



Jeff Fountain
Superintendent - Environment
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July 7, 2020

Shannon Kohler, Director
Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Conservation and Climate
1007 Century St.
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0W4

Dear Ms. Kohler,

Re: Notice of Alteration to Environment Act Licence 960VC – File No. 557.10

Vale Manitoba Operations – Increase to Authorized Nickel Concentrate Storage at the Thompson Concentrate Load-out Facility.

Over the past year during the rail trials that Vale has conducted it has become apparent that as Vale transitions to rail transportation of nickel concentrate that it needs to prepare for potential rail disruptions as part of its overall transportation strategy going forward. Service delays due to rail line maintenance, car maintenance and service disruptions have all been experienced and/or anticipated. As the rail transportation plan proceeds, Vale will have diminishing access to road trucking services to offset these rail service delays. In addition to transportation delays, Vale also employs a rotating schedule which requires short term storage solutions to ensure continuity of operations.

To avoid having to shut down production during a rail service or scheduling delay, Vale Manitoba operations is proposing an increase of storage capacity in the Thompson Concentrate Load-out facility (TCLO) from 2000 tonnes to 3000 tonnes. These proposed changes would result in a total increase of nickel concentrate on site by 2000 tonnes. To facilitate this proposal, Vale Manitoba Operations is proposing the following mitigation:

- Vale will add another layer of concrete blocks to each bunker to contain the increased concentrate.
- Vale is exploring and testing new dust tracking mitigation devices to improve dust mitigation outcomes; and
- will add to the wall plates that currently exist for nickel concentrate containment on the loadout building walls.

Please accept the Notice of Alteration form (enclosed), supplemental information and the associated application fee as a formal request for review of this proposed alteration to Manitoba Operations currently operating under the authority of Environment Act Licence No. 960VC. We thank you for your time and consideration.

If you have any questions please contact Jeff Fountain – Environmental Superintendent at 204-778-2649.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Fountain', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Fountain
Superintendent – Environment
Vale Manitoba Operations

- c. J. Windsor (EAB)
L. Lanteigne (Vale)