Quarry
 Notice of Work Tracking # 100403494

Project	Sheet
Date January 20, 2023	
Scale 1:2500	

MINING DEVELOPMENT PLAN

124° 21' 18" W

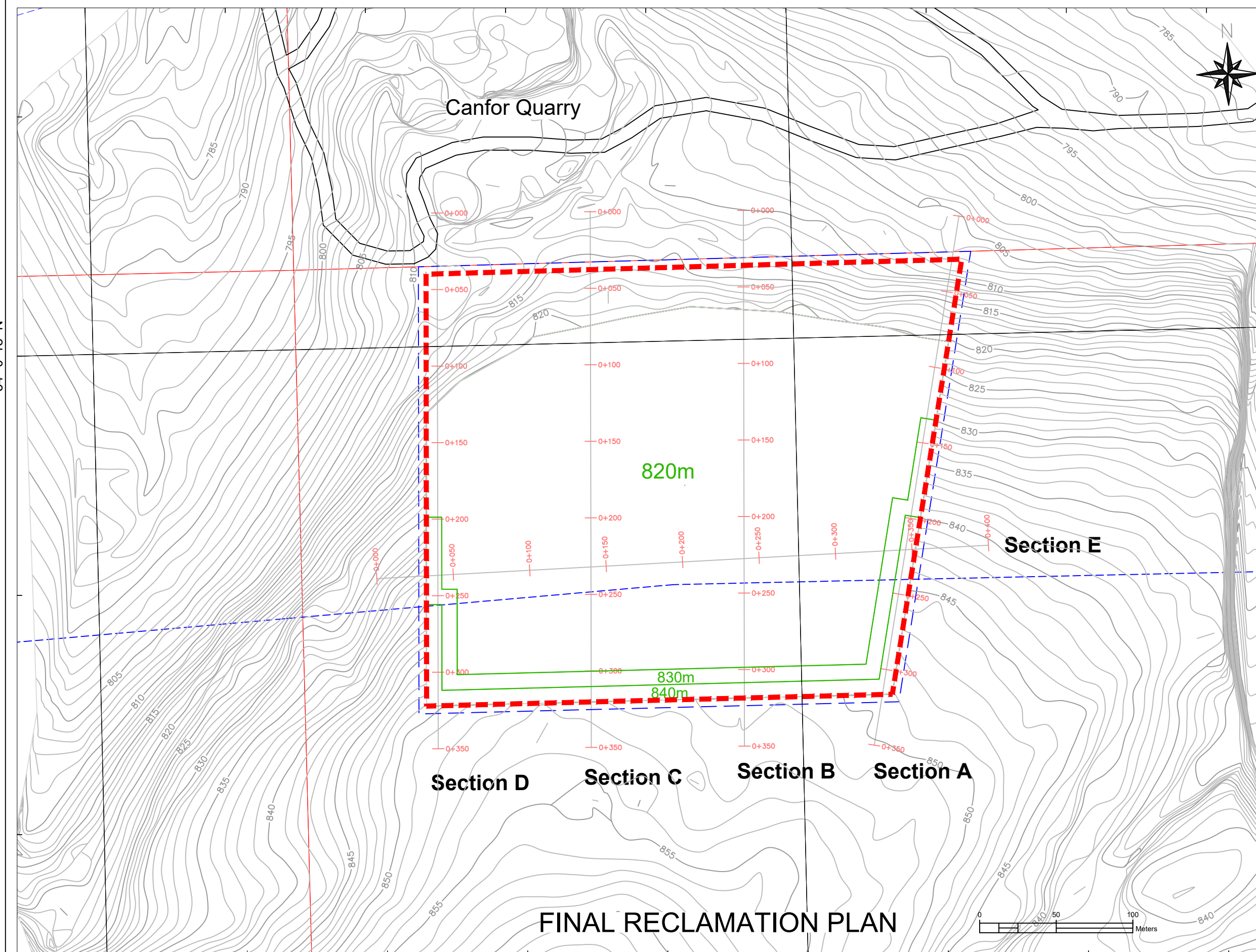
124° 20' 53" W

124° 21' 18" W

124° 20' 53" W

54° 0' 18" N

54° 0' 18" N



General Notes

LEGEND

- Mine Footprint - 9.24ha
- Property Line
- Tenure Boundary 9.86ha
- 2022 Contours (2m)
- Final Reclamation Contours (10mx10m Quarry)
- Creek

