



Ministry of  
Environment

# **The Effluent Permitting Process under the *Environmental Management Act***

## **An Overview for Mine Project Applicants**

**APRIL 2013**

## Disclaimer

This document does not replace the *Environmental Management Act* or its regulations. It does not list all provisions relating to waste discharges. If there are differences or omissions in this document, the Act and regulations apply.

This document is intended only to provide a high-level overview of the effluent permitting process and is intended specifically for mining project applicants. Those requiring more detail on the process or seeking to attain a discharge permit are strongly advised to contact the Ministry of Environment office in their region (see contact information in Appendix 1) and to review the more detailed information found on the Ministry of Environment website at [www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/index.htm).

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# 1. Introduction

The *Environmental Management Act* prohibits the discharge of waste to the environment unless specifically authorized. While there are different types of authorizations under the Act, most mining operations require an effluent discharge permit.

A permit authorizes the discharge of wastes from an industry, trade, business, operation or activity to the environment, and sets the terms and conditions under which the discharge may occur so that pollution is prevented. The terms and conditions include limiting the quantity and quality of waste contaminants, monitoring the discharge and the receiving environment, and reporting information to the Ministry. Permits are ongoing authorizations and may be amended, transferred to other dischargers, suspended or cancelled.

This document provides a high-level overview of the mine effluent discharge permitting process. It is specifically aimed at applicants from the mining sector who are applying for a new permit under the Act. However, much of the content is also relevant to other activities or industry sectors.

More information on the types of authorizations available under the *Environmental Management Act* can be found at:

[www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/intro.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/intro.htm).

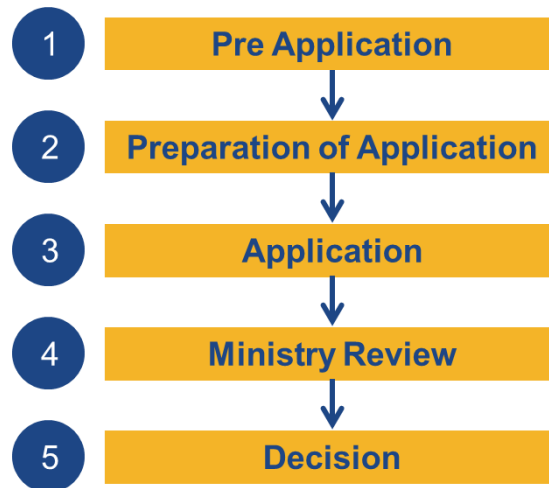
An effluent discharge permit is only one of a number of provincial authorizations that might be required for a mining or related exploration operation. Others may include a certificate under the *Environmental Assessment Act* and a permit under the *Mines Act*. In many cases, the effluent discharge permit will be applied for later in the approval process for a project in the environmental assessment review phase. This is because it is typically highly technical in nature and is informed by detailed information that may not be available until later in operational planning and design. However, it may be possible to apply for the effluent discharge permit earlier and concurrently with other approvals. The local Ministry of Environment Regional Office can provide more information on the process (see Appendix 1).

This document does not deal with the process for amending a permit once it has been granted. However, applicants should note that permits and approvals must be amended to reflect changes to authorized works, quantity and quality of the discharge, monitoring and reporting requirements or other terms and conditions. Permits and approvals may also be amended to change the name of the permit holder or to transfer the authorization to a new owner. Major permit amendments will follow a process similar to the new permit application process. Minor amendments may follow an abbreviated process in most cases, and generally do not require consultation or publication. Permit holders needing an amendment are advised to contact their Ministry of Environment Regional Office (see Appendix 1).

## 2. The Application Process and Applicant Responsibilities

As illustrated in the following diagram, the effluent permitting process for a mining operation consists of five major stages. This section briefly describes each of these stages. More detail on the process can be found at:

[www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/process.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/process.htm).



