1.0 INTRODUCTION

This inspection was conducted under Sec 156 of the Environmental Protection Act and Sec 15 of the Ontario Water Resources Act to assess compliance with environmental legislation.

Avalon Advanced Minerals understands that the Separation Rapids Lithium Project (also known as Big Whopper) has the potential to produce high purity lithium compounds for batteries, lithium mineral (petalite) concentrates for high strength glass and ceramics as well as by-products rubidium, tantalum, cesium, silica and feldspars.

Avalon acquired the site in 1996 and, to date, has conducted exploration and development work. Separation Rapids is located approximately 70 km north of Kenora on 448 ha of mining claims and a mining lease.

Avalon proposes to construct a small scale, 50,000 tones/year demonstration plant to generate products and serve as interim small-scale production facility.

Avalon reports that they've conducted environmental baseline studies in 1999 and updated the study in 2007 and 2013.

Avalon has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Wabaseemong Independent Nation.

The inspection consisted of a site tour and discussion with Ron Malashewski of Avalon, and Environmental Officers Eric Grimm and Megan Smith and a file review. Representatives from MNRF and MNDM were also present for site tour.

2.0 INSPECTION OBSERVATIONS

There are currently no Environmental Compliance Approvals issued or applied for this project at this time.
The site consisted of a small area that has been stripped to exposed bedrock, core storage and maintenance equipment storage as well as a small excavation where a bulk sample had been removed.

2.1 AREA OF FOCUS

This inspection is being conducted under the following Ministry of Environment and Climate Change program(s) and/or activities:

- Air
- Permit to Take Water
- Sewage – Industrial
- Waste – Hazardous & Liquid Industrial
- Waste – Solid Non-Hazardous

Specifics:
General requirements under each program were assessed as part of the inspection.

2.2 COMPLIANCE OVERVIEW

Specifics:
There were not any observations of non-compliance of the general program requirements observed during the site inspection.

3.0 REVIEW OF PREVIOUS NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUES

No previous ministry record

Specifics:

4.0 SUMMARY OF INSPECTION FINDINGS (HEALTH/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT)

Was there any indication of a known or anticipated human health impact during the inspection and/or review of relevant material, related to this Ministry’s mandate?
No

Specifics:

Was there any indication of a known or anticipated environmental impact during the inspection and/or review of relevant material?
No

Specifics:

Was there any indication of a known or suspected violation of a legal requirement during the inspection and/or review of relevant material which could cause a human health impact or environmental impairment?
No

Specifics:

Was there any indication of a potential for environmental impairment during the inspection and/or the review of relevant material?
No
Specifics:

Was there any indication of minor administrative non-compliance?
No

Specifics:

5.0  ACTION(S) REQUIRED

No actions required at this time.

6.0  OTHER INSPECTION FINDINGS

Specifics:

Pre-consultation with the ministry is strongly recommended prior to the submission of an approval/permit to the ministry.

The site appeared to be maintained in a neat and orderly fashion.

7.0  INCIDENT REPORT

Not Applicable

8.0  ATTACHMENTS

 IMG_20180626_102958.jpg; IMG_20180626_111314.jpg

PREPARED BY:
Environmental Officer: Cathy Debney
Name: 
District Office: Kenora Area Office
Date: 2018/08/30
Signature

REVIEWED BY:
District Supervisor: Glen Niznowski
Name: 
District Office: Kenora Area Office
Date: 2018/08/31
Signature:
File Storage Number: DK UN 100

Note:
This inspection report does not in any way suggest that there is or has been compliance with applicable legislation and regulations as they may apply to this facility. It is, and remains, the responsibility of the owner and/or the operating authority to ensure compliance with all applicable legislative and regulatory requirements.