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MEMORANDUM

To: Chair and Members of Halifax Watershed Advisory Board

From: Jillian MacLellan, Planner

Date: June 20, 2012

Subject: **Case 17002: Application by W.M. Fares Group on behalf of Sobeys Land Holding Limited for a rezoning of 69 Tremont Drive and the parcels identified by PIDs 00292722 and 40832057 from R-1 (Single Family Dwelling), R-2 (Two-Family Dwelling) and I-2 (Radio Transmitter) to Schedule K, and for the further consideration of a Stage I Development Agreement to permit a comprehensive mixed use residential and commercial development on the said lands.**

Synopsis of Proposal:

W.M. Fares Group has submitted an application on behalf of Sobeys Land Holding Limited to rezone 69 Tremont Drive and PID 00292722 to the Schedule K Zone and for the further consideration of a Stage I Development Agreement to permit a comprehensive mixed use residential and commercial development on the said lands. The mixed use proposal includes:

- 48 single family dwellings;
- 98 townhouse dwelling units;
- 10 mixed use residential and commercial buildings containing a total of 829 multi-residential units;
- 2 commercial buildings along Dunbrack Street;
- Connection to the local street network at the Farnham Gate/Dunbrack intersection, as well as connections at Knightsridge Drive and Wentworth Drive; and,
- Parkland dedication focused on the existing Tremont Park.

Site Features:

- The subject site is comprised of two properties. Both properties are presently vacant.
- The properties have a combined lot area exceeding 55 acres.
- The proposed development is to be serviced by Municipal Water and Sewer.
- Surrounding uses are mainly residential. There is a commercial area located south of the development.
- The property slopes towards the north

- There are various wetlands located on the properties. The applicant has received approval from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment to alter the majority of the wetlands (Please see Attachments E and F) Two wet areas are to be retained.

Planning Process:

The site is located in the Halifax Planning Area. The properties are designated Residential Environments under the Municipal Planning Strategy for Halifax. 69 Tremont Drive is zoned I-2 (Radio Transmitter Zone) and PID 00292722 is zoned R-1 (Single Family Dwelling Zone) under the Land Use By-law for Halifax Mainland.

The applicant is proposing to rezone both properties to the Schedule K Zone. The schedule K Zone allows for the consideration of mixed use developments through a Stage I and Stage II Development Agreement. The Stage I Development Agreement provides an overall concept of the development. It lays out the types of uses that are to be permitted and where they are to be located. It also determines the layout of the road network and the phasing of the development. The Stage II Development Agreement provides a more detailed plan for a portion or phase of the development. It includes specific height and setback requirements for specific portions of the development. It further lays out the detailed design of specific buildings and landscaping requirements.

A public information meeting was held March 21, 2012. Staff are currently undertaking a detailed review of the application and are negotiating a development agreement with the applicant. Once complete staff will provide recommendation on the application to the Chebucto Community Council.

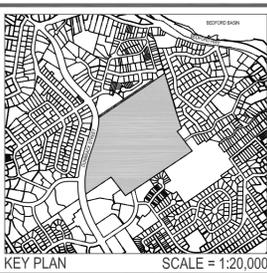
It is important to note that on February 28, 2012, Regional Council initiated a high-level review of potential servicing capacity issues which will in turn relate to this application. Please see the initiation report for more information. (<http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/documents/120228ca1021.pdf>)

Input Sought from the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board:

Pursuant to the Board's terms of reference, the Board's input with respect to the potential impact of this development on the retained wetlands on the subject property and the associated watershed in relation to the proposed Stormwater Management. Technical information related to this watercourse and the associated watershed is provided through attachments to this memorandum. HWAB's recommendation and specific comments will be included with the staff report to Chebucto Community Council.

Attachments:

Attachment A:	Proposed Site Plan;
Attachment B:	Proposed Site/Stormwater Management Plan;
Attachment C:	Proposed Servicing Schematic;
Attachment D:	Downstream Sanitary Review
Attachment E:	Wetland Alteration Proposal – Rockingham South
Attachment F:	January 28, 2011 – Correspondence from Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour Concerning Approval of Wetland Alteration
Attachment G:	Air Photo



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Landscape Architecture
Engineering
Environmental Planning
Visual Impact Assessment
Golf Architecture

NO.	REVISION	DATE

WM FARES GROUP

PROJECT
ROCKINGHAM SOUTH
 OWNED BY SOBEYS LAND HOLDINGS LIMITED
 2009 DEED: # 94167484

BEDFORD, NOVA SCOTIA

DRAWING
MASTERPLAN

SCALE: 1:2000 DATE: 2012/05/17

DRAWN BY: DH CHECKED: RTL REVIEWED: []

APPROVED: CS DEPT. APPROVAL: []

SEAL: [] SEAL: []

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

DEPT. PROJECT NO. DRAWING NO.

CONSULTANTS NO. **L100**

TENDER NO. []



EXISTING		PROPOSED	
25.0	CONTOUR LINE	125.00	CONTOUR LINE
○/○	CURB STOP/GATE/BUTTERFLY VALVE	○/○	FIRE HYDRANT
□	THIRST BLOCK	□	THIRST BLOCK
⊗	SMALLER SPRINKLER CONNECTION	⊗	CATCH BASIN/PISTON
⊗	OLIVERT	⊗	ROCK WALL/RETAINING WALL
⊗	POWER POLE/LIGHT POLE	⊗	STREET SIGN
⊗	ELEVATION/SPACE	⊗	125.00
⊗	BRUNNAGE/SWALE FLOW DIRECTION	⊗	WATER MAIN/SERVICE
⊗	SAWTOOTH MANHOLE & PIPE	⊗	STORM MANHOLE & PIPE
⊗	FORCE MAIN	⊗	ROBE LINE
⊗	100% FLOOD LIMIT	⊗	SET FENCE
⊗	UNDERGROUND CONDUIT	⊗	OVERHEAD WIRES
⊗	PROPERTY LINE/BOUNDARY	⊗	FENCE
⊗	BUILDING	⊗	TOP OF SLOPE
⊗	TOE OF SLOPE	⊗	WETLAND AREA
⊗	STORMWATER FLOW ARROW	⊗	DRAINAGE AREAS

NOTES:
 1. ALL ELEVATIONS ARE IN METRES. CONTOURS ARE IN 1m INTERVALS.
 2. POST-DEVELOPMENT FLOW IS CONTROLLED BY 5% PRE-DEVELOPMENT FLOW AS PER HM MUNICIPAL DESIGN GUIDELINES (2009).

No.	Date	Revision	Description	Appr'd
1	MAY 06/11	ISSUED FOR REVIEW		
2	MAY 25/12	REVISED STORM AS PER HM COMMENTS		
3	MAY 18/12	REVISED DEVELOPMENT LAYOUT & SERVICES		

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ROCKINGHAM SOUTH
HALIFAX NOVA SCOTIA

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SCHEMATIC

Date	Drawn	E.T.H.	Project No.
MAY 18, 2012	Engineer	R. LANDRY	FILE NO. 1-4-160 (28231)
Scale: 1:1,250	Approved		From No. 16-907-3
Reference:			THRN No. C-2
Surveyed			TERMIN GROUP

Post-Development

Drainage Area	Area (ha)	Avg Ground Slope (%)	Tc (min)	Coef. S ₁₀₀	Coef. S ₁₀₀₀	1% (mm/h)	10% (mm/h)	100% (mm/h)	Q _{1%} (m ³ /h)	Q _{10%} (m ³ /h)	Q _{100%} (m ³ /h)
A	4.75	5.6	5.8	0.80	0.80	85.60	131.21	0.903	1.385	0.192	0.192
B	1.08	11.5	6.0	0.80	0.80	92.88	141.61	0.222	0.340	0.192	0.192
C	3.49	10.0	0.85	0.85	0.85	61.71	96.73	1.712	2.748	0.192	0.192
D	12.22	6.6	11.2	0.80	0.80	61.71	96.73	1.712	2.748	0.192	0.192
Total Site Runoff	21.54					215.33	328.08		5.145		

Post-Development

Drainage Area	Area (ha)	Tc (min)	Coef. S ₁₀₀	Coef. S ₁₀₀₀	1% (mm/h)	10% (mm/h)	100% (mm/h)	Q _{1%} (m ³ /h)	Q _{10%} (m ³ /h)	Q _{100%} (m ³ /h)
A	4.75	5.8	0.80	0.80	85.60	131.21	0.903	1.385	0.192	0.192
B	1.08	6.0	0.80	0.80	92.88	141.61	0.222	0.340	0.192	0.192
C	3.49	0.85	0.85	0.85	61.71	96.73	1.712	2.748	0.192	0.192
D	12.22	11.0	0.85	0.85	64.77	101.11	1.869	2.919	1.751	1.751
Total Site Runoff	21.54				3.754	5.915		3.388		



LEGEND

EXISTING	PROPOSED
①/② BF	①/② BF
③/④ BF	③/④ BF
⑤/⑥ BF	⑤/⑥ BF
⑦/⑧ BF	⑦/⑧ BF
⑨/⑩ BF	⑨/⑩ BF
⑪/⑫ BF	⑪/⑫ BF
⑬/⑭ BF	⑬/⑭ BF
⑮/⑯ BF	⑮/⑯ BF
⑰/⑱ BF	⑰/⑱ BF
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⓹/⓺ BF	⓹/⓺ BF
⓻/⓼ BF	⓻/⓼ BF
⓽/⓾ BF	⓽/⓾ BF
⓿/⓿ BF	⓿/⓿ BF

- NOTES:**
1. ALL ELEVATIONS ARE IN METERS. CONTOURS ARE 1m INTERVALS.
 2. EXISTING SERVICE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY HW AND HW. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY MANHOLE & PIPE.
 3. ALL WATER, SANITARY AND STORM SEWER SHALL BE DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY MANHOLE & PIPE.
 4. SERVICE LATERALS NOT SHOWN ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES FOR CLARITY.

No.	Date	Revision Description	Appr'd
1	JUL 20/11	ISSUED FOR REVIEW	
2	FEB 18/11	REVISED DEVELOPMENT LAYOUT	
3	MAY 06/11	REVISED DEVELOPMENT LAYOUT	
4	MAY 18/12	REVISED DEVELOPMENT LAYOUT & SERVICES	



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ROCKINGHAM SOUTH
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SERVICING SCHEMATIC

Date	MAY 18, 2012	Drawn	MAM/RI	Project No.	FILE No. 1-4-160 (28251)
Scale	1:1250	Engineer	R. LANDRY	Plan No.	16-849-4
Reference		Approved		H/M No.	C-1
Surveyed	TERRAIN GROUP	Sheet			



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May 17, 2012

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Re: Rockingham South Development – Downstream Sanitary Sewer Review

Further to the development agreement process to develop the above lands we understand that HRM has requested a sewer capacity review to confirm that the existing sanitary sewer infrastructure in Rockingham/Clayton Park has sufficient capacity to support the proposed development. SDMM has been engaged by WMFares Group to review the existing downstream sanitary sewer capacity and report our findings.

