

NICHOLS GRAVEL LIMITED

M.N.R. DISPUTED LICENCE #103717

Through the Trial Examination with M.N.R. and Mr. Cutmore of April 29, and June 28, 2004 we have confirmed in the transcripts of evidence, Mr. Cutmores' total lack of legislative authority to alter conditions of O.M.B. Decision/Order 1194 and/or the issuance of the approved and signed licence #103717 by the Minister Hon. Jerry Ouellette.

The Ministry of Natural Resources Freedom of Information section response of June 30, 2004 confirms the licence as signed and approved by the Minister.

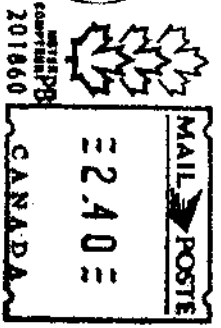
SEE: F.O.I. Licence as received without 23 "Specific Pre Operating Conditions".

IRMB-4483

COPIES
RECEIVED
MNR FOI.

Gary Nichols

Mr. Gary Nichols
President N.G.L.
Nichols Gravel Limited
P.O. Box 172
Delhi, Ontario
N4B 2W9



CONFIDENTIAL

1-800-387-0700

Ministry of Natural
Resources

Information Access Section
300 Water Street, P.O. Box 7000
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5
Phone (705) 755-1653
Fax (705) 755-1621

Ministère des
Richesses naturelle

Section de l'accès à l'information
300, rue Water. C.P. 7000
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 8M5

June 30, 2004

Mr. Gary Nichols
President N.G.L.
Nichols Gravel Limited
P.O. Box 172
Delhi, Ontario
N4B 2W9

MNR Reference Number: A-2004-00038

Dear Mr. Nichols:

I am responding to your April 21, 2004 request, submitted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act), for access to:

"Copies of all aggregate extraction licences issued from the Aylmer District office in the past up to this date, which restricted the authority of the licence until designated "Pre" operating conditions were completed prior to extraction and operations in order to conduct business and sales of aggregate from the licenced property.

Clarified on May 3, 2004

Start date for the request is the date of opening of the Aylmer district office. The requester does not wish to limit the request to any specific companies or any specific location - the request is for the whole of the district."

Narrowed on May 26, 2004:

Start date for the request is November 1, 1997."

I have decided to grant full access to the records, as indicated in the disclosure column of the attached index of responsive records. The responsive records are enclosed with this letter.

Section 57 of the Act allows for fees to be charged for providing access to records. The fee has been calculated as follows:

Search time (4 hours x \$30.00 per hour)	\$120.00
Photocopies (80 pages x \$0.20 per page)	\$16.00
Deposit (paid by cheque dated June 17, 2004)	<u>\$158.40</u>
Total (to be refunded)	-\$22.40

The refund of \$22.40 will be sent to you by cheque under separate cover from these records.

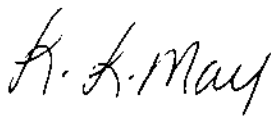
You may request a review of this decision by the Information and Privacy Commissioner, Suite 1400, 2 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario M4W 1A8, telephone 1-800-387-0073. Please note that you have 30 days from receipt of this letter to request a review.

In the event that you wish to launch an appeal to the Information and Privacy Commissioner, please provide the Commissioner's Office with:

1. The request number assigned to your request
2. A copy of this decision letter
3. A copy of the original request for information which you sent to this institution

Please include the \$25.00 appeal fee in the form of a cheque or money order, payable to the Minister of Finance, with your letter of appeal to the Commissioner's office.

Sincerely,



Laura Lee May
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Attach.

