PO Box 697 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T8 Our File Number: 10700-40 40100-31-15

Office of the Minister _

Original dated August 29, 2005

Mr. Brian Stonehouse Deputy Minister Department of Transportation and Public Works PO Box 186 Halifax NS B3J 2N2

Dear Mr. Stonehouse:

Re: Environmental Assessment - Highway 104 at Antigonish Project

The environmental assessment of the proposed Highway 104 at Antigonish Project, Antigonish County, Nova Scotia, has been completed.

This is to advise that I have approved the above project in accordance with Section 26 of the *Environmental Assessment Regulations*, pursuant to Part IV of the *Environment Act*. I am satisfied following a review of the information provided by the Department of Transportation and Public Works, 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, Mr. Chris Daly at (902) 424-4936.

Sincerely yours,

Original signed by

Kerry Morash Minister

Encl.