PO Box 697 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T8 Our File Number: 10700-40 40100-30-128

Office	OΙ	tne	Minister	_

Original Dated December 18, 2007

Mr. Scott G. McDonald, Project Manager Alton Natural Gas Storage LP PO Box 36052 Halifax, NS B3J 3S9

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Re: Environmental Assessment - Alton Underground Natural Gas Storage Project

The environmental assessment of the proposed Alton Underground Natural Gas Storage Facility, has been completed.

This is to advise that I have approved the above project in accordance with Section 13(1)(b) of the *Environmental Assessment Regulations*, pursuant to Part IV of the *Environment Act*. I am satisfied following a review of the information provided by Alton Natural Gas Storage LP, and through the government and public consultation as part of the environmental assessment, that any adverse effects or significant environmental effects of the undertaking can be adequately mitigated through compliance with the attached terms and conditions.

This letter, in conjunction with the attached terms and conditions, constitutes my approval. This approval is subject to any other approvals required by statute or regulation, including but not limited to, approval under Part V of the Nova Scotia *Environment Act* (Approvals and Certificates section).

If you have any questions regarding the approval of this project, please contact the Manager, Environmental Assessment Branch, Ms. Lorrie Roberts via email ROBERTLA@gov.ns.ca

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed By

Mark Parent
Minister of Environment & Labour

Encl.

bcc: N. Vanstone

K. MacNeil L. Roberts W. Faulkner

prepared by V. Margueratt