Final Reclamation Mining Volume
1,235,000m³

Height NAD 83 (CSRS)
Orthometric
CGVD28 HTv2.0
from NRCan PPP



HOLMES MINING CONSULTANTS

No.	Revision/Issue	Date

Firm Name and Address

Omineca Aggregate Ltd.
1005 Eastern Street
Prince George, B.C.
V2N 5R8

Project Name and Address

Engen Quarry
Notice of Work Tracking # 100403494

Project	Sheet
Date	
Scale	

124° 21' 18" W

124° 20' 53" W

FINAL RECLAMATION PLAN



Crown Land Tenure Application

Tracking Number: 100403911

Applicant Information

If approved, will the authorization be issued to an Individual or Company/Organization? Company/Organization

What is your relationship to the company/organization? Agent

APPLICANT COMPANY/ORGANIZATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant is an Individual or an Organization to whom this authorization Permit/Tenure/Licence will be issued, if approved.

Name: Omineca Aggregate Ltd.

Doing Business As:

Phone: 250-596-5633

Fax:

Email: rkovach@kode.ca

BC Incorporation Number:

Extra Provincial Inc. No:

Society Number:

GST Registration Number:

Contact Name: Rick Kovach

Mailing Address: - redacted -

REFERRAL / PUBLIC COMMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Company / Organization: Holmes Mining Consultants Ltd.

Contact Name: Derek Holmes

Contact Address: 1005 Eastern Street
Prince George BC V2N 5R8

Contact Phone: 604-309-3028

Contact Email: derek@holmesmining.ca

AGENT INFORMATION

Please enter the contact information of the Individual/Organization who is acting on behalf of the applicant.

Name: James Holmes

Phone: - redacted -

Daytime Phone: - redacted -

Fax: - redacted -

Email: - redacted -

Mailing Address: - redacted -

Letter(s) Attached: Yes (Agency Letter.pdf)

ELIGIBILITY

Question	Answer	Warning
<p>Do all applicants and co-applicants meet the eligibility criteria for the appropriate category as listed below?</p> <p>Applicants and/or co-applicants who are Individuals must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be 19 years of age or older and 2. Must be Canadian Citizens or permanent residents of Canada (Except if you are applying for an aquatic tenure adjacent to privately owned upland) <p>Applicants and/or co-applicants who are Organizations must either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be incorporated or registered in British Columbia 	Yes	

(Corporations also include registered partnerships, cooperatives, and non-profit societies which are formed under the relevant Provincial statutes) or

2. First Nations who can apply through Band corporations or Indian Band and Tribal Councils (Band or Tribal Councils require a Band Council Resolution).

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Please provide us with the following general information about you and your application:

EXISTING TENURE DETAILS

Do you hold another Crown Land Tenure?

Yes

Please specify your file number:

7410137

If you have several file numbers, please make a note of at least one of them above. Example numbers: 1234567, 153245, others

ALL SEASONS RESORTS

The All Seasons Resorts Program serves to support the development of Alpine Ski and non-ski resorts on Crown land. For more detailed information on this program, please see the operational policy. If you have further questions, please contact FrontCounter BC.

Are you applying within an alpine ski resort?

No

WHAT IS YOUR INTENDED USE OF CROWN LAND?

Use the "Add Purpose" button to select a proposed land use from the drop down menu.

In some situations, such as short-term, low-impact use of Crown land or docks/moorage that meet specific criteria, Crown land use is allowed without needing to apply for authorization. Some examples are uses listed within the Land Use Policy - Permissions and, for docks/moorage, within the Private Moorage policy.

For all application types, you should review the Land Use Policy that describes your intended use of Crown land to determine if your activity is permissible under the Land Act.

Purpose	Tenure	Period
Aggregates & Quarry Materials Rock For Crushing	Licence of Occupation	Ten to thirty years

ACCESS TO CROWN LAND

Please describe how you plan to access your proposed crown land from the closest public road:

The tenure area would be accessed from privately held land, PID 015-852-326 directly from Kluskus FSR.

AGGREGATES & QUARRY MATERIALS

All uses of Crown land for mining, quarrying, digging or removal of building, construction and other materials listed in the Land Act, Section 19, Includes ancillary activities of material sorting, crushing, stockpiling and washing, and the operation of a temporary portable asphalt plant on site. Applies to quarrying of abandoned tailings areas on Crown land.

