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PGO Submission – Aggregate Resources Act Update – EBR Registry 019-1303

The Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (PGO) is mandated through the Professional Geoscientist Act, 2000 (PGA) to serve and protect the public by regulating the practice of geoscience in Ontario. We are pleased to provide this response to the Province's proposed regulatory changes to the Aggregate Resources Act.

PGO supports the Province's intent to modernize the act in a way that maintains strong environmental controls through the Aggregate Resources Act (ARA). In particular, we support the clarification that Water Reports required under the Act must be prepared by a registered Professional Geoscientist or exempted Professional Engineer as well as expanding the list of Qualified Persons who can develop site plans to include Professional Geoscientists.

As the government continues its work on the ARA, the PGO proposes the following two measures to provide additional public and environmental protection through:

1. Further clarifying the list of professionals considered qualified to prepare a site plan for Class A licenses, to those that are members of a self-regulating body with a complaints and discipline process for members; and,
2. Expanding the details contained in a water monitoring report to include the frequency of data reviews and reports, in addition to the existing monitoring locations, measurement and sampling frequency, which would be prepared by the Qualified Person (P.Geo.) as part of this program.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments and look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the Ministry as the development of regulations proceed.

Milan Situm, P.Geo.
President

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Vice Chair, Environment Committee

Cc: Tony Andrews, CEO