Request Number: A-2004-00038

Tiff	Page	Date	Doc Type	Subject	Disclosure
A0037138.TIF	00001 - 00001	1992-09-15	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. P816617	Release
A0037139.TIF	00002 - 00002	1997-09-12	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19295	Release
A0037140.TIF	00003 - 00003	1997-10-09	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19580	Release
A0037141.TIF	00004 - 00005	1998-03-05	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19853	Release
A0037142.TIF	00006 - 00006	1998-04-06	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 18812	Release
A0037143.TIF	00007 - 00007	1998-10-28	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19078	Release
A0037144.TIF	00008 - 00008	1998-11-19	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19294	Release
A0037145.TIF	00009 - 00010	1999-02-16	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20240	Release
A0037146.TIF	00011 - 00012	1999-02-16	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20302	Release
A0037147.TIF	00013 - 00014	1999-03-04	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20363	Release
A0037148.TIF	00015 - 00015	1999-04-19	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20654	Release
A0037149.TIF	00016 - 00017	1999-05-05	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20646	Release
A0037150.TIF	00018 - 00019	1999-06-15	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20653	Release
A0037151.TIF	00020 - 00021	1999-11-04	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20643	Release
A0037152.TIF	00022 - 00022	1999-11-04	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20923	Release
A0037153.TIF	00023 - 00024	1999-12-14	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20734	Release
A0037154.TIF	00025 - 00025	2000-04-13	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19854	Release
A0037155.TIF	00026 - 00027	2000-04-18	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 31135	Release
A0037156.TIF	00028 - 00029	2000-06-13	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20922	Release
A0037157.TIF	00030 - 00031	2000-08-10	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 41757	Release
A0037158.TIF	00032 - 00033	2000-08-10	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 29025	Release
A0037159.TIF	00034 - 00035	2000-09-12	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 35177	Release
A0037160.TIF	00036 - 00037	2000-10-24	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 36276	Release
A0037161.TIF	00038 - 00039	2001-02-21	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 48596	Release
A0037162.TIF	00040 - 00041	2001-04-20	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 55202	Release
A0037163.TIF	00042 - 00043	2001-05-31	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 54676	Release
A0037164.TIF	00044 - 00045	2001-06-04	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 55276	Release
A0037165.TIF	00046 - 00047	2001-06-04	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20222	Release
A0037166.TIF	00048 - 00049	2001-08-01	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 32318	Release
A0037167.TIF	00050 - 00051	2001-12-18	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 58138	Release
A0037168.TIF	00052 - 00053	2002-01-01	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19797	Release
A0037169.TIF	00054 - 00055	2002-01-01	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 20064	Release
A0037170.TIF	00056 - 00057	2002-01-01	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 19851	Release
A0037171.TIF	00058 - 00059	2002-05-28	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 83197	Release
A0037172.TIF	00060 - 00061	2002-05-28	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 81196	Release
A0037173.TIF	00062 - 00063	2002-11-06	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 81276	Release
A0037174.TIF	00064 - 00072	2003-03-25	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 103717	Release
A0037175.TIF	00073 - 00074	2003-07-03	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 101966	Release
A0037176.TIF	00075 - 00076	2003-08-07	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 103486	Release
A0037177.TIF	00077 - 00078	2003-10-15	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 106306	Release
A0037178.TIF	00079 - 00080	2004-01-19	LICENCE	LICENCE NO. 116829	Release



Ministry of Natural Resources
 Ontario

LICENCE
 Aggregate Resources Act
 PERMIS
 Loi sur les ressources en agrégats

Licence No.
 No du permis
 103717

New Licence

Pursuant to the Aggregate Resources Act and Regulations thereunder, and subject to the limitations thereof and to the conditions of the licence and the requirements of the site plan,

Conformément à la Loi de 1997 sur les ressources en agrégats et à ses règlements, et sujet aux restrictions qu'ils comportent, aux conditions d'octroi du permis et aux exigences du plan du site,

this Class nous délivrons ce permis de classe: A licence is issued to: NICHOLS GRAVEL LIMITED
 BOX 172
 DELHI, ON
 CANADA
 N4B 2W9

to operate a pour exploiter un/une	Quarry	on a sur le terrain de	93.97	hectare site located in: hectares situé à l'endroit suivant:
10, 11, & 12	12	WALPOLE	HALDIMAND COUNTY	HALDIMAND-NORFOLK R
Lot	Concession	Section	Geographic Township	Local Municipality
				County / Regional Municipality / District