Applicants have a number of duties in the mine effluent permitting process. Providing accurate, timely and sufficiently detailed information is the most important contribution they can make towards ensuring that *Environmental Management Act* decisions are made in an efficient manner. Incomplete applications will be returned to applicants so that attention can be given to complete applications that have employed suitably qualified professionals to support the work.<sup>1</sup>

This section also provides high-level instructions on responsibilities of applicants and links to sources where more detailed information can be found.

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<sup>1</sup> A suitably qualified professional is one that belongs to an association that establishes the standards for membership and adjudicates eligibility and competency to practice that is appropriate for the work to be undertaken. These professionals may or may not have an enactment that sets out the framework for the association. Another type of suitably qualified professional is one that became qualified as a result of passing a test set by government or another entity, or obtaining a licence from government that entitles them to carry out a certain trade or service or activity.

A pre-application in-person meeting or conference call between the applicant and Ministry staff is recommended prior to formal submission of an application. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the applicant to provide an overview of the proposal, to confirm the requirements set out in legislation and guidelines, and to confirm the level of detail required for submission of supporting information. At this meeting, staff will also identify any preliminary concerns with the proposal and provide guidance on the processes for consultation, baseline monitoring and technical assessment. The Ministry of Environment Waste Discharge Authorizations website found at:

[http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/index.htm) provides further detail on the application process.

For most new effluent permit applications for a mining operation, the preparation of a *Technical Assessment Report* (or “TAR”) will be necessary. Ministry staff will provide advice on the required contents, often by working with applicants to develop formal and explicit terms of reference. Applicants will then develop the TAR with the assistance of appropriately qualified professionals.

Prior to attending the pre-application meeting with the Ministry, applicants should carefully review the authorization process, available guidance documents and regulatory requirements. If a TAR is required as part of the application, applicants should prepare an outline of this report to discuss with Ministry staff.

The Public Notification Regulation under the *Environmental Management Act* places certain responsibilities on the applicant to engage in public notification and consultation. These activities will be discussed at the pre-application meeting, including requirements for First Nations consultation.

At this stage, work will also commence on collecting baseline receiving environment information. More information on this is provided below in the section on aquatic environmental impact assessment.

In sum, Ministry staff will provide guidance on preparing draft application documents including:

- the application form;
- the Technical Assessment Report (including environmental impact assessment and baseline monitoring requirements);
- a public and agency consultation plan; and
- the Environmental Protection Notice.

A list with suggested activities during the pre-application phase can be found at:

[www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/process.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/process.htm).

Guidance on baseline water and air monitoring can be found at:  
[www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/industrial/mining/guidance\\_agree.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/industrial/mining/guidance_agree.htm)

The primary Ministry of Environment point of contact is usually the regional Environmental Management Section Head.

## 2

### Preparation of Application

During this phase, applicants will prepare a draft TAR and conduct consultation with the public and First Nations. The primary purpose of the TAR is to provide the Ministry with enough information to understand the application fully and the potential impacts on the environment. However, in order to facilitate effective communications, a draft TAR is expected to be completed prior to consultation and made available to interested parties.

The TAR, prepared by the applicant and their qualified professionals, should provide information on:

- the mine project's scope, management systems, discharges and treatment<sup>2</sup>;
- pollution prevention alternatives assessed, how the treatment selected compares to Best Available Technology, and the expected quality of discharge after treatment;
- proposed location(s) of discharge;
- effluent quality and quantity;
- the collection of adequate baseline receiving environment information as per the *Water and Air Baseline Monitoring Guidance Document for Mine Proponents and Operators*;
- an assessment of the potential for the discharge to cause an impact including:
  - identify whether there is potential for BC Water Quality Guidelines to be exceeded;
  - provide input to the Ministry for establishing site specific water quality objectives if appropriate; or provide input to the development of other science-based environmental benchmarks to support the permit application (discussed further below);
  - identify sensitive species and other designated users in the vicinity of the discharge as well as downstream/down gradient of the discharge;
  - interpret and report predictive impact assessment results as part of the final TAR; and
- a proposed monitoring program and adaptive management systems.

