Dear [Name]:

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (File # NR-244-2018)

On October 29, 2018, the Department of Natural Resources received your request for access to the following records/information:

I am requesting information pertaining to the permit limitations of the Mining activity in the Victoria Lake area by a company called Marathon Gold. There is a significant amount of land disturbance in this area by this company in their mining exploration activities. In looking through all documents I have procured to date - This company is occupying this Crown Land - under a Crown Lands Permit. This company has posted signage for an area stretching for approx. 20 kilometres (to date - they seem to be expanding that area year over year), saying "No Trespassing" No Hunting" etc... This encroaches on the rights of Newfoundlanders to access this land for the purpose of Hunting, Fishing etc... They have blocked off the access road to the only Boat Launch onto Victoria Lake in the area by putting a large Steel Gate across a road that existed in there for fifty years before their arrival in the area. This gate also had signage stating No trespassing / No Hunting. Given this is Crown Land - Was this company given specific rights to block access to this Crown Land and what are the parameters of any specific rights granted to Marathon Gold to allow them to block access with Gates etc...?

Your request specifically sought information pertaining to the permit limitations of Marathon Gold as it related to whether Marathon Gold was given specific rights to block access to Crown Land. The Department of Natural Resources does not have the information you are seeking on this inquiry. We recommend that you contact the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources with this inquiry.

P.O. Box 8700, St. John’s, NL, Canada  A1B 4J6  t 709.729-1466
As set out in section 42 of the Act you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the department’s decision to provide access to the requested information. A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing within 15 business days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Commissioner. Your request should identify your concerns with the department’s response and why you are requesting a review.

The request for review may be addressed to the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner  
2 Canada Drive  
P.O. Box 13004, Stn. A  
St. John’s, NL. A1B 3V8

Telephone: (709) 729-6309  
Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309  
Facsimile: (709) 729-6500

Pursuant to section 52 of the Act, you may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after receiving the department’s decision.

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Completed Access to Information Requests website within one business day following the applicable period of time. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online.

For further details about how an access to information request is processed, please refer to the Access to Information Policy and Procedures Manual at http://www.atipp.gov.nl.ca/info/index.html.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 709-729-0463 or rhynes@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Rod Hynes

Rod Hynes  
ATIPP Coordinator