The licence is subject to the following conditions:
 Ce permis est assujéti aux conditions suivantes: As shown on attached Schedules "A" & "B"

Effective the 25th day of MARCH 2003
 En vigueur le

Minister of Natural Resources
 Ministre des Richesses N
 A0037174_1-000064

SCHEDULE "A"

PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717

1. Dust will be mitigated on site.
2. Water or another provincially approved dust suppressant will be applied to internal haul roads and processing areas as often as required to mitigate dust.
3. Processing equipment will be equipped with dust suppressing or collection devices, where the equipment creates dust and is being operated within 300 metres of a sensitive receptor.
4. Any recommendations and/or recommended monitoring program identified in the technical reports will be described on the site plan and all records will be retained by the licensee and made available upon request by the Ministry of Natural Resources for audit purposes.
5. A Spills Contingency Program will be developed prior to site preparation.
6. Fuel storage tanks will be installed and maintained in accordance with the Gasoline Handling Act.
7. If required, a Certificate of Approval will be obtained for the discharge system should water be discharged off site.
8. If required, a Certificate of Approval will be obtained for processing equipment to be used on site.
9. If required, a Permit to Take Water will be obtained for utilizing ground and/or surface water.
10. The licensee will monitor all blasts for ground vibrations and blast overpressure and will operate to ensure compliance with current provincial guidelines.
11. Blasting will not occur on a holiday or between the hours of 6 p.m. on any day and 8 a.m. on the following day.
12. All blast monitoring reports must be retained by the licensee and made available upon request by the Ministry of Natural Resources for audit purposes.

SCHEDULE "B"

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717

13. During the quarry dewatering operations for the proposed Nichols Quarry (on part of Lots 10 - 12, Concession 12, City of Nanticoke) the licensee shall implement the appropriate measures to maintain the current water levels (subject to natural, seasonal and climatic variations) in the ponds which occupy the mined out quarries to the north and east of the proposed quarry, subject to the permission of the owners of the ponds.

The licensee shall only be responsible for remediating significant reductions in pond levels that are caused by his quarry dewatering activities, and shall not be responsible for remediating any reductions in pond water levels caused by other factors beyond the control of the licensee (e.g. climatic variations, pond dewatering done by the owners of the ponds, etc). A reduction in water levels in any of the ponds of 0.3 metres or more (from their current levels) shall be considered a significant reduction.

14. All residences within 300 metres of the edge of the extraction area shall be thoroughly inspected by the licensee's consultant prior to the start of quarry blasting operations (with the owners permission). It is recommended that as extraction proceeds north in Area IA, that the closest homes (identified as RI, R2 and R3 on the site plans) be checked within the first five years of operation and that additional checks be phased in for other homes on the perimeter of the site.
15. The first six quarry blasts shall be monitored for both vibration and over pressure (noise) at a minimum of four locations for each blast in order to accumulate site-specific data quickly. This data will be used to plan subsequent blasting operations. This will also allow subsequent blasts to be designed specifically for this location air well within MOE Guidelines. All subsequent blasts shall be monitored at the closest buildings to the blast size with at least two seismographs.
16. The seismographs shall be self triggering units capable of printing a complete wave form for blast over pressure and blast vibrations in three orthogonal directions (Instatel DS 477/677 or equivalent).
17. Careful blast records shall be maintained. The body of the blast report should contain the information as recommended by MOE.
18. Only clean, clear crushed stone shall be used for stemming. If warranted, stemtite plugs may be used to reduce noise impact on surrounding residences and buildings.
19. Blasting procedures such as drilling and loading shall be monitored annually by an independent blasting consultant.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717 - SCHEDULE "B"