The Rockingham South development property consists of approximately 25 hectares (ha) of land. The property is situated East of Dunbrack Street and Northwest of Tremont Plateau Park in Clayton Park, Halifax County. Development of the property includes the extension of both Wentworth Drive and Knightsridge Drive as well as an internal street system.

In developing our sanitary sewerage flows generated from the proposed development and to estimate the existing downstream sanitary flows, SDMM utilized the HRM Redbook section 4.2.1.3 to determine the existing sewershed flows. In addition SDMM obtained the following information;

- The latest HRM GIS sewer record data for the Rockingham/Clayton Park area.
- HRM sewer record drawings for Chelmsford Place, Woodbury Drive, Kearney Lake Road, Tremont Drive, Cascade Drive and Torrington Drive.
- 1:10,000 Provincial contour mapping of the Clayton Park area.
- Current HRM Land Use bylaw and zoning maps for the Rockingham/Clayton Park area.
- Current Service Nova Scotia Property ownership and mapping data.
- Mainland North Servicing Strategy Final Report (1982).

To begin our review, SDMM used a population density of 20 persons per acre (ppa) for the Rockingham South area. It is understood from HRM that the original sewer system design

allowance for Rockingham/Clayton Park was 20ppa. Based on this density and the 25ha development area, the population was calculated to be 1234 persons. In the remainder of this analysis, we review the capacity of the existing Rockingham/Clayton Park sanitary sewers and their ability to accommodate the zoned density of 20ppa (49.5ppha), as well as the 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) proposed by the Developer for Rockingham South. Using the a population of 1234 (based on 20ppa), the property area of 25ha, and Harman peaking factor we calculated the peak sewerage flow generated from Rockingham South using the HRM Redbook section 4.2.1.3 formula as follows;

$$Q = 2.5 \times [(a \times M) + b]$$

$$a = 0.33\text{m}^3/\text{d} \times 1234$$

$$b = 11\text{m}^3/\text{d} \times 25\text{ha}$$

$$M = 1 + (14/(4 + 1.234^{(0.5)}))$$

$$Q = 52 \text{ L/s}$$

The peak sewerage flow generated from Rockingham South using the same method presented above, but with a population density of 38.12ppa (94.36ppha), was estimated to be 87 L/s.

To review the effects of the proposed development on the existing sanitary sewer infrastructure, we calculated design flows for 3 potential downstream sewer routes, each with three development scenarios including; the existing Rockingham/Clayton park development, the addition of 20ppa (49.5ppha) for Rockingham South, and the addition of 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) for Rockingham South. The sewer route options included;

- 1) Chelmsford Place to Kearney Lake Rd.
- 2) Tremont Drive to Bedford Highway.
- 3) Cascade/Torrington Drive to Bedford Highway.

Below is a summary of sewer reaches which exceed the existing pipe capacity under each option and scenario using a peak sanitary sewerage flow.

Route Option 1 – Chelmsford Place to Kearney Lake Rd.

- .1 After modeling the existing sanitary sewer system, prior to adding Rockingham South development (see Chelmsford Option 1.1: Existing Conditions), we observed 2 sewer reaches which exceeded pipe capacities;
 - A 53m section of 750mm at 0.49% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 31m section of 750mm at 0.54% on Kearney Lake Road.
- .2 The peak sanitary sewerage flow of 52 L/s was applied to existing infrastructure (see Chelmsford Option 1.2: Addition of 20ppa (49.5ppha) for Rockingham South). After reviewing the effects, we observed 6 sewer reaches which exceeded pipe capacities;
 - A 66m section of 250mm at 1.30% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 51m section of 250mm at 1.31% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - An 8m section of 300mm at 0.81% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 62m section of 750mm at 0.62% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 53m section of 750mm at 0.49% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 31m section of 750mm at 0.54% on Kearney Lake Road.

- .3 Finally, the peak sanitary sewerage flow of 87 L/s was applied to existing infrastructure (see Chelmsford Option 1.3: Addition of 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) for Rockingham South). After reviewing the effects, we observed 8 sewer reaches which exceeded pipe capacities;
 - A 42m section of 250mm at 3.70% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 66m section of 250mm at 1.30% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 51m section of 250mm at 1.31% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 39m section of 300mm at 0.99% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - An 8m section of 300mm at 0.81% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 62m section of 750mm at 0.62% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 53m section of 750mm at 0.49% on Kearney Lake Road.
 - A 31m section of 750mm at 0.54% on Kearney Lake Road.

In this servicing option all capacity issues were observed to be in Kearney Lake Road prior to connection with Bedford Highway. By comparison, reviewing 20ppa (39.5ppha) we observed all the same capacity issues observed for the 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) except for the 42m section of 250mm at 3.70% and 39m section of 300mm at 0.99% on Kearney Lake Road. Based on our analysis, it appears that sections of the existing downstream sanitary sewer network must be upgraded to provide additional capacity for the existing, 20ppa (49.5ppha) or the 38.12ppa (94.36ppha). In order for the 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) to proceed approximately 352m of downstream sanitary sewer would need to be upgraded. Costs would be estimated at \$285,000 capital and minimal operating/maintenance costs. Comparably the costs for the increase in density above 20ppa (49.5ppha) would be 81m of sanitary (\$65,000).

Route Option 2 – Tremont Drive to Bedford Highway.

- .1 Reviewing the existing conditions for Option 2, our model revealed 0 sewer reaches exceeding pipe capacities (see Tremont Option 2.1: Existing Conditions).
- .2 Reviewing the addition of 20ppa (49.5ppha) for Option 2, our model revealed 0 sewer reaches exceeding pipe capacities (see Tremont Option 2.2: Addition of 20ppa (49.5ppha) for Rockingham South).
- .3 Reviewing the 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) for Option 2, our model revealed 0 sewer reaches exceeding pipe capacities (see Tremont Option 2.3: Addition of 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) for Rockingham South).

Based on the model, the flows generated by Rockingham South at 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) can be accommodated by the existing sewer system in Option 2, however the top of Tremont Drive is located at a higher elevation than the majority of the Rockingham South and therefore would require that most of the Rockingham South sanitary system would need be pumped to Tremont. Providing a pumping station to collect sanitary sewer from the proposed development would require an approximate \$500,000 capital investment along with annual operating/maintenance costs.

Route Option 3 – Cascade/Torrington Drive to Bedford Highway.

- .1 After modeling the existing sanitary sewer system, prior to development we observed 0 sewer reaches which exceeded pipe capacities (see Cascade/Torrington Option 3.1: Existing Conditions).
- .2 Next, the peak sewerage flow of 52 L/s was applied to existing infrastructure (see Cascade/Torrington Option 3.2: Addition of 20ppa (49.5ppha) for Rockingham South). After reviewing the effects, we observed 0 sewer reaches which exceeded pipe capacities.
- .3 Finally, the peak sewerage flow of 87 L/s was applied to existing infrastructure (see Cascade/Torrington Option 3.3: Addition of 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) for Rockingham South). After reviewing the effects, we observed 1 sewer reach which exceeded pipe capacity;

- A 34m section of 250mm at 1.82% on Cascade Drive.

Based on the model, the flows generated by Rockingham South at 20ppa (49.5ppha) can be accommodated by the existing sewer system. An increase to 38.12ppa (94.36ppha) shows the required upgrade of a 34m section of 250mm at 1.82% on Cascade Drive for Option 3. Option 3 may require some of the development be pumped, but not to the extent of Option 2. It will also require obtaining an easement or other land agreement to cross land areas which are not part of the development. Providing a smaller pump station than Option 2 and acquiring a residential property on Torrington Dr. would amount to an approximate \$500,000 capital cost (assuming the property could be resold after service easements were provided) plus annual operating/maintenance costs.

Although Option 1 which offers the only gravity sewer servicing option appears to have the most sewer upgrades required, the capital cost would be less than Options 2 and 3 and would not have annual pumping station operating and maintenance costs. As we understand that direct access to Chelmsford Place pipe systems is available we recommend proceeding with Option 1. Based on the proposed increase in density from 20ppa to 38.12ppa the sewer upgrade costs would be approximately \$65,000. The remaining upgrades to accommodate 20ppa would be approximately \$220,000.

For any additional discussion regarding the above please contact the undersigned.

Regards

Servant, Dunbrack, McKenzie & MacDonald Ltd.



Ray Landry, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.
Project Engineer



**Wetland Alteration Proposal
Rockingham South Residential
Development**

W. M. Fares Group
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Halifax, NS B3S 1P9

File: 121510469

October 2010

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1.0 Introduction

W. M. Fares Group (W. M. Fares; the Proponent) proposes to develop a property located in Halifax, Nova Scotia (Figure 1, Appendix A). The Project is named Rockingham South, and is approximately 22.3 hectares (ha) in size.

1.1 APPLICATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of the Proponent:	W. M. Fares
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This report provides information to support a wetland alteration proposal for unavoidable impacts resulting from a residential development. W. M. Fares has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd (Stantec) to assess the wetlands, and review, interpret and report this data to support an application for a Wetland Alteration Approval. Field investigations determined the presence of 23 wetlands within the development area. After a site design process intended to minimize impacts to wetlands, the current proposal involves alteration to 19 of the identified wetlands, which will cause 1.48 ha of disturbed wetland area to accommodate the development. Four wetlands have been preserved in the site planning process to preserve green space and ecological values.

This report follows the requirements for a Wetland Alteration Approval specified by Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) in the Operational Bulletin Respecting Alteration of Wetlands (2006), and is consistent with the information requirements of A Proponent's Guide to Wetland Conservation – Draft for Consultation (Nova Scotia Environment, 2009). Section 2.0 of this report provides a description of the local environment surrounding the wetlands. Section 3.0 provides a detailed description of the wetlands and their hydrological, ecological, and social functions. Section 4.0 provides a detailed description of the Project alternatives, the proposed wetland alterations, potential impacts to the wetlands and their functions, and opportunities to mitigate and compensate for the Project impacts.

2.0 Description of Local Environment

2.1 GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The local underlying bedrock is characterized as the Goldenville Formation, comprised of sandstone turbidites and slate formed in the Cambrian Period, some 510 to 544 million years ago. The bedrock is typically overlain by a thin, discontinuous veneer of glacial till. Shallow bedrock is fractured and exposed in areas, and soils and surficial geology are frequently confining and acidic. The topography, shallow bedrock, boulder-rich terrain, and clay-rich surficial materials result in conditions that are highly favourable to the formation of many small wetlands along drainage channels and in topographical depressions.

2.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SURROUNDING LAND USE

The Project is located in Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia. The site is undeveloped and situated between Dunbrack Street and the Bedford Highway. The property is surrounded by roads and residential development, and Tremont Plateau Park is situated to the south-east of the property. There are some green belt areas bordering and nearby the site, but the majority of the surrounding land has been developed.

