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September 10, 2020

Our Reference Project No. 60625356

Jennifer Winsor P. Eng. Environmental Engineer Manitoba Conservation and Climate Environmental Approvals 1007 Century Street Winnipeg MB R3H 0W4

## RE: Vivian Sand Facility Project – Environment Act Proposal (EAP) Application File: 6057.00: Updated Rail Loop Design Information

Dear Ms. Winsor,

On behalf of CanWhite Sands Corp. ('CanWhite'), this letter provides updated information on the rail loop component design.

During the design and environmental assessment of the Processing Facility a number of different designs for the rail loop were evaluated. This included refinements in placement, shape, width and length of the rail loop to identify a design that would best fit the physical, environmental and operational constraints of the Project Site. One of the original rail loop designs that was considered was shown in Figure 1-2 (attached) in the Vivian Sand Facility Project EAP. During the course of the environmental assessment and development of the EAP this loop design was slightly revised immediately prior to the submission of the EAP to Manitoba Conservation and Climate, Environmental Approvals Branch (MBCC, EAB) in July 2020. This revised version of the rail loop was considered to address potential noise issues with the original rail loop design as shown in the EAP. This revised version, which is smaller (narrower) and located further away from the nearest residences east of the Project Site, was the design that was included and assessed in the Noise Impact Assessment which was included as Appendix C of the EAP. However, in the EAP submission the original larger rail loop design (which would represent the "worst-case" noise scenario) was the version that was presented in the main EAP document. The smaller loop that is presented in the Noise Impact Assessment is the loop that was intended to be included in the main body of the EAP submission and remains to be the targeted design. AECOM apologizes for this oversight.

The revised, smaller rail loop from the Noise Impact Assessment (Figure 1-1 of Appendix C of the EAP) is attached. Although the incorrect figure was included in the main body of the EAP, the information provided in Section 6.3.3 (Noise) in the EAP remains unchanged as the smaller rail loop design from Appendix C of the EAP was used to complete the noise modelling and environmental assessment for this Project.

Since submission of the EAP, more detailed drawings for CN Rail's review and approval for the rail loop have been completed. The more detailed rail loop design figures identified as 'Rail Concept Option 4' are attached as Figure 1 and Figure 2 for your reference and is the rail loop represented in the Noise Impact Assessment in the EAP. 'Rail Concept Option 4' also includes two short inner tracks that serve as service/maintenance track for CN Rail use only. This is a requirement by CN Rail. There are no railcar loading facilities situated over this section of track.

The 'Rail Concept Option 4' is the design used in our findings of our Noise Impact Assessment (Appendix C of the EAP) and therefore our noise assessment in the main body of the EAP does not change.

Based on the more detailed rail loop drawings (attached 'Rail Concept Option 4'; Figures 1 and 2), the calculated footprint area for the rail loop will be approximately 3 ha smaller than the footprint of the rail loop as presented in Table 6.4 of the EAP. The estimated footprint of all infrastructure components



(including the rail loop) in the original proposed design and the revised design, as would be presented in Table 6-4 of the EAP, are summarized below:

Table 6-4: Estimated Area of the Project Footprint (Original)

Project Components	
Permanent Components	Area (ha)
Processing Facility including the Wet Plant, Dry Plant and associated components as listed	6.9
in Section 1.1	
Permanent access road (7 m wide x 1 km long)	0.7
Rail loop (approximate 30 m width footprint to accommodate curvature of loop line of sight	10.5
X 3.5 km rail track length)	
Total Project Footprint Area	18.1
Total Previously Cleared / Disturbed Area with Project Footprint Area	1.1
Total Naturally Vegetated Area Requiring Clearing to accommodate the Project	17.0
Footprint	

Note: Total land area within the Project Site within which project components will be located is 114 ha.

Table 6-4: Estimated Area of the Project Footprint (REVISED, with 'Rail Concept Option 4' Rail Loop Design)

Project Components	
Permanent Components	Area (ha)
Processing Facility including the Wet Plant, Dry Plant and associated components as listed	6.9
in Section 1.1.	
Permanent access road (7 m wide x 1 km long)	0.7
Rail loop (approximate 28.5m width footprint to accommodate curvature of loop line of	7.4
sight 2.6 km rail track length)	
Total Project Footprint Area	15.0
Total Previously Cleared / Disturbed Area within Project Footprint Area	1.1
Total Naturally Vegetated Area Requiring Clearing to accommodate the Project Footprint	13.9

Note: Total land area within the Project Site within which project components will be located is 114 ha.

As noted in the EAP the naturally vegetated area within the inside of the rail loop will be retained to the maximum extent feasible. Vegetation will only be cleared to accommodate the rail infrastructure and the required line of sight for the railcars. Culverts will be placed, as required, to ensure no change in natural water drainage and flow.

As shown in the attached 'Rail Concept Option 4' Figure 1, the total area including the footprint of the rail loop and all land area within the rail loop including the rail spur¹ connecting the rail loop to the existing CN Rail mainline is 47.1 ha. This area is 2.9 ha smaller than the minimum required total area of a 'railway yard' to be considered for federal review (total area of 50 ha or more), as described in the *Physical Activities Regulations* of the federal *Impact Assessment Act*. Based on the total area of the rail loop, which including the rail spur is less than 50 ha, in addition to our opinion that the proposed rail facilities for the Project do not constitute a 'railway yard', it is our opinion that this Project does not meet the criteria to trigger a federal review by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada.