20. The monitoring results of the first six quarry blasts monitored at a minimum of 4 locations in accordance with the recommendations of the Licensee's consultant, along with the consultant's analysis and recommendations, shall be submitted to the local offices of MNR and MOE.
21. The monitoring results of on-going production blasts monitored with at least two seismograph/sound metre combinations in accordance with the recommendations of the Licensee's consultant shall likewise be submitted to the local offices of the MNR and MOE.
22. Wherever possible, blasting shall be carried out at approximately the same time of day.
23. Blast preparation and detonation during unsuitable weather conditions, i.e. those known to be conducive to the production of excessive overpressure, shall be avoided whenever practicable. These include temperature inversion; low and/or heavy cloud ceiling and high wind velocity.
24. The occupants of any building housing ultra-sensitive equipment for manufacturing or other purposes shall, upon request, be provided 4 hours pre-notice and notified of the imminence of any blasting operation so that the operation of such equipment may be temporarily suspended during the blast detonation to avoid disruption by ground vibration.
25. Residents within 300 metres of the quarry site, which will have been thoroughly inspected in accordance with the recommendations of the Licensee's consultant, shall be re-examined following the initial six blasting operations. Copies of the original examination records and of the re-examination results shall be submitted to the property owner concerned.
26. Should blasting cause any damage, as determined by the licensee's consultant, the licensee at his expense will repair it.
27. The licensee will provide for the installation of monitoring well nests with upgradient, downgradient, and cross-gradient wells at the top of the Bois Blanc Formation, to the base of the Bois Blanc Formation and into the Bertie Formation at the property boundaries. It is expected that BH-1, BH-2, and the Barn well could be incorporated as part of the three well nests. These wells and new well locations would have to be accessed and instrumented so that they monitor discreet zones within the underlying bedrock.
28. All on-site monitoring well nests shall be fitted with electronic water level monitoring equipment. The licensee's consultant will undertake baseline and subsequent semi-annual water quality sampling of the on-site monitoring wells.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717 - SCHEDULE "B"

29. Upon issuance of the quarry license, the licensee's consultant will commence, with the permission of the property owner, monitoring of all water wells within 120 m of the quarry property boundary, and the wells presently owned by D. Wilson, D. Greenfield and M. Roulston. This radius is based on the projected water level drawdown of 3.0 m in the vicinity of the quarry after 25 years of quarry operation - base case scenario. Water level monitoring will be conducted three times a year. As the life of the quarry proceeds, and the data is collected and evaluated over time, the adequacy and requirement for this extent of monitoring shall be reviewed in the annual report.
30. The licensee's consultant will undertake baseline water quality sampling of the water wells within the 120m monitoring radius, and the three additional wells noted above. The following parameters will be monitored pH, Total Dissolved Solids, Hardness, Sulphates, Sodium, Chloride, Potassium, Calcium, Magnesium, Nitrate nitrogen, Nitrates, Iron, Fluoride, Bacteria Coliforms, and Total Suspended Solids.
31. In the event of a complaint concerning a change in water quantity and/or quality, that would adversely affect normal usage of those wells identified and monitored within 120 metres of the quarry, the licensee shall supply temporary water with appropriate storage to the affected property owner, all at the expense of the Licensee, and advise the Ministry of the Environment of the complaint and identify the cause of such impairment to the quality or quantity of water.

The water supply quantity/quality concern will be evaluated by an independent consultant retained by and at the expense of the licensee that is satisfactory to the Ministry of the Environment, local residents, the Municipality, and Nichols Gravel.

Should the quantity or quality of groundwater available to normal taking be adversely affected due to the operations of the licensee, the licensee shall undertake to review quarry operations and implement appropriate changes (e.g. change in dewatering methods or flow rates) in an attempt to alleviate the observed adverse effect(s). If appropriate implemented changes are demonstrated not to correct the problem, the licensee shall, at its own expense, provide a permanent supply, as technically determined by the licensee, of water of equivalent quality and quantity as that which existed before the identified adverse change to the water quality and/or quantity.

