

File No.: 557.10

July 10, 2025

Rachelle Angott
Vale Canada Ltd.
P.O. Box 5000
Thompson MB R8N 1P3
Rachelle.Angott@vale.com

Dear Rachelle Angott:

Re: Vale Canada Ltd. - Environment Act Licence No. 960 VC - Notice of Alteration Approval

Thank you for your notice of alteration dated December 17, 2024, and additional information provided on June 2, 2025. The department understands you wish to construct and operate a backfill plant and tailings dewatering facility at the Vale mine site.

Your December 17, 2024, report states that the construction and operation of the backfill plant has already occurred. This is a violation of Section 14 of The Environment Act as approval from the director was not received prior to proceeding with the alteration. Enforcement action may be taken if alterations to the facility occur without receiving approval to proceed from Environment and Climate Change.

Notwithstanding, I approve the alterations to the development as described in the December 17, 2024, letter and June 2, 2025, additional information per Section 14(2) of The Environment Act with the following conditions:

1. The licensee shall not exceed a production rate of 600,000 dry tons per year at the backfill plant.
2. The licensee shall not cause or permit an odour nuisance to be created as a result of the construction, operation or alteration of the development, and shall take such steps as the director may require to eliminate or mitigate an odour nuisance.
3. The licensee shall not cause or permit a noise nuisance to be created as a result of the construction, operation or alteration of the development, and shall take such steps as the director may specify to eliminate a noise nuisance.

4. The licensee shall direct all air streams, which contain a pollutant(s) of concern to the director, to a pollution control device at the backfill plant and tailings dewatering facility which have been designed for and demonstrated to be capable of reducing, altering, eliminating or otherwise treating the pollutant(s).
5. The licensee shall prepare and maintain, within 90 days of this approval for the backfill plant and prior to commissioning for the tailings dewatering facility, the following manuals which shall be kept at the development and available for review upon request by an environment officer:
 - a) a standard operating procedural manual and a maintenance schedule for each air emission pollution control device based on the manufacturer's specifications and recommendations;
 - b) an updated standard operating procedural manual and a maintenance procedure for each air emission pollution control device within 120 days of the addition, elimination or change regarding any air emission control device; and
 - c) a copy of the manufacturer operational and maintenance manual.
6. The licensee shall not operate any process directing an emission to an air pollution control device at the backfill plant and tailings dewatering facility unless:
 - a) the operating and maintenance measures and status of the device are in full compliance with the procedures and timetables as per condition 5;
 - b) all emissions from the process are directed to the fully operational air pollution control device;
 - c) all discharges of treated emissions from the air pollution control devices are immediately directed to a stack; and
 - d) the emissions do not contain concentrations of pollutants which:
 - i. are in violation of any other applicable legal instrument including an Act, Regulation or by-law; or
 - ii. otherwise create a significant negative environmental or health impact in the affected area.
7. The licensee shall maintain a log of the most recent 24 month period to record any downtime of an air pollution control device due to either the breakdown or maintenance of that air pollution control device. The log shall be kept at the development and shall be available upon request for inspection by an environment officer. The log shall record, at minimum, the following information:
 - a) identification of the air pollution control device and the process(es) it serves;
 - b) time/date of log entry;
 - c) nature of event;
 - d) time and duration of event;
 - e) action taken;
 - f) the accumulated downtime of this air pollution control device for the events for each calendar year; and
 - g) approval of the Environmental Coordinator.

8. The licensee shall handle, store and dispose of all pollutants collected by the air pollution control equipment in a manner suitable to their characterization as type of waste or dangerous good.
9. The licensee shall:
 - a) not use, nor release to any person, any contaminated soil, or potentially acid-generating rock/materials, as construction material; and
 - b) undertake such remedial work as may be specified by the director should any of the construction materials used by the licensee in the course of constructing or altering this development be determined to be contaminated soil or acid generating rock/material.
10. The licensee shall comply with all the applicable requirements of:
 - a) The Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation;
 - b) The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act, and regulations issued thereunder, respecting the handling, transport, storage and disposal of any dangerous goods brought onto or generated at the development; and
 - c) the Office of the Fire Commissioner – Province of Manitoba.
11. The licensee shall direct all process wastewater generated from the tailings dewatering facility to the tailings management area for treatment.
12. The licensee shall restrict the storage of dewatered tailings to a maximum of two 1000 ton stockpiles at any time and shall store and contain the dewatered tailings material within the tailings dewatering facility.
13. The licensee shall transport all backfill material and dewatered tailings material in such a manner as to prevent loss of material to the environment to the satisfaction of an environment officer.
14. The licensee shall install and maintain spill recovery equipment at the backfill plant and tailings dewatering facility at all times.
15. The licensee shall prepare and maintain an emergency response contingency plan in accordance with the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety “Emergency Response Planning Guide” or other emergency planning guidelines acceptable to the director.
16. The licensee shall during each year maintain the following records:
 - a) the total volume of sand transported to the Vale mine site from the Thompson airport quarry;
 - b) the total volume of dewatered tailings produced at the tailings dewatering facility;

- c) the total volume of wastewater directed to the tailings management area from the tailings dewatering facility; and
- d) incidents reported in accordance with the emergency response contingency plan.

Where:

“odour nuisance” means a continuous or repeated odour, smell or aroma, in an affected area, which is offensive, obnoxious, troublesome, annoying, unpleasant or disagreeable to a person:

- a) residing in an affected area;
- b) working in an affected area; or
- c) present at a location in an affected area which is normally open to members of the public;

if the odour, smell or aroma

- d) is the subject of at least 5 written complaints, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director and within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons falling within clauses a), b) or c), who do not live in the same household; or
- e) is the subject of at least one written complaint, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director, from a person falling within clauses a), b) or c) and the director is of the opinion that if the odour, smell or aroma had occurred in a more densely populated area there would have been at least 5 written complaints received within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons who do not live in the same household;

"noise nuisance" means an unwanted sound, in an affected area, which is annoying, troublesome, or disagreeable to a person:

- a) residing in an affected area;
- b) working in an affected area; or
- c) present at a location in an affected area which is normally open to members of the public;

if the unwanted sound

- d) is the subject of at least 5 written complaints, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director and within a 90 day period, from 5 different persons falling within clauses a), b) or c), who do not live in the same household; or
- e) is the subject of at least one written complaint, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director, from a person falling within clauses a), b) or c) and the director is of the opinion that if the unwanted sound had occurred in a more densely populated area there would have been at least 5 written complaints received within a 90 day period from 5 different persons and who do not live in the same household.

All other clauses of Environment Act Licence No. 960 VC remain in effect. This approval is available on the public registry at

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html>.

All licence requirements and federal, provincial and municipal regulations and by-laws must be followed. The licensee must get approval from the director per The Environment Act to alter the development.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact, Jennifer Winsor, Senior Environmental Engineer, Environmental Approvals Branch at Jennifer.Winsor@gov.mb.ca or 204-945-7012.

For questions relating to the ongoing administration of the licence, please contact Cristal Huculak, Regional Supervisor, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch at EnvCENorth@gov.mb.ca or 204-620-5797.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By
Siobhan Burland Ross
On behalf of Agnes Wittmann
Director
The Environment Act

c. Jennifer Winsor
Cristal Huculak