Site Name:	Rockingham South
Civic/Street Address:	69 Tremont Drive
Community:	Halifax
County:	Halifax County
Property Identification:	00292730
Property Owner	Sobeys Land Holdings Limited (letter of authorization from the property owner available on request)
1:50 000 Topographic Map #:	MAP:11D12

3.0 Wetland Descriptions

Stantec conducted a survey of the property for wetland habitat. Initial field surveys were conducted by professional terrestrial ecologists in May, 2009. Wetlands found were delineated to assess their size and locations. The survey determined the presence of 23 wetlands within the Project boundary (Figure 1, Appendix A). Note that the wetlands are numbered up to 25, as two areas of potential wetland habitat (Wetlands 11 and 16) were classed as non-wetland upon further analysis. Functional assessments of the wetlands proposed for alteration were completed by terrestrial ecologists in June, July, and August, 2010.

For wetlands that are directly impacted by the development, inventories of vascular plants and animals encountered in the wetlands were completed in June and July 2010. The results from these inventories are presented in the following sections. The functional assessments collected a variety of information about the impacted wetlands, including: wetland classification and a description of hydrology; substrate type; any evidence of anthropogenic use of the wetland; and any evidence of impact to the wetland as a result of anthropogenic activities.

Additional information was gained through topographic maps, bedrock and surficial geology maps, and land use maps. These studies were conducted by professional terrestrial ecologists and wetland scientists, who are experienced in wetland classification, characterization and delineation.

3.1 WETLAND LOCATION, SIZE AND TYPE

The locations and approximate sizes of the 23 wetlands are dispersed across the property and are shown in Figure 1, Appendix A. The wetland types and sizes are described in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Approximate Sizes and Types of Wetlands Found Within the Site

Wetland ID	Wetland type	Approximate Wetland Area (ha)
1	Deciduous treed basin swamp	0.02
2	Graminoid basin spring marsh	0.03
3	Mixed treed basin swamp / Low shrub basin swamp	0.95
4	Graminoid basin marsh	0.04
5	Submerged aquatic shallow water wetland / Graminoid basin marsh / Deciduous treed basin swamp	0.11
6	Graminoid basin marsh	0.03
7	Graminoid basin marsh	0.03
8	Graminoid basin fen-marsh / Deciduous treed basin swamp	0.12
9	Low shrub basin marsh	0.01
10	Tall shrub basin swamp	0.02
12	Deciduous treed riparian swamp	0.07
13	Deciduous treed drainageway swamp	0.08

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Table 3.1 Approximate Sizes and Types of Wetlands Found Within the Site

Wetland ID	Wetland type	Approximate Wetland Area (ha)
14	Graminoid spring marsh / Graminoid stream marsh	0.17
15	Graminoid spring marsh	0.04
17	Deciduous treed swamp / Low shrub swamp	0.18
18	Graminoid basin marsh / Low shrub basin swamp	0.18
19	Graminoid basin marsh / Low shrub basin swamp	0.06
20	Graminoid spring fen / Tall shrub drainageway swamp	0.16
21	Graminoid basin marsh / Mixed treed basin swamp	0.04
22	Graminoid basin marsh	0.08
23	Low shrub basin swamp / Graminoid basin fen	0.26
24	Graminoid spring marsh / Low shrub drainageway swamp / Moss slope fen	0.10
25	Low shrub basin swamp / Graminoid basin marsh	0.03
Total		2.83

Many wetlands found were relatively small, with 15 less than 0.10 ha in size (Wetlands 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 19, 21, 22, 24, and 25). Wetland 3 is the largest, at 0.95 ha. The majority of wetlands are classed as either a swamp or marsh, and in many cases both. There are also four fens and one shallow water wetland present on the Project site. There are 12 wetland complexes consisting of two or three classes of wetland. Further details about the wetlands that will be affected by the development are described in Sections 3.3 to 3.10.

The status of these wetlands was confirmed using US Army Corps of Engineers (ACoE) protocols (1987) which include confirmation of vegetation, soils, and hydrology both inside and outside wetland boundaries. ACoE wetland protocols are the standard used throughout North America.

3.2 WATERSHED AND SUB-WATERSHED

The Project site is situated within the Nine Mile River watershed (1EJ) and sub-watershed 11D12_404 (NSGC and NSDNR). The watershed is also commonly referred to as the "Sackville Watershed". This sub-watershed discharges into the Bedford Basin.

3.3 HYDROLOGICAL AND HYDROGEOLOGICAL CHARACTER

The following is a description of the hydrology and potential hydrological and biogeochemical functions and services provided by wetlands proposed to be altered.

Swamps and marshes are the most abundant wetlands throughout the Project area. Swamp types include basin, riparian, and drainageway forms, as identified in the Canadian Wetland Classification System (Warner and Rubec, 1997). Basin swamps (Wetlands 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 18, 19, 21, 23 25) occur in topographically defined basins where the water is derived locally and by drainage from other parts of the watershed. Wetland 12 is a riparian swamp, as it is situated along a small stream. The water level of the wetland will fluctuate with high and low flows that

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occur within the stream. Drainageway swamps (Wetlands 13, 20, and 24) are found in confined drainage ways or water tracks. Water movement is typically unilateral sheet flow, but intermittent channels are often present and will flow during periods of high precipitation.

Surface water within the swamps was variable but generally low (< 5%) and confined to small pools (approximately 1 m² or less), such as may be found at the base of trees and along intermittent drainage channels. Sparsely vegetated concaved areas, water marks, water stained leaves, and drainage patterns all indicate that the amount of surface water varies throughout the year and is often much greater than was observed. Peat depths within the swamps were generally 5- 20 cm towards their edges and 10-40 cm closer to their centers.

Marsh types include riparian, spring, and basin forms. A portion of Wetland 14 is a riparian marsh, which is influenced by a watercourse in the south-western portion of the wetland. Spring marshes (Wetlands 2, 14, 15, and 24) are characterized by drainageway tracks, channels or small pools that have water sourced from groundwater discharges. Basin marshes (Wetlands 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 25) are found in topographically defined depressions. As with the swamps, there was common evidence of a fluctuating water level within the marshes.

There is one shallow water wetland located within Wetland 5. The shallow water wetland is characterized by a permanent pool of water, confined by surrounding slopes and a non-permeable underlying layer of either sediment or bedrock. Fens were also present, in the form of basin, spring, and slope fens. Basin fens (Wetlands 8 and 23) are confined to a topographic depression. The spring fen (Wetland 20) sources water from a groundwater discharge, while the slope fen (Wetland 24) sources hydrology from seepage tracks.

The wetlands observed on site have various water sources. All wetlands receive water from precipitation, and the majority of wetlands receive water from upslope runoff (in particular, Wetlands 2, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, and 22). Some receive inflow from ground water sources (notably Wetlands 1, 2, 8, 12, 13, and 24), and a few have watercourse or ditching inflow (Wetlands 12, 14, and 20). Some of the wetlands will be affected by subterranean flows due to the bedrock type, which is predisposed to fissures that allow groundwater flow. Therefore some of the wetlands will be also be providing groundwater recharge, particularly those without obvious outflow channels (Wetlands 1, 9, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25).

Wetlands found onsite are moderately important for the provision of hydrological and biogeochemical functions. They contribute to surface water flow regulation by slowly releasing their stored water during dry periods, thereby augmenting the flow of water to down slope areas. However this function is limited by the surrounding residential and building infrastructure, which will intercept this flow. The wetlands may help to reduce flooding by acting as a reservoir and by slowing surface flow during periods of high precipitation. Although wetlands are known to be quite efficient at removing sediment and metals from surface water, they are generally poor at retaining hydrocarbons, sodium and chloride ions. Many of the wetlands may help improve local water quality, though this is limited to their size and form. The majority of wetlands within

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the Project site are small, and therefore will have minimal hydrological functions individually, but may provide beneficial hydrological services as a landscape.

3.4 DOMINANT VEGETATION IN THE WETLANDS

The Project area supports a number of wetland habitat types, which is likely due to their anthropogenic disturbance over the last 30 years. The majority of the wetland types found on-site are deciduous treed swamps, graminoid basin marshes, and low shrub swamps (Table 3.1).

Graminoid basin marshes (Wetlands 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 25) are the most abundant type of wetland on the property. They are characterized by low and tall graminoids, and are dominated by cottongrass bulrush (*Scirpus cyperinus*), broad-leaf cattail (*Typha latifolia*), tussock sedge (*Carex stricta*), pointed broom sedge (*Carex scoparia*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), and little prickly sedge (*Carex echinata*). Sphagnum mosses, rough-leaf goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), and sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*) are also common ground cover species in these wetlands.

There are a large number of low shrub swamps (Wetlands 3, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, and 25) present. They are characterized by low shrubs and young trees, and are dominated by rhodora (*Rhododendron canadense*), narrow-leaved meadow-sweet (*Spiraea alba*), black huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*), mountain holly (*Nemopanthus mucronatus*), and young gray birch (*Betula populifolia*). Sphagnum mosses and cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) are frequently the dominant ground cover species in these wetlands.

Deciduous treed swamps (Wetlands 1, 5, 8, 12, 13, and 17) are also common. These wetlands are characterized by a tree canopy dominated by red maple (*Acer rubrum*), heart-leaved paper birch (*Betula cordifolia*), paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*), quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), and red spruce (*Picea rubens*). These species also contribute to a moderately developed shrub layer, along with speckled alder (*Alnus incana*), and Bebb's willow (*Salix bebbiana*). Cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) is the most abundant herbaceous species, though rough-leaf goldenrod, American mannagrass (*Glyceria grandis*), cottongrass bulrush, a sedge (*Carex gynandra*), interrupted fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*), New York fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*), and soft rush are also prominent, and sphagnum moss coverage is extensive. Mixed treed swamps were present in Wetlands 3 and 21, which had similar dominant vegetation to the deciduous treed swamps, with the exception of balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*) being present in the tree canopy.

The graminoid basin fen-marsh (Wetland 8) and graminoid basin fen (Wetland 23) are characterized by low and tall graminoids, and in particular were dominated by cottongrass bulrush, thread rush (*Juncus filiformis*), little prickly sedge, thread rush, brown beakrush (*Rhynchospora fusca*), and large cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*). Sphagnum mosses also are dominant ground cover.

The graminoid spring marshes (Wetlands 14, 15, and 24) and the graminoid stream marsh (Wetland 14) are characterized by low and tall graminoids, and are dominated by sedges,

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American mannagrass, and cotton bulrush. These wetlands also had some areas of shrub, which typically consist of speckled alder, paper birch, and heart-leaved paper birch.