Specific Purpose:	Rock For Crushing
Period:	Ten to thirty years
Tenure:	Licence of Occupation

TOTAL APPLICATION AREA

Please give us some information on the size of the area you are applying for.

Please specify the area: 9.86 hectares

MINES ACT: NOTICE OF WORK

To explore and develop the Province's aggregate resources you may/will be required to obtain a Notice of Work under the Mines Act.

Have you submitted a Notice of Work application for a Mines Act permit? Yes

Provide the Tracking Number: 100403494

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

Do you intend to use the aggregates for hydraulic fracturing (Fracking)? No

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

In many cases, you might require other authorizations or permits in order to complete your project. In order to make that determination and point you in the right direction, please answer the questions below. In addition, your application may be referred to other agencies for comments.

Is the Applicant or any Co-Applicant or their Spouse(s) an employee of the Provincial Government of British Columbia? No

Are you planning to cut timber on the Crown Land you are applying for? Yes

To cut timber on the Crown Land once your tenure has been issued you may require an Occupant Licence to Cut. Check out the website of the forest district responsible for more information or contact them if you have any questions.

Are you planning to use an open fire to burn timber or other materials? No

Do you want to transport heavy equipment or materials on an existing forest road? Yes

You must obtain a Road Use Permit from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations if the road is a Forest Service road, or negotiate a Maintenance Agreement with an existing permit holder if the road is under road permit or special use permit.

Are you planning to work in or around water? No

Does your operation fall within a park area? No

LOCATION INFORMATION**LAND DETAILS****DRAWINGS**

Please provide information on the location and shape of your Crown land application area. You can use one or more of the tools provided.

I will upload files created from a Geographic Information System (GIS)

SPATIAL FILES

Do you have a spatial file from your GIS system? You can upload it here.

NOTE: Shapefile is the preferred format and requires a closed polygon, projection in BC Albers/NAD 83 and the .dbf, .shp, .shx and .prj files.

Other Commonly Used Spatial File Formats may also be submitted.

Description	Filename	Purpose
dbf	Engen Tenure Boundary.dbf	Aggregates & Quarry Materials

prj	Engen Tenure Boundary.prj	Aggregates & Quarry Materials
shp	Engen Tenure Boundary.shp	Aggregates & Quarry Materials
shx	Engen Tenure Boundary.shx	Aggregates & Quarry Materials

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Document Type	Description	Filename
General Location Map	Area Maps	Engen map 1221.pdf
Management Plan	Mgmt Plan	Engen Quarry Management Pla...
Other	AOA	Archaeological_Overview_Ass...
Other	Chance Find Procedure	Engen ACFP.pdf
Site Plan	Mining and Reclamation Plans	Engen 0120.pdf

PRIVACY DECLARATION

Check here to indicate that you have read and agree to the privacy declaration stated above.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- Once you click 'Next' the application will be locked down and you will NOT be able to edit it any more.

DECLARATION

By submitting this application form, I, declare that the information contained on this form is complete and accurate.

APPLICATION AND ASSOCIATED FEES

Item	Amount	Taxes	Total	Outstanding Balance
Crown Land Tenure Application Fee	\$1,000.00	GST @ 5%: \$50.00	\$1,050.00	\$0.00

OFFICE

Office to submit application to: Smithers

PROJECT INFORMATION

Is this application for an activity or project which requires more than one natural resource authorization from the Province of BC? Yes

What is the name of your project? Engen Quarry

Please provide any of the following: reference number(s), project number(s), tracking number(s), or other descriptive information which would allow us to group these applications together: Notice of Work 100403494
ALC 67380

OFFICE USE ONLY		
Office Smithers	File Number	Project Number
	Disposition ID	Client Number

Aggregate and Quarry Management Plan

Engen Quarry
Crown Land File Tracking # 100403911

JANUARY 14, 2023

Omineca Aggregate Ltd.
1005 Eastern Street
Prince George, B.C.
V2N 5R8



HOLMES MINING CONSULTANTS

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This Management Plan has been compiled and submitted based on guidance from the Ministry found in the [Management and Investigative Plans Application Guidance Document, 2019](#) with additional specific requirements for Aggregates and Quarry Materials.

1.0 Background

1.1 Project Overview

The Artemis Pit is proposed 9.86 ha quarry operation approximately 20 km west of Vanderhoof, B.C. near Engen. The proponent, Omineca Aggregate Ltd. (Omineca) is seeking authorization from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) under the *Mines Act* and a Licence of Occupation (LoO) from the Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship (LWRS) to operate. Investigative work,



consisting of visual observation around the area, has determined that a commercially viable deposit of aggregate is present that could be used for local construction and many resource sectors in the area including energy, mining and forestry to name a few.