The licensee will maintain a log of all complaints received and actions taken. This log is to be available to members of the Public, The Municipality, and The Ministry of Natural Resources for review.

32. Nichols Gravel Limited undertakes to meet to discuss any complaints as soon as is practicable and no later than the end of the business day following the receipt of the complaint. The licensee will respond to any water loss complaints on the same day as the complaint is received.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717 - SCHEDULE "B"

33. Should an independent investigation of a water quantity and quality concern be verified by the mechanism described above, the radius of monitoring will be extended a further 120 metres, or to the next water well to a maximum distance of 240 metres, in the direction of the affected water well. Should subsequent extraction and monitoring at some time confirm a persistent impact to a water well at the expanded 240 m radius, the radius of monitoring may then be extended to 500 metres from the quarry property boundary, in the direction of the affected well.

The requirements and obligations set out in paragraph 31 herein, shall apply to the property owners in the expanded monitoring radius.

Water well owners within the 120 metre radius, or expanded radius, from the property boundary must allow their wells to be part of the monitoring program in order to be eligible for consideration regarding potential disruption of water supplies. If, over time, the extent of the area of monitoring changes, the number of wells to be monitored will be expanded accordingly.

34. A trigger mechanism will be established based on the expected behavior of the groundwater regime as predicted by the dewatering impact assessment. There are two aspects to the assessment that will be used as trigger mechanisms: The flow rate from dewatering operations; and The water level impacts in the vicinity of the quarry.

In addition, the condition (13) concerning quarry pond impacts as agreed to by Nichols and the New Credit first Nation may be considered a trigger mechanism.

Should either of the above be found to deviate appreciably from the impacts as predicted from the dewatering impact assessment, the groundwater flow regime shall be re-evaluated, and adjustment and a new simulation of the groundwater flow model should be undertaken. If the reviewing body (e.g. MOE) concludes that significant impacts are identified in the re-assessment, the appropriate changes to the quarry operation, monitoring program, and/or contingency plans shall be undertaken.

35. An annual report will be prepared by the licensee's consultant that summarizes the results of monitoring, evaluates whether trigger mechanisms are being approached, and provides a prediction on whether there is the potential for the trigger mechanism to be enacted in the foreseeable future. This report will be filed as part of the annual compliance report pursuant to the provisions of the Aggregate Resources Act.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717 - SCHEDULE "B"

36. Any proposed changes to the Plans shall be subject to approval by an acoustical engineer qualified in aggregate noise technology, with respect to compliance with the applicable noise criteria.
37. All crushing and screening shall be done in the central processing area with the processing plant at the pit floor, elevation not more than 206m a.s.l. acoustical screening should be in place as specified whenever a crushing/screening plant is operating. The screening shall be in the form of stockpiles, berms, a quarry face, or other barrier.
38. If processing is required during the start-up phase before the C.P.A on the pit floor has been prepared, an interim crushing/screening plant may be installed at an intermediate elevation, as low as practical, with a face and berm or other form of barrier not less than 7m above the crusher floor level and not more than 15m from the crusher in an arc from the southwest to southeast.
39. It is recommended that the preparatory work that is close to residential premises, including berm construction, topsoil stripping, and rehabilitation work be done during cool weather when windows are normally closed and noise sensitivity is reduced.
40. Production machinery used on the site shall have noise emission levels no higher than Table 6.1 of the Aerocoustic report.
41. All equipment used on site shall be properly maintained to ensure that noise levels remain within the specified limits.
42. Alternative production equipment and/or methods may be substituted provided a professional engineer qualified in aggregate industry acoustics certifies that no increase in the noise impact predicted in the Aerocoustic report will result from the change.
43. Extension of excavation beyond the recommended interim limits may be considered acceptable if at some future time additional or alternative measures to further reduce noise impact are available and if a professional engineer qualified in aggregate industry acoustics certifies that the operation as proposed will comply with the noise criteria then in effect.
44. The licensee shall maintain a log of all complaints received regarding the quarry, which will include the nature of the complaint, weather conditions, the location, time, date, complainant's name and remedial action taken by the licensee in response to the complaint. A copy of this log will be available to the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Municipality.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717 - SCHEDULE "B"