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<sup>2</sup> For projects that have gone through the environmental assessment process under the *Environmental Assessment Act*, the TAR should reference the EA application, where appropriate, in order to place the linkages with the TAR. It should also include information that is supplemental to the EA.

More detail on the contents of a TAR can be found at:

[www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/guidance/pdf/assessment.pdf](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/guidance/pdf/assessment.pdf).

Once the draft TAR has been completed and reviewed by the Ministry, the applicant will follow their consultation plan to conduct notification and consultation with the public and First Nations. Key tasks for applicants typically include:

- post an Environmental Protection Notice;
- publish the Environmental Protection Notice in newspapers and the BC Gazette in accordance with the Public Notification Regulation;
- circulate the modified draft application form and Environmental Protection Notice to First Nations and agencies;
- consult with First Nations and the public according to the consultation plan and as directed under the Public Notification Regulation, and respond to information requests and public, First Nations and agency comments; and
- prepare a consultation report.

Guidance documents on undertaking consultation as well as completing the application form and the technical assessment can be found at:

[www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/guidance/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/guidance/index.htm).

Application forms can be found at:

[www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste\\_discharge\\_auth/app\\_forms/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/waste_discharge_auth/app_forms/index.htm).

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### Application

Once pre-application activities have been completed by the applicant, the application package may be finalized and submitted to the Ministry. An application fee payable to the Minister of Finance must accompany the application in accordance with the Permit Fees Regulation. All information provided to support an application will become part of the public record.

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### Ministry Review

Next, Ministry staff will assess the information provided in the application package. Incomplete applications will be returned to applicants so that attention can be given to complete applications that have employed suitably qualified professionals to support the work.

The applicant may be required to provide additional information about the discharge, waste treatment or potential environmental impact and to resolve outstanding issues that arose



from consultation. If staff support the application, a draft permit will be prepared with conditions believed necessary to protect the environment. This draft will be provided to the applicant for review and comment prior to decision.

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## Decision

A permit may be issued for an application that meets all prescribed requirements and has been demonstrated to be protective of the environment to the satisfaction of the decision-maker. After issuance, the permit or approval is considered active and the discharge may commence in accordance with specified terms and conditions. If staff do not support the application, an explanation will be provided with a request for comment or changes to the application. An application that has not satisfied prescribed requirements and/or has not been demonstrated to be protective of the environment to the satisfaction of the decision-maker will be refused.

### 3. Effluent Discharge Permit Decision Making

Under the *Environmental Management Act*, certain individuals are delegated authority to make decisions on waste discharge permits in accordance with the provisions of the Act. Known as *statutory decision makers*, they have in-depth knowledge and specialized technical expertise required to make the types of decisions arising from the legislation. They typically occupy the positions of Executive Director, Regional Director or Environmental Management Section Head. They are supported by staff from the different parts of the Ministry (discussed further below).

In making permitting decisions, statutory decision makers are informed by a variety of factors including risk to the environment, human health or public safety, use of technology to mitigate pollution, and potential for community impact. They must be impartial and independent. They are required to make decisions fairly and in accordance with the applicable legislation and they cannot be fettered in the exercise of their statutory powers.

The statutory decision maker will ensure that applicants are advised of all legal and technical requirements and that sufficient consultation is conducted with affected parties. They receive and review the application package and finally render a decision on whether to grant the request. If a person, company or agency is aggrieved by the decision, they can file an appeal with the Environmental Appeal Board or file for a judicial review with the courts.

Statutory decision makers and other Ministry staff strive to ensure that applications are reviewed efficiently and that decisions are made in a fair and timely manner. Each application is different. The level of operational technical complexity can vary enormously,

as can regional circumstances and environmental conditions. As such, there are no standard timelines for permitting decisions under the Act.

