



APPENDIX R-3

ACOUSTIC GUIDELINES MEMO



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To **Kyle Stanfield, New Inc.** File no **TC111504**
From **Tony van der Vooren, AMEC** cc **Sheila Daniel, Dave Simms,**
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Date **December 10, 2013**

Subject Applicable Noise Guideline Changes (NPC-300) - Rainy River Project

Since the completion of the Acoustic Assessment Report for the Rainy River Project (RRP) in June, 2013, the Ontario Ministry of Environment (MOE) has published a new noise guideline NPC-300 that replaces the NPC-232 guideline, which was used for the RRP noise assessment.

Based on our review of the new guideline, below is a summary of the changes that are applicable to the RRP project:

- In the new guideline the emergency generators have separate criteria from regular operations. This is an advantage over the current assessment in that the new criteria is relaxed by 5 dB in the new guideline (i.e., 50 dBA in lieu of 45 dBA used in the assessment) and does not include the influence of other noise sources when assessing the emergency generators. This may allow RRP to benefit by re-examining the emergency generators and thereby requiring less mitigation for the generators to meet the new noise limits, while still complying with the new guideline.
- As the emergency generators are now assessed separately from the RRP regular daytime operational noise levels, their influence on the rest of the RRP operational noise impact is removed. As emergency generators are usually significant noise sources to the overall noise level, this may allow RRP to benefit by re-examining the operational noise impact without the emergency generators, thereby requiring less mitigation to meet the new noise limits, while still complying with the new guideline.
- All accessible vacant lots (if any) between the RRP site and the modeled receptors should be considered as receptors in the assessment. This includes any vacant lots that currently have access through a road, path or other means to the lot.

Please note that though there are other changes in the guidelines, this list includes the changes that we have identified for this project. We hope this clarifies the changes in the applicable guidelines. Let us know if you have any questions and/or concerns.