Wetland 9 is a low shrub marsh basin marsh, dominated by black huckleberry and sheep-laurel (*Kalmia angustifolia*) in the shrub layer, and large cranberry and various sedge species in the ground cover layer. A tall shrub basin swamp (Wetland 10) and a tall shrub drainageway swamp (Wetland 20) are dominated by gray birch, red maple, black huckleberry, mountain holly, and rhodora in the shrub layer, and sphagnum mosses and American mannagrass in the ground cover layer. A graminoid spring fen (Wetland 20) and a moss slope fen (Wetland 24) are dominated by ground cover species, including little prickly sedge, black sedge (*Carex nigra*), narrow-leaved meadow-sweet, large cranberry, narrow-panicked rush (*Juncus brevicaudatus*) and sphagnum mosses. A submerged aquatic shallow water wetland (in Wetland 5) is dominated by floating plants, predominantly American water-lily (*Nymphaea odorata*) and *Najas* species (*Najas* spp.).

Table B.1 in Appendix B presents the plant species observed in each of the wetlands that are proposed for alteration, which lists their rarity status as recorded by Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources (NSDNR) and the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Center (ACDC).

3.5 WILDLIFE ASSESSMENT

During the field surveys, information was collected regarding the presence of birds, mammals and herpetiles (amphibians and reptiles).

Wildlife observations were recorded during surveys of the wetlands. Wildlife species were detected on the basis of visual sightings, vocalizations, tracks, feces, skeletal remains, and distinctive spoor such as characteristic bite marks or dens. Tables 3.2 to 3.4 list the wildlife species observed within and immediately adjacent to the wetlands. There were 18 bird species, three herpetile species, and three mammal species observed. There is one watercourse on-site, though the likelihood that it is fish bearing was determined to be highly unlikely, as it is not connected to any larger bodies of water up or down stream.

Table 3.2 Birds Encountered Within and Nearby Wetlands

Scientific Name	Common Name	ACDC Ranking	NSDNR Ranking
<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Cedar Waxwing	S5B	GREEN
<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	American Goldfinch	S5	GREEN
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Northern Flicker	S5B	GREEN
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American Crow	S5	GREEN
<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Blue Jay	S5	GREEN
<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Yellow Warbler	S5B	GREEN
<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	Alder Flycatcher	S5B	GREEN
<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Common Yellowthroat	S5B	GREEN
<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Dark-eyed Junco	S4S5	GREEN
<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Song Sparrow	S5B	GREEN
<i>Parus atricapillus</i>	Black-capped Chickadee	S5	GREEN
<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	Common Grackle	S5B	GREEN
<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	Red-breasted Nuthatch	S4S5	GREEN
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	European Starling	SNA	Exotic
<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	American Robin	S5B	GREEN
<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>	Mourning Dove	S5	GREEN

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Table 3.2 Birds Encountered Within and Nearby Wetlands

Scientific Name	Common Name	ACCDC Ranking	NSDNR Ranking
<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	White-throated Sparrow	S5B	GREEN
<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	White-crowned Sparrow	SNA	GREEN

S5: Secure. S4: Usually widespread, fairly common. SB: Breeding. SNA: Not applicable, exotic species. GREEN: Not believed to be sensitive or at risk. Exotic: Exotic species.

Table 3.3 Herpetiles Encountered Within and Nearby Wetlands

Scientific Name	Common Name	ACCDC Ranking	NSDNR Ranking
<i>Pseudacris crucifer crucifer</i>	Northern spring peeper	S5	GREEN
<i>Rana clamitans melanota</i>	Green frog	S5	GREEN
<i>Thamnophis sirtalis pallidula</i>	Maritime garter snake	S5	GREEN

S5: Secure. GREEN: Not believed to be sensitive or at risk.

Table 3.4 Mammals Encountered Within and Nearby Wetlands

Scientific Name	Common Name	ACCDC Ranking	NSDNR Ranking
<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>	Meadow vole	S5	GREEN
<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	White-tailed deer	S5	GREEN
<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>	American red squirrel	S5	GREEN

S5: Secure. GREEN: Not believed to be sensitive or at risk.

3.6 SPECIES AT RISK

The vascular plant and wildlife surveys did not find any rare or threatened species present within the wetlands, with the exception of Kalm's hawkweed (*Hieracium kalmii*). Kalm's hawkweed is ranked as "S2?" by the ACCDC (2010), indicating that it is expected to be rare within the province but that there is considerable uncertainty regarding their population status. Similarly, NSDNR has assigned an "undetermined" status to these species. Kalm's hawkweed was found in Wetlands 5 and 24. Although the current lack of information regarding the distribution and abundance of this species may reflect their uncommonness within the province, it is easily confused with others species in its respective taxonomic grouping, and as such, may be more abundant within the province than is currently documented.

Of the animal species identified during wetland surveys, none are listed as having conservation concern by the ACCDC or NSDNR.

3.7 OTHER FUNCTIONS AND VALUES TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

There was a relatively high amount of anthropogenic use observed within, and around the wetlands. Some of the wetlands have been polluted with garbage (Wetlands 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 17, 18 and 19), and a few had obvious trails beside, or through them (Wetlands 2, 3, 5, 10, and 24). It appeared that children played in some wetlands (Wetlands 5, 22, 23, and 24), as there were bike trails, small forts, and a stone jetty found in these wetlands. These are predominantly recreational uses, and this activity can be attributed to the close proximity of the wetlands to the residential area.

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3.8 HISTORIC IMPACTS ON THE WETLAND

Anthropogenic factors have had an important influence on the character of several of the wetlands. The majority of wetlands have been clear cut, as few tall trees remain in the wetlands. Many appear to have been clear cut as recently as five years ago (Wetlands 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, and 25). Skidder tracks are visible in many of the wetlands. Vegetation has been maintained to a short level around the cell towers in the middle of the property.

Many of the wetlands have been altered historically by the development of infrastructure around the property, and this likely has indirect impacts on the hydrological regimes of the wetlands. For instance, there may have been excavation within Wetland 5, which could have caused the shallow water pool to form. Wetland 5 also appears to receive drainage flow from the large paved area to the south-east of the wetland. Wetland 21 may have been created, or influenced by the development of the adjacent tennis courts.

3.9 LOCAL OCCURRENCE AND RARITY OF ECOSYSTEMS

The glacially scoured topography of the local area is known to have a high density of wetlands. The bedrock and thin layer of till over the bedrock typically create poorly drained areas and can confine water to low elevation areas allowing wetland formation. The local occurrence of wetlands is high and the ecosystems observed in the study area are not considered rare.

The proposed alteration to 19 wetlands through the proposed construction of the residential development and associated access roads are not anticipated to significantly impact the local occurrence of swamps, marshes, fens and shallow water wetlands. These wetlands are relatively common in the local environment, and throughout Nova Scotia, therefore the Project is not anticipated to affecting a rare or uncommon ecosystem.

3.10 SUMMARY OF KEY FUNCTIONS AND VALUES FOR THE WETLAND

The wetlands proposed for alteration are moderately important for providing hydrological and biogeochemical functions, though these functions are limited by their small size. Water quality improvement is not a major function provided by the natural wetlands on site. Peat accumulation suggests that the wetlands maintain low oxygen levels that depress decomposition, and therefore the breakdown of Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), petroleum hydrocarbon and the oxidation precipitation of certain metals is low.

Wetlands that form peat and woody biomass are considered to be “carbon sinks” in that they remove carbon from the atmosphere and store it for long periods of time (50 – 1000+ years). This function is valued for the role it plays in mitigating and delaying global climate change. The majority of the wetlands proposed to be altered have some association with this role, however considering the size of the wetlands and the shallowness of peat this function is not significant.

The wetlands perform stormwater modification functions, as the observed dry overflow channels provide evidence that the wetlands have a capacity for water retention. While they are small,

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the wetlands collectively will slow the movement of water during heavy precipitation events. The ability of the wetlands to augment flows down slope are limited due to the predominant surrounding infrastructure altering the surrounding natural environment. .

The field surveys did not find any rare or threatened plant or animal species, with the exception of Kalm’s hawkweed, which has an uncertain status within the province due to a history of taxonomic classification issues associated with this species. Overall, the wetlands proposed for alteration are not considered to be valuable in terms of the physical, hydrological and biogeochemical functions they provide. These values are considered relatively low, due to their small size, as the largest wetland to be altered is Wetland 23 at 0.30 ha, and 15 wetlands are less than 0.10 ha in size. The key environmental, ecological and social functions and values supported by the wetlands are summarized in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5 Summary of Likely Key Functions of the Proposed Altered Wetlands

	Likely Functions	Summary of Information Sources
Biogeochemical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon storage/sequestration • Potential water quality improvement 	Based on site visits, professional understanding of wetland systems, and site hydrology
Hydrological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some storm water moderation and storage • Groundwater infiltration 	Based on site visits and desktop studies of geology, topography, site hydrology, and predictions of watershed hydrology
Ecological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rare or threatened species of concern were found 	Based on site visits, literature and professional understanding of wetland systems
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational use of some wetlands 	Based on site visit observations

The table indicates there are some functions that the wetlands currently perform, most notably the hydrological functioning, which include storm water moderation and storage, and some groundwater infiltration. There is also a relatively high recreational usage in and nearby the wetlands, mostly like due to the close proximity of the wetlands to the surrounding residential areas.

4.0 Proposed Alteration and Mitigation Measures

4.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ALTERATION

W. M. Fares proposes to construct a residential development, with associated road access and park amenities (Figure 2, Appendix A). The Project is currently anticipated to involve the construction 115 single-family homes, 77 townhouses and 580 other residential units in six buildings ranging from three to 11 storeys high. The development is expected to house around 2,200 people.

The purpose of the Project is to provide more residential accommodation for the expanding city of Halifax. The Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) has a mandate under their city planning to reverse the trend of urban sprawl. Promoting high density residential and commercial development within the serviceable boundary reduces negative environmental impacts from installation of further water and sewer services, as well as electricity and gas lines. The development aims to retain 31% of the property in a green state, through dedication to non-disturbance of wetlands, and creation of community park land and nature trails.

The proposed construction of the development will require, in general, the following activities:

- Clearing and grubbing;
- Bedrock blasting, ripping and grading to achieve grades required for residential community development, and to create trenches for subsurface services;
- Installation of subsurface piped services (water, wastewater and storm);
- Extension and installation of culverts;
- Residential and commercial building construction;
- Installation of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures;
- Infilling of wetland habitat and where necessary and approved, excavation of wetland substrate to be used in creating new wetland habitat on-site; and
- Surface finishing (concrete pouring, asphalt, and re-vegetation).

Table 4.1 outlines the impact the development will have on the 23 wetlands found on-site. A total of 19 wetlands will be affected by Project construction. The total area of potential alteration (direct infilling) to wetland habitat is predicted to be 1.48 ha, which is approximately 50% of the total wetland area (2.94 ha). Provided appropriate mitigative measures are implemented, there is unlikely to be any significant residual alteration (indirect impacts) as a result of the Project. Note that two potential wetlands areas, Wetlands 11 and 16 were determined as non-wetland areas upon further field investigations and have therefore been excluded from this report.