#### **4. Aquatic Environmental Impact Assessment**

An aquatic environmental impact assessment is the main tool to inform the statutory decision maker of the potential risks of the proposed project to the aquatic environment. It is a science-based process informed by baseline study of the receiving environment; predictions of effluent composition, quantity, and timing of release; and comparison to provincial guidelines. In situations of regional uniqueness or high uncertainty, the process is further informed by experimental studies and guided by adaptive management techniques.

The information required to assess environmental impacts should be submitted by the applicant as part of the Technical Assessment Report. A number of steps are necessary to assess the potential for environmental impacts including:

- characterization of the resources at risk;
- description of the ecosystem and analysis of its sensitivity;
- identification of potential hazardous conditions and prediction of impacts;
- design of an environmental effects monitoring program; and
- proposal of a safe-discharge plan that is protective of the aquatic environment.

Many of these steps require baseline study of the receiving environment, which should begin as soon as possible in the mine development process. A minimum of 12 months of baseline data is required and a period of 24 months or longer is preferred.

Details for planning and conducting baseline studies can be found in the document *Water and Air Baseline Monitoring Guidance Document for Mine Proponents and Operators* available online at [www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/industrial/mining/guidance\\_agree.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/industrial/mining/guidance_agree.htm).

Baseline information is used to characterize the resources at risk from mining related discharges. These include all aquatic ecosystem values as well as specified water uses, traditional uses, fisheries and other uses. Baseline information is also necessary to describe the receiving environment and analyze its sensitivity to the mining related discharges. All studies and monitoring should be planned and conducted by a qualified professional in the relevant field.

Detailed project planning information is used to create an inventory of all potential project related physical and chemical hazards that would remain after mitigation and treatment measures have been put in place. This will involve modeling predicted effluent quality and

quantity at the “end of pipe” as well as at the edge of the *initial dilution zone*<sup>3</sup> and predicting impacts from the effluent on the aquatic environment and environmental values.

The fundamental approach to assessing risks to the aquatic environment in British Columbia is through the use of *Water Quality Guidelines* and *Site Specific Water Quality Objectives*. A BC Water Quality Guideline is a maximum or minimum physical, chemical or biological characteristic of water, biota or sediment, applicable province-wide which should not be exceeded in order to prevent specified detrimental effects from occurring to water use, including aquatic life, under specified conditions. The guidelines are province-wide in application, but use-specific, and developed to be protective of the following:

- source drinking water;
- aquatic life and wildlife (and their consumers);
- agriculture (livestock watering and irrigation);
- recreation and aesthetic; and,
- industry (water supplies).

In some situations, a Site Specific Water Quality Objective may be developed to take local conditions into account. These are based on the Water Quality Guideline and refined following specific methodologies to ensure protection of the most sensitive designated water use at a specific location with an adequate degree of safety. Once completed, the Ministry formally approves the objectives. More information on BC Water Quality Guidelines and Site Specific Water Quality Objectives can be found at [www.env.gov.bc.ca/wat/wq/](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wat/wq/).

If the predicted concentration of contaminants at the edge of the initial dilution zone meets the BC Water Quality Guidelines or Site Specific Water Quality Objectives, the risk to the aquatic environment is often considered minimal and the applicant may receive an effluent permit decision relatively quickly.

In situations where the BC Water Quality Guidelines are not appropriate (for example due to background or historic water quality conditions) and there is not sufficient time to develop Site Specific Water Quality Objectives to support a management decision, Ministry staff may work with applicants to develop a Science Based Environmental Benchmark. This is an alternative measurement using a quantifiable parameter or attribute, developed by qualified professionals using site-specific information and with the intent to inform impact assessment to support management decisions when water quality guidelines or site specific water quality objectives cannot be used.

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<sup>3</sup> As the name suggests, an initial dilution zone is the initial portion of the larger effluent mixing zone. The extent of an initial dilution zone is defined on a site-specific basis and considers water uses, aquatic life including migratory fish, and other waste discharges. Initial dilution zones are normally relatively small and are essential to allow for the mixing between effluents and the receiving water.

