Application No. 432672

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE

Application for a *Permit* under the provisions of the *Environmental Management Act*

We, Jemico Enterprises Ltd., intend to submit an application to the Director to authorize the discharge of treated stormwater effluent from an existing sawmill facility to the Chemainus River. The source of discharge is runoff effluent from a sawmill and dry land log sort that has been operational since 1993. The land upon which the facility is situated, and where the discharge will occur, bears the following legal description: Lot 6, Plan VIP2051, Section 13&14, Range 3, Chemainus Land District, and is located at 3450 Smiley Rd, Chemainus, B.C. just north of Aquifer 171 in the North Cowichan Municipality. The facility operates between 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Runoff from the site is directed through an oil/water separator into an aerated retention lagoon, which has been operational since 1993, although with progressive improvements to treatment since that time, including aeration. The lagoon promotes microbial mediated treatment of soluble wood residues, suspended solids and trace metals. The lagoon discharges to a secondary settlement pond to promote solids removal. Effluent is passively discharged from the secondary pond to the Chemainus River via overflow during and following precipitation events. While discharge volume is indeterminate, as it is dependent upon volume of precipitation, a maximum rate of runoff for a 1-in-10-year 24 hr storm event is calculated to be 2,497 m^3 to be stored and treated in an unlined aerated retention lagoon with 0.3 m of freeboard and a surge capacity volume of 3,417 m^3. Discharges are to the Chemainus River. No other effluents are discharged from the site to surface waters or ditching.

The characteristics of the effluent are consistent with historical and ongoing discharges and are typical of sawmills and log handling facilities. A summary of potential contaminants that require treatment before discharge include natural wood residues (resin and fatty acids, tannins, lignans), total suspended solids (TSS), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total and dissolved metals, and potential hydrocarbons from mobile equipment. Technologies for treatment have been designed to remove these contaminants: 1) an aerobic treatment lagoon that degrades wood residues via microbial degradation and promotes oxidation of dissolved metals which then become utilized as micronutrients for the biota in the treatment system; 2) a settlement pond for additional attenuation and removal of solids; 3) an oil/water separator that precedes the ponds and removes free phase hydrocarbons. Treatments are expected to remove contaminants to concentrations conforming to proposed discharge limits (see Table 1). The list of contaminants in Table 1 is informed by preliminary analyses of discharge water quality.

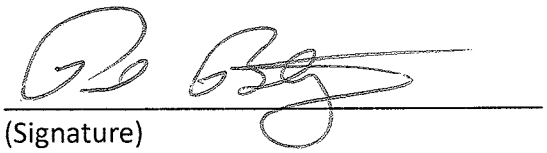
Table 1 Proposed Effluent Discharge Limits for Potential Contaminants of Concern at Jemico Enterprises Ltd. Facility

Potential Contaminant of Concern	Proposed Limit mg/L (Total)	Proposed Limit mg/L (Dissolved)	Notes
pH	6.5-8.5	--	Approved BC Water Quality Guidelines
Biological Oxygen Demand	50	--	Industry Standard
Total Suspended Solids	60	--	Industry Standard
Total Mineral Oil and Grease	15	--	Industry Standard
Aluminum	2.0	0.5	Hazardous Waste Regulation, Schedule 1.2, Column 2
Arsenic	--	0.1	Hazardous Waste Regulation, Schedule 1.2, Column 2
Cobalt	--	0.1	Hazardous Waste Regulation, Schedule 1.2, Column 2
Copper	--	0.1	Hazardous Waste Regulation, Schedule 1.2, Column 2
Manganese	--	0.5	Hazardous Waste Regulation, Schedule 1.2, Column 2
Zinc*	--	0.2	Hazardous Waste Regulation, Schedule 1.2, Column 2

*LC_{50} toxicity testing is required (within 30 days of lab results) in consultation with a QP if monitoring results for Zinc exceed Approved Short-Term BC Water Quality Guidelines for Aquatic Life.

Any person who may be adversely affected by the proposed handling of waste and wishes to provide relevant information may, within 30 days after the last date of posting, publishing, service or display, send written comments to the contact provided below, with a copy to the Director, Environmental Protection at Industrial.Waste.Authorizations@gov.bc.ca. The identity of any respondents and the contents of anything submitted in relation to this application will become part of the public record.

Dated this 03 day of February 2026.



(Signature)

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