45. The licensee shall conduct surface water monitoring of quarry discharges to the Harrop Drain. The Licensee's consultant will conduct quarterly flow monitoring of the Harrop Drain upstream of the site, at the site, and downstream of the site. At a minimum one quarterly monitoring event will coincide with the wet season (early spring). Water quality monitoring of the Harrop Drain will be undertaken by the licensee's consultant, upstream of the site, at the site, and downstream of the site once per year. The following parameters will be monitored pH, conductivity, alkalinity, calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium, chloride, sulphate, nitrate, nitrite, un-ionized ammonia, iron, manganese, copper, zinc, orthophosphate, silica, turbidity, total suspended solids, dissolved organic carbon, hardness, and oil and grease.
46. Sump water discharge quality will be monitored annually during the summer for the following parameters: temperature, total suspended solids, oil and grease, un-ionized ammonia and pH.
47. The results of surface water quality and quantity monitoring will be reported in the annual monitoring report. The Licensee shall record volumes of sump discharge on a monthly basis. The duration and frequency of pumping will be determined primarily by operational needs and climatic conditions. To prevent downstream flooding, following storm events, pumping will be regulated to occur after in-channel flow peaks.
48. The licensee shall monitor the quarry face on a monthly basis for areas exhibiting excess inflow into the quarry. The monthly assessment will be of a qualitative nature. The results of this monitoring will be reported in the annual report. In the event of any significant increase of inflow of water into the quarry that adversely affects surface water bodies, or groundwater, the licensee shall contact the Ministry of the Environment and take remedial action. The initial remedial action will involve rerouting seepage back to the affected water body and increased monitoring of the seep to a daily frequency.
49. The licensee will ensure that the internal water collection system within the quarry will incorporate component storage for groundwater and surface runoff. The surface runoff internal to the quarry will be designed such that internal quarrying, buildings/roads, and actively used areas be set above and outside of the limits of flooding.
50. External berming will be constructed around the quarry to prevent any surface water spillage into the quarry, any surface water collected external to the quarry be directed to its existing outlet.
51. The licensee will ensure that water polishing measures will be incorporated into the internal collection system, in order that sediment and fines from the quarrying operation are settled out prior to discharge to the Harrop Drain.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR LICENCE NO. 103717 - SCHEDULE "B"

52. The licensee will ensure that the stormwater holding system be designed such that sufficient capacity is provided to hold a 100 year storm with zero discharge. The dewatering rate (due to any combination of groundwater and stormwater inflows) is not to exceed the peak flow rate which would naturally emanate from the subject property during a 25mm depth 24 hour rainfall event under existing land use.
53. The Licensee will obtain any required approvals, pursuant to the provisions of the Drainage Act, for discharge of water to the Harrop Drain.
54. That the Aggregate Resources Act Site Plans be amended to provide for an access, of sufficient width and clearance (12 feet) along the eastern property line, to ensure the ability of a vehicle to access and maintain the existing Gas well and infrastructure shown on the site plans.
55. All berms shall be graded smooth to a stable (2:1) slope and seeded to prevent erosion and to reduce dust. Wherever possible suitable plants be established such as Crown Vetch (*Coronilla varia*) or other suitable seed mixtures to promote a deep root system and enhance soil structure. Seed mixture may be modified due to availability and soil structure. Any seed mixture shall be designed to limit the propagation of weed species onto adjacent agricultural lands. All vegetation shall be maintained in a healthy, vigorous growing condition for the lifetime of the license.
56. The applicant shall obtain a long-term Permit to Take Water issued by the Ministry of the Environment.