The methods for determining Science Based Environmental Benchmarks are subject to the same degree of rigour as Site Specific Water Quality Objectives, but are not subject to the same formal Ministry approval process. They can only be used on an interim basis where continuous improvement and the adaptive management cycle will eventually lead to attainment of Water Quality Guidelines or Site Specific Water Quality Objectives. When using Science Based Environmental Benchmarks, Ministry staff must be confident that the approach is technically and scientifically defensible and considers the full range of conditions expected at the site. Scientific studies undertaken to support the development of a Science Based Environmental Benchmark must be reviewed by a third party and funded by the applicant. In cases where Water Quality Guidelines or Site Specific Water Quality Objectives cannot be met, applicants should be advised that the effluent permitting process will be slower, the degree to which will depend on the complexity of the situation.

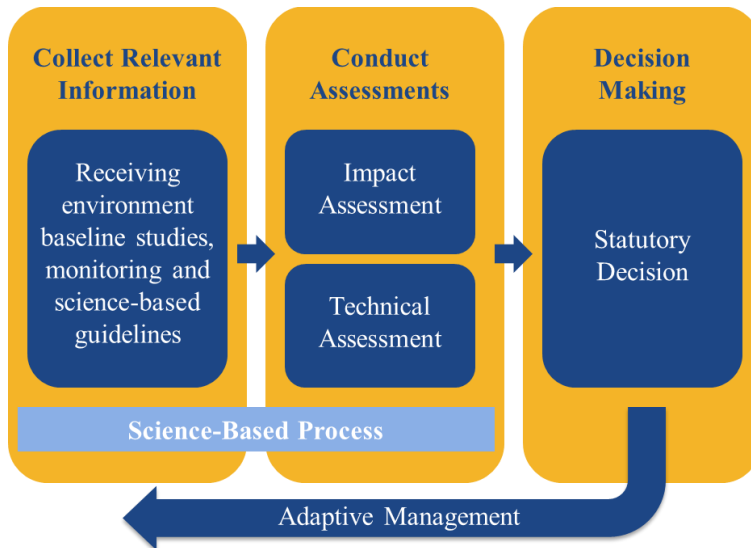
The Water Quality Guidelines or the developed Site Specific Water Quality Objectives can be used to propose a safe-discharge plan that is protective of the aquatic environment. Science-Based Environmental Benchmarks may be proposed in the interim while further work is conducted to develop Site Specific Water Quality Objectives or to develop additional mitigation measures. The Guidelines, Objectives or Science Based Environmental Benchmarks may be used by the Ministry in the development of “end of pipe” permit limits that must be met during mine construction, operation, and post closure. They may also be identified as site performance objectives in permits that can be used to trigger:

1. additional monitoring, and/or
2. submission of reports by the permittee regarding influence of a contaminant load on the receiving environment, and/or
3. more stringent discharge requirements, and/or
4. additional mitigation measures.

As illustrated in the following diagram, the aquatic environmental impact assessment process commences with development of appropriate environmental benchmarks, either at a provincial, watershed or site-specific level (e.g., Water Quality Guidelines, Site Specific Water Quality Objectives or Science-Based Environmental Benchmarks). These then inform the aquatic environmental impact assessment for the application as part of a science-based process. The impact and technical assessments in turn inform the statutory decision under the Act.

Finally, an environmental effects monitoring program is also an integral part of an environmental assessment and should be submitted as part of the TAR. The monitoring program is used to verify that the effects (or lack of effects) are as predicted by the initial assessment and to support an adaptive management approach by identifying when further study or site management are required.

## Three Stages of the Aquatic Environmental Impact Assessment Process



If an applicant fails to provide the requested information, proposes alternative technical approaches, or predicts exceeding water quality guidelines, then the process is likely to take much longer than following recommended ministry guidelines and procedures.

