

APPENDIX

K

FIRST NATION ENGAGEMENT





201 Ch Theriault-Hache
Baie Sainte-Anne, New Brunswick
Canada E9A 1N7

June 8, 2021

Chief Bill Ward
Metepenagiag (Red Bank) Mi'gmaq Nation
Bill_Ward86@hotmail.com

Subject: Theriault & Hachey Peat Moss Peatland No. 6 Project

Dear Chief Ward:

Theriault & Hachey Peat Moss Ltd. (T & H) wishes to inform you that it intends to develop Peatland No. 6, located 18 km southwest of Miramichi (see attached map). T & H was awarded the Peat Exploration Licence 2021-1 for Peatland 6 by the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development (DNERD) on May 13rd, following the Call for Tender on February 17, 2021. T & H acknowledges its project is located on the unceded Mi'gmaq First Nation traditional land and before it starts working on the elaboration of its development project, it wants to engage with the Mi'gmaq First Nation and ensure its collaboration. The first steps of the project also involve preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that would be submitted to the Department of Environment and Local government as the Registration Document of the project.

Theriault & Hachey Peat Moss

T & H is a locally owned family business, operated by third-generation owners, Matthew Theriault and Jody Williston. It has been processing and shipping quality peat products from its Baie-Sainte-Anne facilities to customers worldwide since 1963 for the cultivation and production of mushrooms, flowers, vegetables, fruits, herbs and trees. T & H is well integrated in the Baie-Sainte-Anne and regional community where it is deeply rooted. It regularly supports, financially and in-kind, the local school, daycare, fire department, arena, sports teams, church, ATV, snowmobile club, various community events, Hospice Miramichi, as well as different hospital foundations and community gardens throughout the province. T & H is well aware of its environmental obligations and is dedicated to complying with all requirements along the permitting process to obtain applicable permits and licences and implementing responsible management procedures to mitigate potential impacts and reclaim peatlands at cessation of harvesting activities. The company has developed a strong expertise in peatland management and peat processing over the years. With nearly 60 years of experience, T & H uses best practices in peatland management that cover water quality management and drainage, air quality management, weed management and fire prevention and emergencies. It also includes ecosystem management and protection that involve monitoring of impacts on surrounding ecosystems and leaving buffer zones.

The project

In the last five years, T & H encompassed substantial sales growth that obligated the company to purchase peat from various other New Brunswick suppliers. To ensure the long-term profitability and growth of the business, the amount of peat purchased should remain at its current level, since outside peat is substantially more expensive than in-house production costs. Additionally, there is instability and uncertainty with outside peat, since it is purchased on the open market. Hence, T & H must ensure to increase the amount of peat produced in-house.

Peatland No. 6 covers 301 ha including 206 ha with harvestable peat that will allow the company to increase its production capacity and have a better control over its supply. The north-western part of the peatland that includes two large lakes among which Rosaireville Lake, will be kept for conservation. Peat from Peatland 6 will solely be used for the production of value-added horticultural growing mix products at the Baie-Sainte-Anne facility. This will ensure that New Brunswick's peat resources are used to their fullest potential and will increase the economic growth of the region and the province. It is expected that the Peatland No. 6 development will create 42 jobs, of which, 23 will be seasonal and will work at the Peatland No. 6 harvesting site and other 19 fulltime employees will be located at the Baie-Sainte-Anne facility once the peatland is fully opened, which is expected to be in the year 2031.

The process

T & H intends to develop Peatland No. 6 in accordance with the standards and practices of peatland development of the industry and is also committed to meet all the requirements and obligations under the New Brunswick regulations, that includes engagement with First Nations. The company has begun the environmental authorization process with the New Brunswick Government, and it wants to initiate engagement with the Mi'gmaq First Nation. It has contracted WSP to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and prepare a Registration document for review of its project by the Technical Review Committee. The goal is to complete the EIA and submit the Registration form in the spring 2022 that requires conducting field surveys as soon as June 2021. The company would like to integrate the traditional ecological knowledge and concerns of the community into the EIA and intends to collaborate with the Mi'gmaq First Nation. From a practical point of view, it is looking for sources of information on traditional land and resource use in the area of the peatland.

At this point, T & H wants to inform and seek comments from the Mi'gmaq communities about its project. It also welcomes the possibility to have members of the Mi'gmaq First Nation to participate in the bird and plant surveys that need to be conducted shortly. T & H would also like to invite First Nation communities to meet, present and discuss its project together.

For further information we invite you to contact Mr. Francois Quinty, project manager from WSP Canada Inc., who is T&H's representative, at 418-887-5043 or by email at francois.quinty@wsp.com.

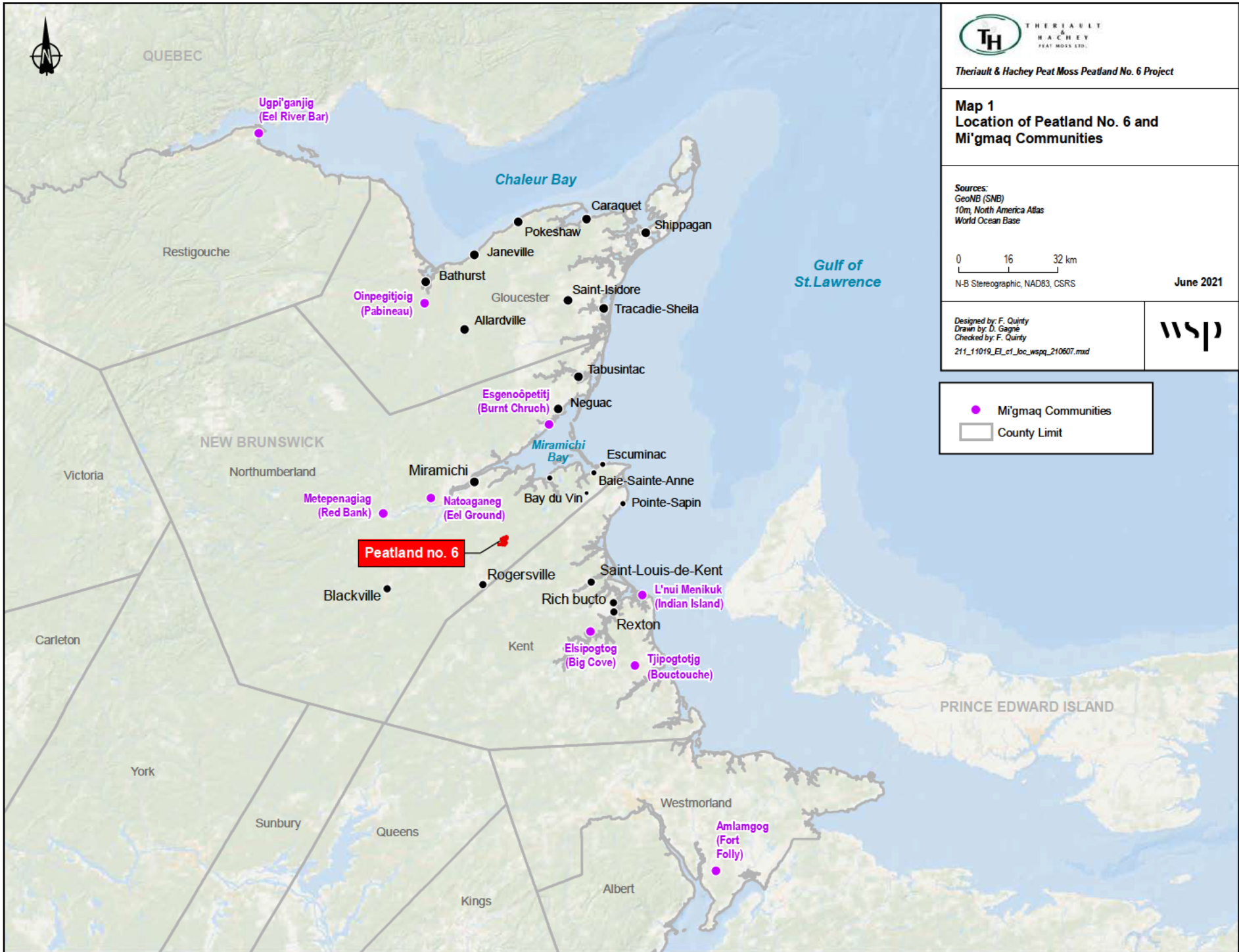
Yours truly,



Jody Williston
Vice President Sales & Logistics
Therault & Hachey Peat Moss

Encl.

c.c.: Chief Ann Mary Steele, Chief Rebecca Knockwood, Chief George Ginnish, Chief Kenneth Barlow, Chief Sacha LaBillois, Chief Alvery Paul, Chief Joseph Terence (Terry) Richardson, Mr. Dean Vicaire, Ms. Tanya McGraw, Ms. Tracy Anne Cloud, Mr. Derek Simon and Ms. Jennifer Coleman



Theriault & Hachey Peat Moss Peatland No. 6 Project

Map 1
Location of Peatland No. 6 and
Mi'gmaq Communities

Sources:
 GeoNB (SNB)
 10m, North America Atlas
 World Ocean Base

0 16 32 km
 N-B Stereographic, NAD83, CSRS

June 2021

Designed by: F. Quilty
 Drawn by: D. Gagné
 Checked by: F. Quilty
 211_11019_EL_e1_Joc_wspq_210607.mxd



- Mi'gmaq Communities
- County Limit

Chief Name	Chief Last Name	Email address
Ann Mary	Steele	annmarysteele@nb.aibn.com
Rebecca	Knockwood	fortfolly@rogers.com
George	Ginnish	chiefghginnish@gmail.com
Kenneth	Barlow	chief@iifn.ca
Sacha	LaBillois	Sacha.labillois@eelriverbar.ca
Bill	Ward	Bill.Ward86@hotmail.com
Alvery	Paul	alverypaul@hotmail.com
Joseph Terence (Terry)	Richardson	terrence4209@hotmail.com
Arren	Sock	Chief@efnbo.ca

