

DOC/2018/05222-03

November 16, 2018



Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 [Our File #: MAE/115/2018]

On October 29, 2018, the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment 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 a 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 Newfoundlander's 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...?"

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Deputy Minister to provide access to the requested information.

In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the information that the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment has in its custody regarding Marathon Gold was released to you in your ATIPP requests to the department, which are MAE/71/2018 and ENV/061/2016. In the spirit of duty to assist, records regarding the Marathon Gold company occupying crown lands or having a crown land permit for a particular land may be with the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

Please be advised that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the processing of your access request, as set out in section 42 of the *Access to Information*

and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act). 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.

The address and contact information of 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

You may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of the *Act*.

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.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me by telephone at 709-729-5846 or by e-mail at aliaskary@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



ALI ASKARY

Manager, Information Services / ATIPP Coordinator
Policy and Strategic Planning

Enclosures