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Proposed Alteration and Mitigation Measures

Table 4.1 Summary of Proposed Wetland Alterations

Wetland	Wetland type	Wetland Area (ha)	Proposed Direct Alteration	
			Area (ha)	Percent (%)
1	Deciduous treed basin swamp	0.02	0.02	100%
2	Graminoid basin spring marsh	0.03	0.03	100%
3	Mixed treed basin swamp / Low shrub basin swamp	0.95	-	-
4	Graminoid basin marsh	0.04	-	-
5	Submerged aquatic shallow water wetland / Graminoid basin marsh / Deciduous treed basin swamp	0.11	0.11	100%
6	Graminoid basin marsh	0.03	0.03	100%
7	Graminoid basin marsh	0.03	0.03	100%
8	Graminoid basin fen-marsh / Deciduous treed basin swamp	0.12	0.12	100%
9	Low shrub basin marsh	0.01	0.01	100%
10	Tall shrub basin swamp	0.02	0.02	100%
12	Deciduous treed riparian swamp	0.07	0.07	100%
13	Deciduous treed drainageway swamp	0.08	0.08	100%
14	Graminoid spring marsh / Graminoid stream marsh	0.17	0.17	100%
15	Graminoid spring marsh	0.04	0.04	100%
17	Deciduous treed swamp / Low shrub swamp	0.18	-	-
18	Graminoid basin marsh / Low shrub basin swamp	0.18	-	-
19	Graminoid basin marsh / Low shrub basin swamp	0.06	0.06	100%
20	Graminoid spring fen / Tall shrub drainageway swamp	0.16	0.16	100%
21	Graminoid basin marsh / Mixed treed basin swamp	0.04	0.04	100%
22	Graminoid basin marsh	0.08	0.08	100%
23	Low shrub basin swamp / Graminoid basin fen	0.26	0.26	100%
24	Graminoid spring marsh / Low shrub drainageway swamp / Moss slope fen	0.10	0.10	100%
25	Low shrub basin swamp / Graminoid basin marsh	0.03	0.03	100%
Total		2.83	1.48	52%

Mitigation is proposed to reduce the potential for indirect effects to wetlands that will not be directly affected by the Project.

4.2 MITIGATION SEQUENCE FOR DECISION MAKING

The mitigative sequence for decision making is the foundation for achieving wetland conservation in Nova Scotia. The sequence – avoidance, minimization, compensation – assists proponents in planning and designing project proposals that will be acceptable to NSE. “Avoidance” is the priority, and requires consideration of Project alternatives that would have less adverse impact on the wetland. “Minimization” requires that the Project be designed and implemented using techniques, materials and site locations that reduce or remediate the Project impacts on the wetland. “Compensation” requires that the residual impacts on the wetland functions are compensated for by the enhancement, restoration or creation of wetland ecosystem at an area ratio commensurate with the loss. In the case of the Rockingham South development, this process involves the following key stakeholders:

- Proponent, W. M. Fares;
- Regional Planning Authority, Halifax Regional Municipality;

**DRAFT REPORT WETLAND ALTERATION PROPOSAL ROCKINGHAM SOUTH
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Proposed Alteration and Mitigation Measures

- Local residents;
- Consultants, Stantec; and
- The regulatory agency, NSE.

4.2.1 Options for Avoidance of Wetland Alterations

The property is surrounded by residential and commercial buildings, and is one of the few sites in the area available for development. Given the directive of the HRM to develop within the serviceable boundary in order to be environmentally sustainable, the Project site chosen is ideally situated.

The location of mapped wetlands was taken into account to minimize wetland alteration on the site. While a high number of wetlands are proposed for alteration, the larger wetlands have been set aside for preservation. The original design involved alteration to the majority of wetland habitat, but with considered re-design, approximately half the wetland habitat can now be preserved. The proposed location is believed to be the optimal location for minimizing overall environmental risk and wetland alteration, while still achieving Project goals.

The Project is subject to review and approval by the Halifax Regional Municipality through the Development Agreement process. Requirements for density, as well as working with existing road and service alignments, provide constraints for site layout and developable areas. Further, the concerns of the community must be addressed sufficiently in order to obtain an approval to proceed with the development. The local community has expressed concerns about traffic congestion resulting from this Project, and is requesting additional road access to the site through an extension of Farnham Gate Road. This would result in a significant alteration to Wetland 3 (provincially mapped wetland, 0.95 ha in size). The proponent has prioritized Wetland 3 for preservation and enhancement and is continuing to work with the local community to avoid this alteration.

**4.3 OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINIMIZATION OF IMPACTS TO WETLAND
FUNCTION AND VALUES**

The proposed direct impacts to wetland habitat have been avoided to the extent possible, as discussed in Section 4.2. The functions and values for the wetland affected by the Project are presented in Table 3.1. Minimization of the impacts to most of these functions (general habitat functions, flood storage and recreational use) will help protect the wetlands and minimize the overall impact footprint. Several mitigative measures are discussed in Section 4.3.1 to minimize the potential indirect effects of the Project on wetland functions arising from general Project impacts.

4.3.1 Minimization of Project impacts

Best management practices and guidelines will be followed during the construction and operational phases in order to minimize potential impacts. There are a number of planning, design and construction strategies intended to minimize potential alteration to the wetlands

**DRAFT REPORT WETLAND ALTERATION PROPOSAL ROCKINGHAM SOUTH
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Proposed Alteration and Mitigation Measures

preserved onsite. Mitigation measures include designing the development to best manage site runoff, soil erosion, and vegetation management. This section describes several ways to minimize indirect impacts to wetlands.

4.3.2 General Mitigation

To minimize the indirect impacts to avoided wetlands during the construction phase of work, all wetland boundaries have been field flagged for contractor awareness. Contractors will be made aware of the presence of wetlands and the practices to use when working in or near wetlands *that have been identified for avoidance*, including:

- No fuelling of vehicles or equipment within 30 m of an avoided wetland or watercourse;
- No use of equipment or vehicles in or adjacent to an avoided wetland or watercourse;
- Contractors will notify project manager if there are reasons why it is not possible to adhere to site specific erosion, sediment and runoff control plans prior to diversions from these plans;
- No grubbing in an avoided wetland or watercourse;
- Maintaining as much buffer vegetation as practical surrounding avoided wetlands and watercourses;
- Maintaining clean construction sites, free of debris, waste and construction materials that may accumulate in avoided wetlands; and
- Frequent communication with the project manager on construction progress and mitigation success when working near avoided wetlands.

4.3.3 Erosion and Sedimentation

To manage erosion and sedimentation during construction and operation phases of the Project, erosion control systems will be in place to manage runoff from the construction areas. The preferred approach to erosion and sedimentation control is to emphasize the prevention of erosion, rather than capture of sediment prior to release to watercourses and wetlands. This can be achieved through minimizing the time, slope and area of exposed soil. Best management practices implemented will include the use of erosion control fencing, mulch (possibly from shrubs and trees removed during clearing) and, if necessary, sedimentation control ponds. Siltation fences will be installed where feasible and appropriate.

Sediment and erosion control will be carried out according to all applicable standards, regulations, and site specific terms and conditions of regulatory approvals, authorizations and letters of advice.

4.3.4 Minimization of Hydrological and Hydrochemical Impacts

When altering the topography of an area adjacent to a wetland, there is the potential for an interruption of water flow. Flow interruptions may result in a drier wetland or deeper or more prolonged inundation in the wetland. In order to maintain a similar hydro-period in the wetlands and minimize the indirect impacts of the road and residential construction, some general

**DRAFT REPORT WETLAND ALTERATION PROPOSAL ROCKINGHAM SOUTH
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Proposed Alteration and Mitigation Measures

guidelines are provided for all wetlands that will be preserved following Project construction. It is recommended that:

- Any drainage ditches are graded such that they do not directly discharge into wetlands;
- Post-construction stormwater will be managed such that stormwater is not directly discharged into the preserved wetlands; and
- Machinery and personnel do not enter portions of the wetland that are outside of the Project footprint.

Decreasing or increasing hydrological inputs to wetlands can have negative impacts on the condition of the wetland. Water resources will be carefully managed through planning and adhering to permitting terms and conditions.

4.4 PROPOSED MONITORING

No monitoring will be conducted for the altered wetlands, as the proposed alterations involve complete alteration to 19 wetlands. However, monitoring will be involved in the proposed compensation plan, outlined in Section 4.5.

4.5 OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMPENSATION

The proposed Project will result in the complete of 19 wetlands located within the Project area. In Nova Scotia, wetlands are protected under the Activities Designation Regulations made pursuant to the provincial *Environment Act*. Any loss of wetland habitat, either through direct infilling or indirectly through alteration of wetland hydrology, requires compensation to replace the wetland functions lost as a result of the wetland alterations.

The Project will cause approximately 1.48 ha of direct wetland alteration. The proposed compensation will involve three approaches to compensation, all on site.

The first approach is wetland creation around the wetlands that will be preserved onsite. Field investigations determined that there are suitable hydrology and surficial materials for wetland creation. Organic material from the altered wetlands can be salvaged and be used to establish these created wetland areas. This material will provide a seed bank of wetland vegetation, as well as providing an excellent substrate for wetland vegetation to establish itself in. Integrative stormwater management will be used to ensure there is sufficient hydrological supply to the wetlands. The designs will ensure that no stormwater directly enters the wetland areas, through the use of vegetated swales and catch basins. Further baseline studies to determine the exact extent, location and character of wetland creation opportunities will be implemented upon approval of the proposed wetland alterations.

The second approach involves restoration of impacted areas in Wetlands 3, 4, 17, and 18. These wetlands have been degraded over time, through dumping of garbage, alteration to vegetation, and uncontrolled access through the wetlands by walking or biking. Specifically:

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RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Proposed Alteration and Mitigation Measures

- Wetland 3 has been partially infilled with a corduroy road and storage of timber harvested after Hurricane Juan (2003);
- Wetland 4 has been affected by up-stream hydrological modifications resulting from infilling and stormwater management on an adjacent property. This wetland is in a highly degraded condition, with high vegetation mortality and soil erosion; and
- Wetlands 17 and 18 have been disturbed by skidders and tree cutting and garbage disposal. These wetlands have potential value as high-quality herpetile habitat, despite the current degraded state.

W.M. Fares proposes to restore, enhance and protect these wetlands by removing garbage from the wetlands, and enhancing the ecology of the wetlands through targeted planting and removal of fill, and potentially implementing minor hydrological modifications through the integrated stormwater management plan. The combined area of these wetlands is 1.46 ha. The opportunities for expansion of the wetlands by the removal of fill amounts to an additional 0.42 ha of wetland area.