### 5. Ministry of Environment Roles

As illustrated in the following diagram, a number of different Ministry of Environment work units and job descriptions are involved in the complex tasks of preparing provincial water quality guidelines and science standards, reviewing completed permit applications and making decisions under the *Environmental Management Act*. This section briefly describes each organizational area and how they work together throughout the permitting process.

Ministry Work Area	Key Personnel
Environmental Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section Head</li> <li>• Environmental Protection Officer</li> </ul>
Environmental Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section Head</li> <li>• Environmental Impact Biologist</li> </ul>
Water Science and Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section Head</li> <li>• Water Quality Science Specialist</li> </ul>
Environmental Management Branch Environmental Standards Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section Head</li> <li>• Environmental Management Analyst</li> </ul>
Conservation Officer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sergeant</li> <li>• Conservation Officer</li> </ul>

## Environmental Management

Environmental Management Section (Regional Operations Branch) staff are based in regional offices across the province. They are on the front line in delivering a wide array of environmental management regulatory programs. Staff from this section lead the effluent discharge application process. They will usually act as the first point of contact with the applicant and organize the pre-application meeting. They ensure safe discharges to water, land and air through authorizations and under voluntary arrangements. Tasks they will usually be involved in include:

- providing direction to applicants regarding public and First Nation consultation requirements;
- providing direction to applicants on the Technical Assessment Report;
- providing guidance to applicants in conducting best achievable technology assessment;
- conducting technical reviews of facilities and pollution control;
- coordinating, assessing and summarizing all information for consideration by decision makers;
- communicating reasons for decision to all parties involved in the permitting process;
- preparing draft authorizations, if applicable;
- leading on-going compliance assessments; and,
- documenting and archiving data, correspondence, and reports.

As discussed above, the Environmental Management Section Head or Regional Director is usually the statutory decision maker for mine project effluent discharge authorizations based on authority delegated under the *Environmental Management Act*.

## Environmental Quality

Environmental Quality Section (Regional Operations Branch) staff are also based in regional offices across the province, often co-located with Environmental Management Section staff. They support Environmental Management Section in ensuring safe discharges to water, land and air through authorizations and under voluntary arrangements. Tasks they will usually be involved in during a mine permitting process include:

- overseeing environmental impact assessment and defining technical requirements for applicants;
- providing advice and guidance to proponents (e.g., advice on baseline studies, terms of reference for environmental impact assessment, and impact predictions);
- assisting in defining recommended science based environmental benchmarks;

- reviewing and assessing impact assessment reports provided by proponents;
- preparing reports with summaries of potential impacts, recommended receiving environment monitoring and recommended environmental effects monitoring;
- assessing expected discharges and making written recommendations to statutory decision makers including recommending science based environmental benchmarks, discharge limits and monitoring requirements; and,
- conducting effectiveness evaluation (i.e., ongoing assessment to detect impacts and facilitate adaptive management of discharges).

## Water Science and Adaptation

Watershed Science and Adaptation Section staff are based in Victoria and are water quality science specialists. They may not interact directly with applicants, but they play a foundational role in waste discharge permitting by developing BC Water Quality Guidelines and water quality policy which informs aquatic environmental impact assessment. Tasks they may be involved in include:

- managing BC's Water Quality Guidelines (WQGs), including developing guidelines and providing technical support and expertise on questions regarding their application;
- supporting the Site Specific Water Quality Objectives process by providing guidance and support on their development and managing the approval process;
- developing and testing new science tools;
- developing water quality policy and provide authoritative advice in this area.
- upon request from regional staff, providing advice on specific questions regarding the proponent's application package; and
- upon request from regional staff, providing advice on specific scientific questions related to environmental impact assessment methods, analysis, conclusions and proposed environmental management levels.