1.1.1 Annual Estimate of Production

Annual estimates of production are based on local demand for product. It is expected that the pit will operate with a maximum production level of 33,000 tonnes per year.

1.1.2 Processing needs

The quarry will be used to supply mostly road and infrastructure building materials and therefore will require drilling, blasting, screening and crushing to produce the aggregate fractions required for this application. Excavation of blasted material will be followed by screening, crushing and stockpiling of the material.

1.1.3 Height of Working Face

The height of the working face is determined by the size the equipment doing the excavation. In this case, medium sized wheel loaders and excavators will be used meaning the face height will be limited to a maximum of 10m as prescribed in the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in BC (HSRC).

1.2 Investigative Work

Investigative work completed in 2022 consisted of walking the site and visually inspecting existing bedrock outcroppings as well as observations of an adjacent quarry that has been used to mine aggregate products.

1.3 First Nations

The lands lie in the consultative area of at least two First Nation Consultation Areas as identified by the provincial consultative database including: Nadleh Whut'en First Nation and Saik'uz First Nation.

Omineca has been working closely with an Indigenous partner and sharing information about the mining plans and activity and expects to have an agreement soon.

2.0 Location

2.1 General Description

From the intersection of Highway 16 and Nechako Avenue in Vanderhoof head west on Highway 16 for 20.1 kms then turn on to Bearhead Road. Follow Bearhead Road for 1.9 kms then turn right on to Keith Road. Follow Keith Road for 1.8 kms then turn left on to Kluskus Road. After 190m the entrance to the quarry will be on your left. Follow the private driveway for 1.3kms through the Canfor quarry keeping left and you will be at the Engen Quarry.

2.1.1 Topography

The landscape is moderately sloping with the quarry sited near the top of a north facing slope at 850m elevation at the south end to around 810m at the north. The final grade of the quarry is designed at 820m with 30m in benching at the south and between 1 and 20m benching to the east and west.

2.1.2 Watercourses

There are no wetlands, and the closest waterbody is Negaard Creek, approximately 800 m to the southeast of the site.

2.1.3 Depth to Water Table

The water table has not been observed and based on observations it is anticipated that the elevation of the high groundwater (HGW) table is near the base of the slope of Bearhead Hill at approximately 760m, some 60m below the intended excavation.

To help protect groundwater quantity and quality from potential impacts of the mining activity, no fuel storage will occur on-site during normal mining activities. As well,

there will be adequate training for on-site personnel with the emergency response equipment and supplies (spill kits) available for use when and if required during fueling and handling hydrocarbon based liquids.

2.2 Location Justification

Quarry deposits must be situated close to where the material is needed as transportation costs for material are extremely high. In addition seldom do communities, even though the material is needed for every construction project, wish to locate gravel pits and quarries near residential areas. For this reason aggregate operations are usually situated out of urban areas and along well established transportation corridors where the materials can be moved efficiently and cost effectively.

Another consideration is compatibility with surrounding land uses. In this case there is one nearby aggregate operation (Plateau Quarry) along with significant forestry activity. Where a commercially viable deposit exists, it makes sense to place like operations nearby to limit disturbance to other areas. There are a number of projects in the area which require deposits of aggregate to support them.

2.3 Seasonal Expectations of Use

The pit is expected to operate seasonally from March to November. Demands by local projects may require operating throughout the year depending on construction schedules. The quarry will be placed on care and maintenance outside of operational times and due to the small scale of the operation there will be many days when the quarry does not operate at all.

2.4 ALR

It is within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and application has been made for non-farm use exemption.

2.5 Provincial Forest

Based on the provincial database the tenure lies near a few active cut blocks (See Local Features Map). Omineca considers aggregate use compatible with logging activity and timber harvest. The site of the proposed quarry is within a recently clear-cut forestry block.

3.0 Infrastructure

3.1 New Facilities or Infrastructure

No permanent facilities will be constructed on the lands. Mobile equipment including rolling stock and processing machinery will be located on site as required. Clearing has been conducted by way of previous clear-cutting and as part of mining activities, excavation and final grading will take place in accordance with the approved Mine Development Plan (Site Plan) and Final Reclamation Plan. No hazardous materials will be stored on site and no activities that require scheduling based on other users in the area will be necessary.