The third approach to compensation will involve enhancement of these wetlands through the provision of boardwalks and educational signage. This will increase the social functioning of these wetlands, and boardwalks will also help protect the wetlands from trampling by providing controlled access in the urban setting. The educational signage will increase awareness about the importance of wetland functions, the need to protect them, and the responsibility of contacting NSE whenever there are potential impacts to wetlands. Boardwalks will be established in the created wetland areas so as not to interfere with avoided wetland areas.

Monitoring of ecological and hydrological parameters over multiple seasons is essential to ensure the successful establishment of wetland habitat. The objectives of monitoring for the proposed development are:

- Confirm the extent of wetland creation areas;
- Assess the hydrological and ecological functioning of the created wetlands; and
- Guide adaptive management as required.

The ecological characterizations of the existing wetlands to be preserved (Wetlands 3, 4, 17, and 18), as well as information collected from the altered wetlands, will be used as a baseline data for the monitoring studies. The establishment of vascular plant communities, and their varying composition, distribution and richness following construction will yield meaningful results as to the success of the habitat creation. Observations of hydrology through soil saturation, presence of surface water, and evidence of inundation will also be monitored to ensure the successful establishment of wetland habitat. All monitoring will be conducted and interpreted by experienced terrestrial ecologists, and it is proposed that site visits be conducted three times a year for the first three years, and then once annually for the fourth and fifth year.

5.0 Closing Comments

This report has been prepared for the sole benefit of the W. M. Fares for submission to Nova Scotia Environment. This report may not be used by any other person or entity without the express written consent of Stantec and W. M. Fares.

Any use that a third party makes of this report, or any reliance on decisions made based on it, is the responsibility of such third parties. Stantec accepts no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made, or actions taken, based on this report.

The information presented in this report represents the best technical judgment of Stantec based on the data obtained from the work. The conclusions are based on the site conditions observed by Stantec at the time the work was performed at the specific testing and/or sampling locations, and can only be extrapolated to an undefined limited area around these locations.

This assessment was prepared by Hamish Aubrey and reviewed by Robert Federico. We trust that the above meets your requirements at this time. Please contact Hamish Aubrey at (902) 468-7777 if there are any questions respecting this report.

6.0 References

- Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC). 2010. Dynamic Conservation Database. Sackville, NB: ACCDC.
- Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour, 2007. Wetlands Designation Policy.
- Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour, 2006. Operational Bulletin Respecting Alteration of Wetlands.
- Nova Scotia Department of the Environment (NSDOE). 1988. Erosion and Sedimentation Control Handbook for Construction Sites. Nova Scotia: NSE Environmental Assessment Division.
- Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources (NSDNR). 2010. General Status Ranks of Wild Species in Nova Scotia. Available online at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/wildlife/genstatus/ranks.asp>.
- Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy Branch, 1992. Surficial Geology of the Province of Nova Scotia. 1:500,000.
- Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, 2010. Natural Resources – Geology and Maps
- Nova Scotia Environment, 2009. A Proponent's Guide to Wetland Conservation – Draft for Consultation.
- Nova Scotia Geomatics Centre; <http://www.nsgc.gov.ns.ca/>
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1987. Wetlands Delineation Manual. Technical Report Y-87-1
- Warner, B. and C. Rubec. 1997. The Canadian Wetland Classification System (2nd Edition). Wetlands Research Centre. University of Waterloo. 68pp.

7.0 Appendices

Appendix A Figures

Appendix B Plant Species Encountered in Wetlands

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**WETLAND ALTERATION PROPOSAL ROCKINGHAM SOUTH RESIDENTIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

**APPENDIX A
Figures**



AUTHOR:	G. MESHEAU
DATE:	October 6, 2010
APPROVED BY:	G. Mesheau
SCALE:	1:3,500
COORDINATE SYSTEM:	UTM NAD 83 ZONE 20

**ROCKINGHAM SOUTH
WETLAND FEATURES**

FIGURE NO.:	Figure 1





Rockingham South
 scale = 1:1200
 April 2010

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

AUTHOR:	G. MESHEAU
DATE:	August 13, 2010
APPROVED BY:	E. Kennedy
SCALE:	
COORDINATE SYSTEM:	

ROCKINGHAM SOUTH		FIGURE NO.:	Figure 2
			

Stantec

**WETLAND ALTERATION PROPOSAL ROCKINGHAM SOUTH RESIDENTIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

**APPENDIX B
Plant Species Encountered in Wetlands**

DRAFT REPORT WETLAND ALTERATION PROPOSAL ROCKINGHAM SOUTH RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Table B.1 Vascular plants recorded within the proposed altered wetland

Scientific Name	Common Name	ACCDC Rank	NSDNR Rank	Wetland																			
				01	02	05	06	07	08	09	10	12	13	14	15	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
<i>Polytrichum commune</i>									Y														
<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	Balsam Poplar	S4	GREEN																Y				
<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	Large-Tooth Aspen	S5	GREEN					Y			Y	Y	Y			Y	Y		Y				
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Quaking Aspen	S5	GREEN			Y	Y						Y	Y	Y				Y				
<i>Potamogeton epihydrus</i>	Nuttall Pondweed	S5	GREEN			Y																	
<i>Potentilla simplex</i>	Old-Field Cinquefoil	S5	GREEN				Y						Y	Y				Y		Y	Y	Y	
<i>Prenanthes trifoliolata</i>	Three-Leaved Rattlesnake-root	S5	GREEN															Y		Y		Y	
<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	Fire Cherry	S5	GREEN		Y									Y	Y				Y				
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken Fern	S5	GREEN		Y				Y			Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern Red Oak	S5	GREEN	Y	Y									Y	Y			Y					
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Butter-Cup	SNA	Exotic	Y																			
<i>Rhinanthus minor ssp. minor</i>	Yellow Rattle	S5	GREEN						Y														
<i>Rhododendron canadense</i>	Rhodora	S5	GREEN		Y		Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Rhynchospora alba</i>	White Beakrush	S5	GREEN						Y												Y		
<i>Rhynchospora fusca</i>	Brown Beakrush	S4	GREEN						Y	Y											Y		
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Rambler Rose	SNA	Exotic												Y	Y							
<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	Rugosa Rose	S5	GREEN																		Y		
<i>Rosa virginiana</i>	Virginia Rose	S5	GREEN											Y						Y			
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	Allegheny Blackberry	S5	GREEN	Y	Y			Y				Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y			Y	
<i>Rubus canadensis</i>	Smooth Blackberry	S5	GREEN				Y		Y			Y	Y	Y	Y			Y		Y	Y	Y	
<i>Rubus hispidus</i>	Bristly Dewberry	S5	GREEN		Y			Y	Y							Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Red Raspberry	S5	GREEN	Y			Y							Y								Y	
<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	Bebb's Willow	S5	GREEN	Y		Y		Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
<i>Salix discolor</i>	Pussy Willow	S5	GREEN				Y						Y	Y		Y		Y		Y			
<i>Salix humilis</i>	Prairie Willow	S5	GREEN						Y									Y					
<i>Salix pyrifolia</i>	Balsam Willow	S5	GREEN			Y		Y	Y					Y				Y	Y				
<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	Cottongrass Bulrush	S5	GREEN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Climbing Nightshade	SNA	Exotic	Y																			
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada Goldenrod	S5	GREEN	Y												Y							
<i>Solidago puberula</i>	Downy Goldenrod	S5	GREEN				Y																
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Rough-Leaf Goldenrod	S5	GREEN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y			Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Solidago uliginosa</i>	Bog Goldenrod	S5	GREEN		Y									Y	Y				Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Sorbaria sorbifolia</i>	False Spiraea	SNA	Exotic	Y																			
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	European Mountain-Ash	SNA	Exotic									Y		Y									
<i>Sparganium americanum</i>	American Bur-Reed	S5	GREEN			Y						Y											
<i>Spiraea alba</i>	Narrow-Leaved Meadow-Sweet	S5	GREEN	Y		Y			Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>	Hardhack Spiraea	S5	GREEN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y		
<i>Symphotrichum novi-belgii</i>	New Belgium American-Aster	S5	GREEN				Y																
<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>	New York Fern	S5	GREEN	Y		Y						Y	Y	Y						Y	Y	Y	
<i>Trientalis borealis</i>	Northern Starflower	S5	GREEN		Y															Y		Y	
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	SNA	Exotic																	Y			
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Broad-Leaf Cattail	S5	GREEN	Y		Y								Y				Y					
<i>Utricularia geminiscapa</i>	Hidden-Fruited Bladderwort	S4	GREEN						Y												Y		
<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	Late Lowbush Blueberry	S5	GREEN	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y				Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	
<i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i>	Large Cranberry	S5	GREEN		Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	
<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>	Velvetleaf Blueberry	S5	GREEN	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y			Y		Y								Y	
<i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>	Small Cranberry	S5	GREEN						Y				Y										
<i>Viburnum nudum</i>	Possum-Haw Viburnum	S5	GREEN	Y				Y	Y			Y						Y		Y	Y	Y	
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	SNA	Exotic															Y					
<i>Viola macloskeyi</i>	Smooth White Violet	S5	GREEN										Y	Y						Y			

Our File Number: 95100-30BED-075008

January 28, 2011

W.M. Fares Group
480 Parkland Drive, Suite 205
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3S 1P9

Dear Mr. Fiander:

RE: Approval to Construct - Wetland Alterations to Various Unnamed Wetlands on the Property Identified as 66 Tremont Drive (PID No. 00292730), Rockingham South - NSE Approval No. 2010-075008.

Please find enclosed, Approval # 2010-075008 issued to Sobeys Land Holdings Limited to construct alterations to various wetlands on the proposed Rockingham South Development site located at 66 Tremont Drive, Halifax, Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia. Please ensure that you forward the original Approval to Sobeys Land Holdings Limited.

This approval or a copy is to be kept on-site at all times. All personnel involved in the project must be made fully aware of the terms and conditions of this approval. The terms and conditions are shown as attached and it is the Approval Holder's responsibility to ensure that they are followed. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions is an offence under the *Environment Act*.

It is the Approval Holder's duty to advise the Department of any new and relevant information respecting any adverse effect that results or may result from the approved activity, which comes to the Approval Holder's attention after the issuance of the approval. This is required under Section 60 of the *Environment Act*.

This Approval does not constitute an Authorization to harmfully alter, disrupt or destroy fish habitat as regulated under 35(1) of the Fisheries Act. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) may assess whether a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat (HADD) will occur as a result of the work and its interaction with fish including species protected under the Species at Risk Act (SARA).

If the activity is altered, extended or modified beyond the description given in this Approval, please reapply as a new Approval may be required.

The Approval Holder must provide the undersigned with three days notice prior to the commencement of the work.

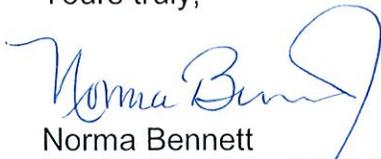
Within 14 days of completion of the work authorized under this Approval, the Approval Holder or contractor is required to submit, to the Department, the enclosed form entitled "Completion of the Approved Work".