## Environmental Management Branch & Environmental Standards Branch

Environmental Management Branch and Environmental Standards Branch are both based in Victoria. These groups have staff with expertise in industrial treatment technology, ecological and human health risk assessment, air quality science, management of hazardous waste and contaminated sites. Although they may not interact directly with applicants, they play a foundational role in permitting by developing guidelines for waste discharge and evaluation of treatment technologies. Tasks they may be involved in include:

- supporting the regional staff by establishing guidelines and criteria for discharges, and by assessing sector practices;
- overseeing implementation of Best Achievable Technology policy;
- assisting with analysis of submissions with respect to meeting Best Achievable Technology policy;
- providing technical advice on effluent treatment technology; and
- providing advice on ecological risk assessment and human health risk assessment.

## Conservation Officer Service

The Conservation Officer Service staff are also based in regional offices across the province, often co-located with Environmental Management and Environmental Quality Section staff. They support Environmental Management Section by delivering compliance and enforcement services under both provincial and federal environmental legislation. Tasks they will usually be involved in include:

- raising awareness of environmental protection requirements through ongoing interaction with the public and regulated businesses;
- conduct audits and inspections with Ministry of Environment divisional technical experts to monitor and report-out on environmental compliance;
- respond to complaints from the public, First Nations, or our ministry partners, about violations to environmental legislation or regulations;
- gather, maintain and report compliance statistics so that information is easily accessible
- use compliance tools, including balanced and timely prosecution, to achieve compliance; and
- provide and report compliance statistics that raise awareness, such as the publication of the Ministry of Environment Quarterly Compliance Reports.

## 6. Communication with the Ministry

Ministry staff work to prevent pollution and promote and restore environmental quality while supporting positive economic outcomes for British Columbia. Applicants should strive to communicate early and often with their local regional office.

In recent years, the Ministry has invested considerable effort in streamlining the application process so that it serves applicants in a timely and efficient manner. This has included developing a number of new guidance documents for both staff and applicants. Please refer to the web links provided throughout this document to find out how to access this important information on the website.



The Ministry processes applications on a “first in – first out” principle, providing applications are complete. Ministry staff will focus on complete applications for review and finalizing. Incomplete applications will be returned to applicants so that attention can be directed to complete packages that have employed suitably qualified professionals to support the work.

Becoming fully aware of the necessary requirements for applications and providing sufficiently detailed and accurate information in a timely manner is the most important step an applicant can take towards ensuring an efficient and environmentally protective effluent discharge permitting process.

## Appendix 1: Ministry of Environment Regional Office Contact Information

<p><b>West Coast Region</b> 2080-A Labieux Rd Nanaimo BC V9T 6J9 Phone: (250) 751-3100 Fax: (250) 751-3103</p>	<p><b>Cariboo Region</b> 400 - 640 Borland Street Williams Lake BC V2G 4T1 Phone: 250 398-4530 Fax: 250 398-4214</p>
<p><b>South Coast Region</b> #200-10470, 152nd Street Surrey BC V3R 0Y3 Phone: 604-582-5200 Fax: 604-930-7119</p>	<p><b>Skeena Region</b> 3726 Alfred Street Smithers BC V0J 2N0 Phone: (250) 847-7260 Fax: (250) 847-7591</p>
<p><b>Thompson Region</b> 1259 Dalhousie Drive Kamloops BC V2C 5Z5 Phone: (250) 371-6200 Fax: (250) 828-4000</p>	<p><b>Omineca-Peace Region</b> #325 - 1011 Fourth Avenue Prince George BC V2L 3H9 Phone: (250) 565-6135 Fax: (250) 565-6629</p> <p>Direct all enquiries about activities in the Peace sub-region to the Prince George Office.</p>
<p><b>Kootenay Region</b> 205 Industrial Rd. G Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G5 Phone: (250) 489-8540 Fax: (250) 489-8506</p> <p>#401 - 333 Victoria Street Nelson BC V1L 4K3 Phone: (250) 354-6333 Fax: (250) 354-6332</p>	<p><b>Okanagan Region</b> 102 Industrial Place Penticton BC V2A 7C8 Phone: (250) 490-8200 Fax: (250) 490-2231</p>

Regional office information can also be found on the ministry website at:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/main/regions.html>