3.2 Access

Access to the site is via the existing Kluskus Road and a private road through an existing quarry with permission. Public access is limited to the area outside of the mine permit due to regulations in the HSRC. Gates and signage will be placed around the excavation area to prevent access and ensure public safety.

3.3 Utilities Requirements and Sources

Power for operations will be via a diesel engine to producing electricity from a generator. Rolling stock will be diesel powered. No connection to any nearby utility infrastructure is anticipated at this time.

3.4 Water Supply

None required from on-site. The water for dust control will be sourced from a licence off-site and delivered to project as needed.

3.5 Waste Collection, Treatment and Disposal

Waste collection will be temporarily in place during operational periods and managed by third party contractors who will remove waste to approved disposal locations off-site.

3.6 FireSmart BC

Omineca will comply with all regulations in place pertaining to wildfires and ensure there are no activities on site that would lead to unwanted wildfire related risks in the area.

4.0 Environmental

4.1 Land Impacts

4.1.1 Vegetation Removal

Vegetation removal, when necessary, will be mechanically done with an excavator and the material piled on site and burned when appropriate to do so. Any merchantable timber requiring removal will be done so with an approved Occupant Licence To Cut (OLTC) when required.

4.1.2 Soil Disturbance

Soil disturbance will be monitored using the company's Archeological Chance Find Procedure (ACFP) consistent with the *Mines Act* permit from EMLI and attached to this Management Plan. Topsoil and overburden materials will be stripped and stockpiled on site for later use during reclamation. Stockpiled topsoil and overburden will be seeded to grass to prevent erosion and noxious weeds.

4.1.3 Riparian Encroachment

There will be no riparian encroachment associated within the tenure or mine area boundary.

4.1.4 Pesticides and Herbicides

Herbicides may be used to control the spread of invasive plant species and will be managed according to the company's Invasive Plant Species Management Plan. According to the Plan, herbicide spraying will be contracted to a holder of an appropriate licence as required. The holder of this Licence will be responsible for annual reporting to the Ministry of Environment where governed and this information will also be provided to Omineca for its records and reporting. The use of pesticides is not anticipated.

4.1.5 Visual Impacts

There will be some visual impacts from the operation but minimized by ensuring the plant and equipment are placed behind visual screens where possible including topsoil and overburden berms, vegetation barriers and stockpiles.

4.1.6 Archaeological Sites

No archaeological sites have been identified based on the Overview Assessment performed by DWB Consulting Ltd. and all activities will be conducted according to the company's Archaeological Chance Find Procedure (ACFP). Procedures for identifying and reporting archaeological and heritage resources are detailed in the ACFP Plan, included with the application for tenure.

4.1.7 Construction Methods/Materials

There are no anticipated construction activities on site that will require the importation of materials or produce deleterious material. Reclamation activities are outlined in the Reclamation Plan.

4.1.7.1 Proposed Land Use After Reclamation

The end land use is native forest and wildlife habitat and a return to previously existing functional values on site.

4.1.7.2 Description of Reclamation Procedures

The quarry will be developed in phases with updates to the Mining and Development Plan completed every five years in accordance with the *Mines Act* and HSRC. The mine will be developed according to the mine plan with final reclamation occurring progressively and at the completion of mining. Progressive reclamation will occur when final elevations, setbacks and slopes are developed in accordance with the Final Reclamation Plan. Each phase will be developed with an anticipated extraction of 60,000 m³ or 12,000 m³ per year.

The reclamation and closure of the Engen Quarry will follow the general guidelines recommended by Part 10.7.1 to 10.7.10 of the HSRC. It will be the intent of Omineca Aggregate Ltd, to prevent long-term environmental impacts at the site. It is expected that the end land use for this site will be forestry, and that the reclamation plan will be consistent with adjacent land uses along in the area. The objectives of the reclamation plan will be to create a physically stable environment, and to ensure that there are no impacts to aquatic and/or terrestrial resources from the mining activities. These objectives would be consistent with the requirements of the HSRC. After closure, the site will be left in a safe and secure manner for the long-term with no projected maintenance. The final site reclamation will meet the end land use objectives of forestry and wildlife habitat.

The reclamation will be undertaken progressively and in a timely manner to limit potentially negative site values. However, given the location and no watercourses located at the site, any potential negative site values to the environment can be avoided.

