**Appellants** – Conklin Aggregates Ltd., Lehigh Hanson Materials Limited and 877384 Alberta Ltd., **Operator** – Conklin Aggregates Ltd., Lehigh Hanson Materials Limited and 877384 Alberta Ltd., **Location** – approximately 100 kilometers north of Fort McMurray in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, **Type of Appeal** – Discontinuance

Notices of Appeal were received on February 28, 2018 from Conklin Aggregates Ltd., Lehigh Hanson Materials Limited, and 877384 Alberta Ltd. with respect to the February 9, 2018 decisions of the Director, Alberta Environment and Parks, to refuse Surface Material Leases 150020, 150019 and 150021 for lands located at NE 10 and SE 15-100-9-W4M, NW 11 and SW 14-100-9-W4M and SE 15-100-9-W4M.

The Director explained that after a review of all three of the applications the department concluded the applications did not meet all of the departmental requirements for issuance of the formal dispositions. The refusal was based on the lands being in the Key Wildlife Biodiversity Zone located within the river valley. The lands also fall within the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan Part 3 Conserved Land; strategies on these lands are to minimize the disturbance in the Athabasca River Corridor north of Fort McMurray. Therefore, this site is not ideal for sand and gravel operation as it does not align with strategic plans set out in the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan.

In consultation with the parties, the Board scheduled a mediation meeting for May 22, 2018 in Edmonton. As a result of the resolution reached at the mediation, the appeals were withdrawn. Based upon the withdrawal of the appeals, the Board discontinued its proceedings and closed it files in these matters on May 25, 2018.

Cite: Conklin Aggregates Ltd., Lehigh Hanson Materials Limited, and 877384 Alberta Ltd. v. Director, Alberta Environment and Parks (25 July 2018), Appeals Nos. 17-0040-0042 (A.P.L.A.B.)