Despite the issuance of this Approval, the Approval Holder is still responsible for obtaining any other authorization which may be required to carry out the activity, including those which may be necessary under provincial, federal or municipal law.

Please call at once, if you or the Approval Holder have any questions about the conditions of this approval, especially those pertaining to the actual construction.

Should you or the Approval Holder have any questions, please contact Jonathan MacDonald, Central Region, Bedford Office at (902) 424-2558.

Yours truly,



Norma Bennett
District Manager, EMC Central Region

APPROVAL

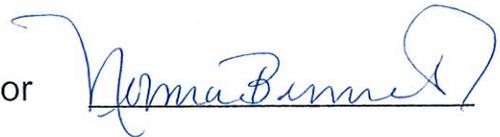
Province of Nova Scotia
Environment Act, S.N.S. 1994-95, c.1

APPROVAL HOLDER: Sobeys Land Holdings Limited
SITE PID: 00292730
APPROVAL NO: 2010-075008
EXPIRY DATE: December 31, 2018

Pursuant to Part V of the *Environment Act, S.N.S. 1994-95, c.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:

Alteration of Wetlands on the Rockingham South Project Site at or near 66 Tremont Dr, Halifax, Halifax Regional Municipality in the Province of Nova Scotia.

Administrator



Effective Date

Feb 8/2011

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Nova Scotia Environment

Approval Holder: Sobeys Land Holdings Limited

Project: Wetlands Alteration
Site: On Unnamed Wetlands
66 Tremont Dr,
Halifax, Halifax Regional Municipality
PID # 00292730

Approval No: 2010-075008

File No: 95100-30BED-075008

Map Series: 11/D/12

Grid Reference: E - 447,700 N - 4,947,100

Reference Documents:

- Application dated November 19, 2010 and attachments.
- Email from John Brazner, dated January 31, 2011.

1.0 Definitions:

- a) "Act" means the *Environment Act* S.N.S. 1994-1995, c.1 and includes all regulations made pursuant to the Act.
- b) "Department" means the Central Region, Bedford Office, of Nova Scotia Environment located at the following address:

Nova Scotia Environment
Environmental Monitoring and Compliance Division
Central Region, Bedford Office,
Suite 115, 30 Damascus Road,
Bedford, Nova Scotia, B4A 0C1.

Phone: (902) 424-7773

Fax: (902) 424-0597

- c) "Minister" means the Minister of Nova Scotia Environment.
- d) "Watercourse" means
 - (i) the bed banks and shore of every river, stream, lake, creek, pond, spring, lagoon or other natural body of water, and the water therein, within the jurisdiction of the Province, whether it contains water or not, and
 - (ii) all groundwater;
- e) "Wetland" means lands commonly referred to as marshes, swamps, fens, bogs, and shallow water areas that are saturated with water long enough to promote wetland or aquatic processes which are indicated by poorly drained soil, vegetation and various kinds of activity which are adapted to a wet environment.

2.0 Scope of Approval

- a) This Approval (the "Approval") relates to the Approval Holder and their application and supporting documentation, as listed in the reference documents above, to construct the alteration of wetlands on the Rockingham South Development situated at or near 66 Tremont Dr, Halifax, Halifax Regional Municipality.
- b) Under authority of this approval, the watercourse alterations specified in 2 a) shall be conducted between June 1st and September 30th (inclusive) of the same calendar year unless otherwise stated in the site specific terms and conditions.
- c) This Approval supercedes previous approval number (s) which is/are now null and void.

3.0 General Terms and Conditions

- a) The Approval Holder shall construct the watercourse alterations in accordance with provisions of the:
 - i) *Environment Act* S.N.S. 1994-1995, c.1;
 - ii) Regulations pursuant to the above Act;
 - iii) Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Specifications, Operational Bulletin Respecting the Alteration of Wetlands current edition.
- b) Nothing in this Approval relieves the Approval Holder of the responsibility for obtaining and paying for all licences, 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 or provincial or federal legislation.

The Minister does not warrant that such licences, permits, approvals or other authorizations will be issued.

- c) No authority is granted by this Approval to enable the Approval Holder to construct the watercourse alterations on lands which are not in the control or ownership of the Approval Holder. It is the responsibility of the Approval Holder to ensure that such a contravention does not occur.
- 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) The Minister or Administrator may modify, amend or add conditions to this Approval at anytime pursuant to Section 58 of the Act.
- f) This Approval is not transferable without the consent of the Minister or Administrator.
- g) (i) If the Minister or Administrator determines that there has been non-compliance with any or all of the terms and conditions contained in this Approval, the Minister or Administrator may cancel or suspend the Approval pursuant to subsections 58(2)(b) and 58(4) of the Act, until such time as the Minister or Administrator is satisfied that all terms and conditions have been met.

(ii) Despite a cancellation or suspension of this Approval, the Approval Holder remains subject to the penalty provisions of the Act and regulations.
- h) The Approval Holder shall notify the Department prior to any proposed extensions or modifications of the activities outlined in the original Application for Approval.
- i) Pursuant to Section 60 of the Act, the Approval Holder shall submit to the Administrator any new and relevant information respecting any adverse effect that actually results, or may potentially result, from any activity to which the Approval relates and that comes to the attention of the Approval Holder after the issuance of the Approval.
- j) The Approval Holder shall immediately notify the Department of any incidents of non-compliance with this Approval.
- k) The Approval Holder shall bear all expenses incurred in carrying out the environmental monitoring required under the terms and conditions of this Approval.

- 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.
- m) Unless written approval is received otherwise from the Administrator, all samples required by this Approval shall be analysed 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 shall submit any monitoring results required by this Approval to the Department. Unless specified otherwise in this Approval, all monitoring results shall be submitted within 30 days following the month of monitoring.
- o) The Approval Holder shall ensure that this Approval, or a copy, is kept on Site at all times and that personnel directly involved in the watercourse alterations are made fully aware of the terms and conditions which pertain to this Approval.
- p) Failure to comply with the Terms and Conditions is an offence under the *Environment Act*.
- q) The Approval Holder shall notify the Department three business days prior to commencing construction of the Activity. The notification must include the Approval Number.
- r) Within 14 days of completion of the work authorized under this Approval, the Approval Holder or contractor is required to submit, to the Department, the enclosed form entitled "Completion of the Approved Work".

4.0 Covenant Conditions

- a) The Approval Holder may alter the watercourse, or store water in any watercourse as authorized and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall not alter or use the watercourse so as to:
 - (i) prejudice any riparian rights of any owner or of any person lawfully in possession of or holding any lands abutting the watercourse or any rights therein;
 - (ii) suffer any loss, damage or nuisance to adjacent or abutting lands.
- b) The Approval Holder shall not, at any time or for any purpose, place a pecuniary value on or claim any pecuniary value for the rights and privileges granted by this Approval, whether considered alone or in conjunction with any other property

rights or privileges, over and above the amounts, if any, actually paid to the minister by the Approval Holder for said rights and privileges.

- c) It is recognized and agreed that this Approval does not give sole or exclusive rights to any watercourse, and the Minister reserves the right to use the watercourse and water therein for any purpose and to allow others to use the watercourse and water for any purpose, provided that such use or purpose does not constitute a substantial interference with the rights granted to the Approval Holder.
- d) The Approval Holder shall be responsible for obtaining and paying the costs of any and all approvals, services, easements, rights of way and authorizations of any kind necessary for the performance of any activities undertaken pursuant to this Approval. The Minister does not covenant that such approvals, services, easements, rights of way and authorizations of any kind will be issued by the Province of Nova Scotia, any other body or person.
- e) The Approval Holder shall maintain any bridge, culvert, dam, sluice, flume, conduit or other structure built or used in or on the watercourse in a state of good repair and in a clean and tidy condition to the satisfaction of the Minister. The Approval Holder shall conform to any and all directions of the Minister concerning the rehabilitation of a watercourse or the construction, reconstruction, maintenance, removal, operation and location of any bridge, culvert, dam, sluice, flume, conduit or other structure built, used or maintained in and on the watercourse.
- f) The Approval Holder shall indemnify and save harmless the Minister against any loss, cost or damage occasioned by the Approval Holder's relocation of a watercourse or the construction of, repair, alteration or addition to any culvert, bridge, dam, sluice, flume, conduit or other structure. Such indemnity shall include, but not be restricted to, all losses, costs or damages occasioned by the improper or faulty relocation of a watercourse or the improper or faulty construction of repair, alteration or addition to any culvert, bridge, dam, sluice, flume, conduit or other structure in or on the watercourse, or by any trespass, negligence or wilful act of the Approval Holder or any employees, agents, contractors, or guests of the Approval Holder.
- g) On the expiry or termination of this Approval or at the end of the useful life of the structure, as determined by the Minister, the Approval Holder shall immediately cease operations and peaceably and quietly yield up and deliver possession of the watercourse in a condition satisfactory to the Minister, and the Minister shall incur no further expense, liability or cost in this regard.
- h) The Approval Holder shall remove any bridge, culvert, dam, sluice, flume, conduit or other structure or remnants thereof, and any equipment or personal

property built, used or maintained in and on the watercourse at the end of the useful life of the structure, to the satisfaction of the Minister. In the event the Approval Holder fails to remove such bridge, culvert, dam, sluice, flume, conduit or other structure or remnants thereof and any equipment or personal property, the Minister may, without any attaching liability, remove or demolish the same in whatever manner the Minister deems necessary. The Approval Holder shall pay all expenses and costs of such removal or demolition.

- i) The Minister or any employee, servant or agent of the Department will not be liable for any damage, loss or claim of any kind which may or hereafter arise.
- j) If the Approval Holder assigns or sublets their Approval or any part thereof except as is expressly provided herein, if the contractor becomes bankrupt or insolvent, if a receiver is appointed for any part of the assets of the Approval Holder, if any assignment is made for the benefit of the creditors of the Approval Holder, or if it is wound up or goes into liquidation, the Minister may terminate the Approval.
- k) This Approval shall ensure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Minister, the Minister's successors, assigns and authorized representatives, and upon the Approval Holder, and the heirs, administrators, executors and assigns of the Approval Holder.
- l) The failure of the Minister to insist upon a strict performance of any covenant, proviso or Terms and Conditions contained in this Approval shall not be deemed a waiver of any rights or remedies that the Minister may have and shall not be deemed a waiver of any subsequent breach or default in the covenants, provisos or Terms and Conditions contained in this Approval.

