

Ministry of Natural Resources

Resource Development Section
Development and Hazard Policy Branch
Policy Division
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

Ministère des Richesses Naturelles

Section du développement des ressources
Direction générale de l'élaboration et des
politiques sur les risques
Division de l'élaboration des politiques
300, rue Water
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7



RE: Streamlining of approvals under the *Aggregate Resources Act* and supporting policy

Greetings,

Further to my letter dated May 29th, 2023, I am writing to inform you that a decision notice has been posted regarding the “Proposed changes to the *Aggregate Resources Act*, Ontario Regulation 244/97 to expand self-filing activities and a new policy regarding amendments to existing aggregate approvals” (ERO #[019-6767](#)).

The Ministry of Natural Resources has made changes under the *Aggregate Resources Act* to expand the list of small or routine site plan changes to an existing pit or quarry that can be self-filed (subject to conditions). The ministry has also implemented a new policy for amending an existing aggregate licence, permit or site plan where approval by the ministry is required.

On August 18, 2023, Ontario Regulation 244/97 was amended to add additional site plan changes that can be made without ministry approval when certain conditions and eligibility criteria are met. For a complete list of these changes, conditions and eligibility criteria, please refer to section 7.2 of the regulation, which can be viewed at: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/970244>

In addition, the ministry has introduced a new amendment policy that clarifies the requirements and approach to public notification and consultation, as well as provides direction on the requirements when applying for an amendment, and guides ministry decision-making for amendment applications (including what constitutes significant and non-significant amendments). Effective immediately, this policy replaces 14 existing aggregate policies and procedures. For a complete list, please refer to the decision notice.

To view the complete details of this decision, please click on the link above or visit the Environmental Registry of Ontario at ero.ontario.ca and search for ERO number 019-6767.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact us by email at aggregates@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keyes,
Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch