

File: 30050-25/WLNG-19

Reference: 307378

February 1, 2017

SENT VIA EMAIL

Byng Giraud Vice President, Corporate Relations Woodfibre LNG Limited 1020 – 1075 West Georgia Street Vancouver BC V6E 3C9 Byng giraud@wlng.ca

Dear Mr. Giraud:

On January 27, 2017, the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) received an Amendment Application (Application) pursuant to Section 19 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* from Woodfibre LNG Limited (WLNG Ltd.) to amend the Environmental Assessment Certificate #E15-02 (EA Certificate) issued for the Woodfibre LNG Project (the Project). I am writing to let you know that EAO has now accepted the Application for review.

The Application proposes the following changes to the Project:

- Change the cooling technology from seawater cooling to air cooling;
- Use the existing Mill Creek intake, including screenhouse, flume, and penstock, as an alternative to constructing a new intake for water withdrawals; and
- Withdraw water from Woodfibre Creek for short-term needs during construction.

EAO will consider your request to amend the EA Certificate and engage in an environmental assessment review process that will provide opportunity for the involvement of Aboriginal groups (as identified in Appendix 1), relevant agencies, local, regional, provincial and federal government and the public. Once the review process is complete, EAO will prepare referral materials for the Executive Director to make a decision on the Application. EAO will share draft materials with EAO's Working Group, including Aboriginal groups, for review and comment prior to referral.

...2

The review process will include the following key steps:

- Working Group review of the Application;
- WLNG Ltd. to provide responses to Working Group comments, which EAO will review for adequacy;
- Working Group meetings (as directed by EAO);
- WLNG Ltd. to consult with the Aboriginal groups who wish to meet, to identify concerns, potential impacts of the amendment to asserted or established Aboriginal rights and title (Aboriginal Interests) and measures to accommodate the potential impacts;
- A 30-day EAO-led public comment period on the Application to seek input and comments from the public regarding new or additional potential effects that might result from the proposed amendment, which WLNG Ltd. will be required to respond to, and which EAO will review for adequacy;
- WLNG Ltd. to submit to EAO a written report summarizing the results of the public consultation and notification activities no later than 14 days from the end of the public comment period;
- WLNG Ltd. to submit to EAO no later than 60 days from the commencement of the Application review a written summary of consultation activities with Aboriginal Groups;
- EAO preparation of referral material to support the decision maker;
- Working Group review of draft referral materials; and
- Referral for decision.

In addition, the Decision Statement issued under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, *2012* by the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change includes conditions specifying WLNG Ltd.'s obligations regarding Project changes. In particular, conditions 2.10 and 2.11 in the Decision Statement outline the information that WLNG Ltd. must provide to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) prior initiating any material changes to the Project that may result in adverse environmental effects. The Agency will make WLNG Ltd.'s submission available to the public though the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry at www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca. The Agency will also consider comments received during the EAO-led public comment period, and WLNG Ltd.'s responses, regarding potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed Project changes and the proposed mitigation measures.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the process outlined above, please contact me at 250-387-6738 or Lindsay.walton@gov.bc.ca, or Michael Shepard, Project Assessment Manager, at 250-387-0233 or Michael.shepard@gov.bc.ca.

Yours truly,

Lindsay Walton Project Assessment Officer

cc: Michael Shepard, Project Assessment Manager Environmental Assessment Office Michael.shepard@gov.bc.ca

Vivian Au, Project Manager, Regional Operations, Pacific and Yukon Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, Vivian.au@ceaa-acee.qc.ca

Lara Taylor, Project Director, Hemmera Envirochem Inc. ltaylor@hemmera.com

Natalia Timacheva, Health, Security, Safety and Environment Lead Woodfibre LNG Limited

Natalia timacheva@wlng.ca

Appendix 1:

Aboriginal Groups:

- Cowichan Tribes
- Halalt First Nation
- Lake Cowichan First Nation
- Lyackson First Nation
- o Musqueam Indian Band
- o Penelakut Tribe
- o Squamish Nation
- o Stz'uminus First Nation
- o Tsleil-Waututh Nation