

The Alton natural Gas Storage project is situated on the bank of the Shubenacadie tidal river. The high salinity water will be diluted in a mixing zone parallel to the river. The brine is expected to have a maximum salinity of 240 ppt. It will be added to the mixing channel at a rate so that the salinity does not increase by more than 7 ppt above background at the time and the maximum does not exceed 28 ppt. Timing of release will be adjusted to ensure it does not coincide with striped bass spawning season. The intake into the channel passes

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s.20(1)(b)

through a gabian wall that reduces likelihood of fish or larvae entrance through the gabian..

Based on information provided to me in documentation and from Enforcement Officer Allison Grant, the opening at both ends of the channel will not have structures to prevent entrance of various life stages of fish. This mixing channel, if opened without any restriction, may be considered waters frequented by fish.

For a short period of time any fish in this mixing zone may be exposed to elevated salinity at levels above those considered safe for marine and estuarine organisms. High salinity such as those expected in the brine are considered deleterious substances according to the Fisheries Act.



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