If you have any questions regarding the revised rail loop design, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The rail spur will be developed by CN Rail and is not part of the proposed Vivian Sand Facility Project.



Yours sincerely,

Marlene Gifford

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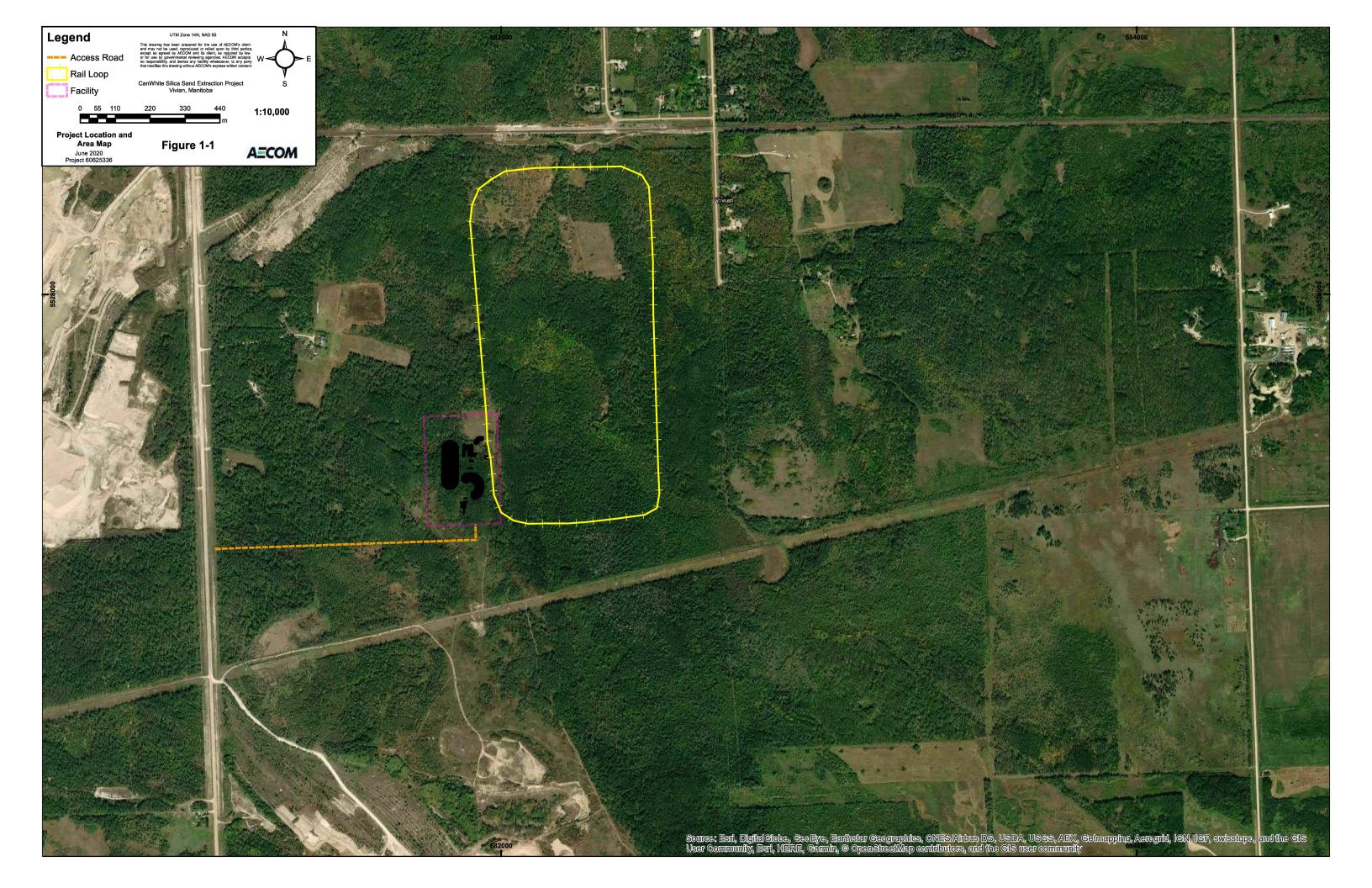
## cc:

Siobhan Burland Ross (Manitoba Conservation and Climate, Environmental Approvals) Feisal Somji (CanWhite)

## Attachments:

- Figure 1-2 from the Vivian Sand Facility Project EAP
- Figure 1-1 from Appendix C (Noise Impact Assessment) from the Vivian Sand Facility Project EAP
- Rail Concept Option 4 drawing: Figure 1
- Rail Concept Option 4 drawing: Figure 2

**Location and Land Ownership** 





DRAWING NUMBER

XXX0101-RL-SPN-00002

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Figure 2

TRANSENERGY

RAIL CONCEPT OPTION 4

RAIL LAYOUT

OVERALL SITE PLAN SKETCH

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