5.0 Construction Terms and Conditions

- a) All construction activities within or immediately adjacent to the watercourse channel must be carried out in isolation of the streamflow (in the dry).
- b) Prior to the commencement of the proposed activity, sediment control measures shall be installed to prevent sedimentation of the watercourse and maintained as required until all exposed erodible soil adjacent to both a watercourse and the road surface are stabilized. Erosion control measures include but are not limited to flow checks, sediment traps and/or filters.
- c) Erosion control materials shall be clean, non-erodible, non-ore-bearing, non-watercourse derived and non-toxic materials.
- d) Slates or shales are not to be used without prior written consent from the

Minister or Administrator. The Approval Holder shall notify the Department immediately when slates or shales are encountered during any part of construction. Compliance with the Sulphide Bearing Materials Disposal Regulations is required.

- e) All potentially erodible areas shall be stabilized with erosion protection material as work progresses (not at the end of the project).
- f) All work operations shall be conducted in a manner to protect the watercourse from siltation and disturbance to the adjacent and downstream areas. Silted water is not to be released directly into the watercourse. Any silt laden water pumped from work areas is to be directed to heavily vegetated areas, settling ponds, or other treatment devices.
- g) Any overland flow which has the potential to enter the construction area is to be diverted away from the construction site, into vegetated areas.
- h) All construction site and roadway runoff shall be directed through natural vegetation or through erosion and sediment control devices before it reaches the watercourse. Where direction through natural vegetation is not possible, all construction site runoff shall be treated to prevent siltation of watercourses.
- i) Road drainage must not be discharged over a cut or fill unless additional appropriately vertically staged erosion control measures are in place on the slope from the crest to the toe along the face of the embankment.
- j) Settling ponds shall meet a minimum requirement of 1/16 acre-ft. of storage for every acre of exposed construction area. Settling ponds are to be cleaned out when they are half full of sediment or when they no longer provide for the precipitation of solids.
- k) The Approval Holder shall ensure that the following discharge limits are met for any water which is discharged from the site to a watercourse or wetland:

Clear Flows (Normal Background Conditions):

- i) Maximum increase of 25 mg/L from background levels for any short term exposure (24 hours or less)
- ii) Maximum average increase of 5 mg/L from background levels for longer term exposure (inputs lasting between 24 hours and 30 days)

High Flow (Spring Freshets and Storm Events)

- i) Maximum increase of 25 mg/L from background levels at any time when background levels are between 25 mg/L and 250 mg/L
 - ii) Shall not increase more than 10% over background levels when background is >250 mg/L.
- l) The Approval Holder shall limit the size of the disturbed area to the area of the watercourse alteration. Once the soils in the area of installation have been exposed for installation, the structure installation shall commence immediately.
- m) The Approval Holder shall limit the removal of riparian vegetation to the area of the watercourse alteration only.
- n) All excavated material shall be placed in a location where it will not enter the watercourse. All debris resulting from construction activities shall be disposed of at a facility which is Approved to accept the specific material. Any material not regulated by the Department shall be removed to an area where flood water will not come in contact with the debris and excavated material must be removed from the areas adjacent to the watercourse and be disposed of in a manner acceptable to the Department.
- o) On-site machinery and potential pollutants are to be stored in an area above the flood water limits.
- p) Fuel storage and refuelling or lubrication of equipment is to take place in an area such that an accidental pollutant discharge will not enter surface water or domestic water supplies. Under no circumstances will the designated area be within 30 metres of a watercourse or wetland. Note: this clause is not applicable to pile-driving equipment.
- q) Equipment required to work within a watercourse is to be mechanically sound, having no leaking fuel tanks or leaking hydraulic connections.
- r) Machinery and equipment (e.g., concrete trucks) are not to be washed out within 30 metres of a body of water or in an area where wash water will run into a watercourse.
- s) Blasting in or near a watercourse is not permitted unless authorized in writing by the Minister or Administrator.

6.0 Spills or Releases

- a) All spills or releases shall be reported in accordance with the *Act* (Part VI) and the *Emergency Spill Regulations*.
- b) Spills or releases shall be cleaned up immediately in accordance with the *Act*.
- c) A quantity of spill/release response material is to be maintained on Site at all times.

7.0 Site Specific Terms and Conditions

- a) This authorization is for the alteration of approximately 1.48 ha of wetlands associated with the construction of the proposed Rockingham South development in Clayton Park, HRM. This Approval involves the complete alteration of 19 of the 23 identified wetlands, as identified in Stantec Consulting Limited's report entitled "Wetland Alteration Proposal Rockingham South Residential Development", dated October 2010. **All works associated with the alteration of these wetlands and the creation and enhancement of the required compensation wetlands must be completed no later than December 31, 2013. All work associated with the required 5-years of follow-up monitoring, must be completed no later than December 31, 2018.** The following table outlines all wetlands identified on the property along with the size of the wetland and the area of the wetland that will be impacted by the proposed project.

Wetland ID	Total Area of Wetland (ha)	Proposed Direct Alteration (ha)	Proposed Direct Alteration (%)
1	0.02	0.02	100%
2	0.03	0.03	100%
3	0.95	-	-
4	0.04	-	-
5	0.11	0.11	100%
6	0.03	0.03	100%
7	0.03	0.03	100%
8	0.12	0.12	100%
9	0.01	0.01	100%
10	0.02	0.02	100%

Wetland ID	Total Area of Wetland (ha)	Proposed Direct Alteration (ha)	Proposed Direct Alteration (%)
12	0.07	0.07	100%
13	0.08	0.08	100%
14	0.17	0.17	100%
15	0.04	0.04	100%
17	0.18	-	-
18	0.18	-	-
19	0.06	0.06	100%
20	0.16	0.16	100%
21	0.04	0.04	100%
22	0.08	0.08	100%
23	0.26	0.26	100%
24	0.10	0.10	100%
25	0.03	0.03	100%
Total	2.83 ha	1.48 ha	52%

- b) The Approval Holder must notify Nova Scotia Environment 3-days prior to beginning any wetlands alterations associated with this Approval.
- c) The Approval Holder must submit a copy of an Environmental Protection Plan (i.e. Sedimentation and Erosion Control Plan) prior to beginning any wetland alterations on this site. This plan must be updated frequently as site conditions change.
- d) All staging areas must be located in an area that will not impact adjacent watercourses/wetlands. Sediment controls are to be employed around this area to ensure that silt will not migrate to adjacent watercourses and wetlands.
- e) The work sites are to be dewatered in a manner that does not cause siltation to watercourses in the area.
- f) All materials removed from a wetland is to be disposed of in a manner that is acceptable to the department or reused on site in the construction of new wetlands, as is required in the compensation component of this approval. It should not be placed in an area where it have an impact on another wetland or watercourse (from siltation or a BOD consideration).

- g) All areas of exposed soils are to be stabilized immediately upon reaching final grade.
- h) Appropriate measures are to be employed to ensure that siltation does not occur as a result of the use of clay materials. If sediment ponds are considered to control silt, ponds are to be adequately sized and approved flocculent may be required. Traditional siltation devices alone will not suffice.
- i) Only clean, pH neutral, coarse fill material is to be used within the Wetland areas.
- j) Site drainage ditches are to be graded such that they do not directly discharge into surrounding wetlands and watercourses. Stormwater collected on this site must not be directly discharged into surrounding wetlands and watercourses. Post development flows into wetlands must be maintained at pre-development levels. Wetlands must not be used for stormwater retention purposes.
- k) Emergency resources will be available on site to react to unforeseen events.
- l) All sediment barriers / controls are to be properly maintained and monitored throughout the construction and re-instated as necessary.
- m) Compensation for the loss of these wetlands will be required. The compensation for loss of wetlands associated with this project has been addressed in Stantec Consulting Limited's report titled "*Wetland Alteration Proposal Rockingham South Residential Development*", dated October 2010. This proposal outlines three components to the compensation plan. The plan has been reviewed and the components involving onsite creation of wetlands (i.e. creation of 0.42 ha of new wetlands) and the Restoration and Enhancement of 1.46 ha of existing badly degraded wetlands have been accepted by Nova Scotia Environment as the required compensation for the alteration of 1.48 ha of wetlands associated with this project. All work associated with the construction of new wetlands and the restoration/enhancement of existing wetlands must be completed by December, 31st, 2013 and be followed up with a minimum of 5-years post construction monitoring, as outlined in Section 4.5 of Stantec Consulting Limited's report titled "*Wetland Alteration Proposal Rockingham South Residential Development*", dated October 2010. Annual progress reports must be submitted to NSE, Environmental Monitoring and Compliance Division, 30 Damascus Road, Suite 115, Bedford, NS B4A 0C1, on or before December 31st of each year until all components of the compensation plan are complete. In year 5, if an undesirable change is noted or there is concern over the condition of the unaltered, enhanced or created wetlands, adaptive management must be applied to improve health and function of that wetland. The future monitoring plan for that wetland may need to be re-evaluated at that time.

- n) Compensation projects (i.e. construction of wetlands or enhancement of existing wetlands), must be conducted in a manner and with sufficient measures in place to prevent any adverse effect or unintentional alteration to adjacent watercourses or wetlands. No machinery or heavy equipment can be operated in an existing wetland or watercourse without written authorization from Nova Scotia Environment.



COMPLETION OF THE APPROVED WORK

A condition of this Approval requires that the Approval Holder notify Nova Scotia Environment that the work authorized is complete.

Please enter the information on this sheet and return it to the Nova Scotia Environment at the following address:

Nova Scotia Environment
Environmental Monitoring and Compliance Division
Central Region, Bedford Office,
Suite 115, 30 Damascus Road,
Bedford, Nova Scotia, B4A 0C1.

Phone: (902) 424-7773
Fax: (902) 424-0597
NSE Contact: Jonathan MacDonald

APPROVAL NUMBER: 2010-075008

NAME OF APPROVAL HOLDER: Sobeys Group Inc.

NAME OF WATERCOURSE: Unnamed Wetlands

WORK AUTHORIZED: Wetland Alteration

NAME OF CONTRACTOR: _____

DATE WORK WAS COMPLETED: _____

COMMENTS: _____

SIGNATURE

Date



Grosvenor Rd

Dakin Dr
Kearney Lake Rd

Birch Cove Lane

Wilson Blvd

Dickson Ave

Wedgewood Ave

Donaldson Ave

Falcon Pl

Rockhaven Dr

Woodbury Dr

Cascade Dr

Bedford Hwy

Glenn Dr

Dillon Cres

Wentworth Dr

Winona Cres Dr

Lynwood Dr

Torrington Dr

Tremont Dr

Forest Hill Dr

Oakley Ave

Douglas Cres

Dunbrack St

Crest Rd

Wren St

Honda Cr

Remington Cr

Ross St

Staring St

Skylark St

Farnham Gate Rd

Knightsridge Dr

Trailwood Pl

Bobolink St

Blue Jay St

Swallow St

Armada Dr

Melody Dr

Glenbourne Cr

Langbrae Dr

Turnmill Dr

Trailwood Pl

Dipper Cres

Kingfisher Cres

Nightingale Dr

Flamingo Dr

Canary Cres

Seton Rd

Red Fern Terr

Parkmount Cl

College Rd