It will always be the intent of the company to achieve the following goals:

- Minimize or eliminate public safety hazards;
- Respect and comply with cultural and heritage resources and protocols identified by local Indigenous Nations;
- Minimize potential effects to the environment, particularly water resources;
- Provide long-term stable landform configurations;
- Reclaim surface disturbances for beneficial use; and
- Minimize the requirements for post-closure monitoring and maintenance.

No progressive reclamation will occur over the next five years, however as the final elevation of 620m reached and final benches are developed, those areas will be reclaimed as soon as possible in order to meet reclamation objectives.

Reclamation will consist of the following:

- During operations, stripping of topsoil/mineral soil to just below the rooting depth will be undertaken, and the soil(s) will be stockpiled within the west topsoil and overburden stockpile. Any remaining material such as overburden, reject materials, etc. that might be encountered, will be placed in an adjoining stockpile. The developed soil stockpiles within this zone will have an application of erosion control grass seeding, to reduce erosion and noxious weed invasion. Noxious weeds will be controlled by spraying with approved weed control products that are acceptable for this area; and
- On pit completion, all final benches created by mining activities will be scaled and secured by rock berms along the edges which will allow long term stability and safety of the areas. The quarry floor will consist of native blasted rock which allows infiltration of water and dispersal without creating erosion or sediment control concerns.
- No external fill will be placed into the mined out pit area, however any unused stockpile fill materials such as reject material will be pushed onto the mined out

quarry floor and spread out. After closure work has been completed, the lands will be left in a safe and secure manner for the long-term with no projected maintenance.

4.2 Atmospheric Impacts

4.2.1 Sound, Odor, Gas or Fuel Emissions

The project has ability for noise related disturbance from equipment activity. A number of mitigation measures will be used to limit disturbance including:

- Newer, well maintained equipment with appropriate mufflers;
- Using berms, stockpiles and landforms to limit fugitive noise emission;
- Limiting truck traffic speed while entering and leaving the pit; and
- Allowing vegetation to remain as long as possible to buffer noise propagation.

4.4 Fish and Wildlife Habitat

4.4.1 Disturbance to Wildlife or Wildlife Habitat

There are no aquatic disturbances that will result in any fish habitat being affected by the development.

The area does not overlap any known Caribou or ungulate winter range habitat although there may ungulates in the area. Omineca will ensure that disturbance to the habitat from activities will be kept to a minimum through following general wildlife measures for ungulate winter ranges and that the company should be able to accomplish this with the seasonal operational schedule. Further, any sightings of Caribou or other ungulates in the area will be reported to the Ministry of Environment.

5.0 Socio Community

5.1 Land Use

5.1.1 Land Management Plans and Regional Growth Strategies

The project is proposed on crown lands within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, Area F (Vanderhoof Rural). The project location is remote and there is no zoning or official community plans for the area

5.2 Socio Community Conditions

The area is remote and with the nearest neighbours some 1300m away. Industrial activity, including major mine and forestry activity surrounds the licence area and there are no uses deemed incompatible with the current use.

5.2.1 Adjacent Users or Communities

There are no adjacent communities and the adjacent users are mining, forestry and energy related.

5.2.2 Existing Services

There are no existing services and none required for the use or operations.

6.0 Closure

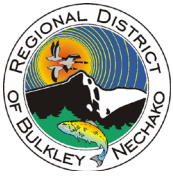
We trust that the information contained in this report meets your requirements. Should you have any questions, or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

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Figures



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural/Agriculture Committee

To: Chair and Committee
From: Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development
Date: April 6, 2023
Subject: **Rural Bursary Policy Discussion**

RECOMMENDATION: **(all/directors/majority)**

Discussion.

BACKGROUND

Historically, one or two Rural Directors receive annual Grant in Aid requests from secondary schools serving the surrounding rural population for a Scholarship/Bursary for a graduating student going on to post-secondary education. Generally, the applying school develops the criteria and awards the Bursary on behalf of the RDBN.

Staff are interested in learning if Rural Directors would like to specifically allocate an amount for annual bursaries in rural areas. For example, high schools would advertise the bursary and its requirements (i.e.: a student residing in the rural area, graduating from Grade 12 and applying to post-secondary education). The RDBN would receive and review applications annually and award bursaries directly.

If Directors are supportive, staff will draft a Rural Bursary Policy and bring it back for consideration. The awards could be budgeted annually in Regional Grant in Aid starting in 2024.