



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR
URANIUM MINERAL EXPLORATION
IN LOUISVILLE
*C000075B***

**Call # 57088
May 14, 2025**

**Closing date:
June 11, 2025**

Honourable Tory Rushton
Minister of Natural
Resources

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1.0 Introduction

On March 26, 2025, the *Uranium Exploration and Mining Prohibition Act* was repealed and on March 27, 2025, a Ministerial order to lift the remaining exploration bans on uranium placed under the *Mineral Resources Act* was issued. The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources (the Department) is herein issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP), seeking applications from industry members to work in the previously withdrawn area, detailed in this document.

The Province remains steadfast in our commitment to upholding the highest standards of occupational health and safety and environmental sustainability. All uranium-related exploration activities will be carried out in compliance with the *Mineral Resources Act*, its associated regulations, and all other relevant legislation and regulations ensuring adherence to environmental and safety standards set forth by the province of Nova Scotia.

The successful applicant(s) will be issued an agreement with the Department that would allow for issuance of a tendered exploration licence within the proposed Louisville Area within Pictou County:

Area 1 – C000075B – Louisville

Project Area	NTS Map	Tract	Claims
Louisville	11E11D	92	KLMNO

Table 1. Mineral Claims which make up the Louisville Area.

The authority to offer, by request for proposals process, the right to apply for an exploration licence for the Project Area is defined in Section 59(2) of the *Mineral Resources Act*.

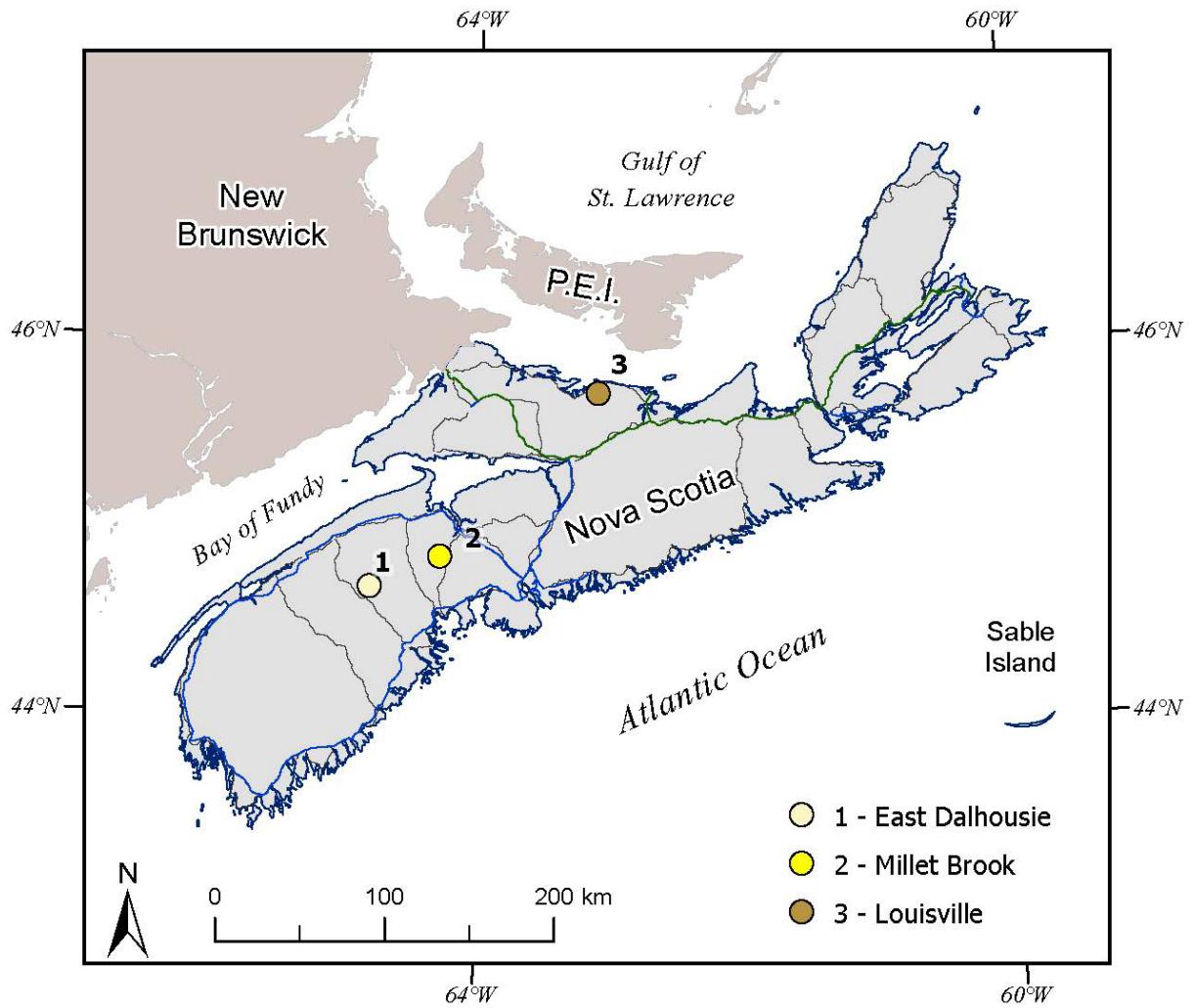


Figure 1 - Location of the Louisville Project Area.

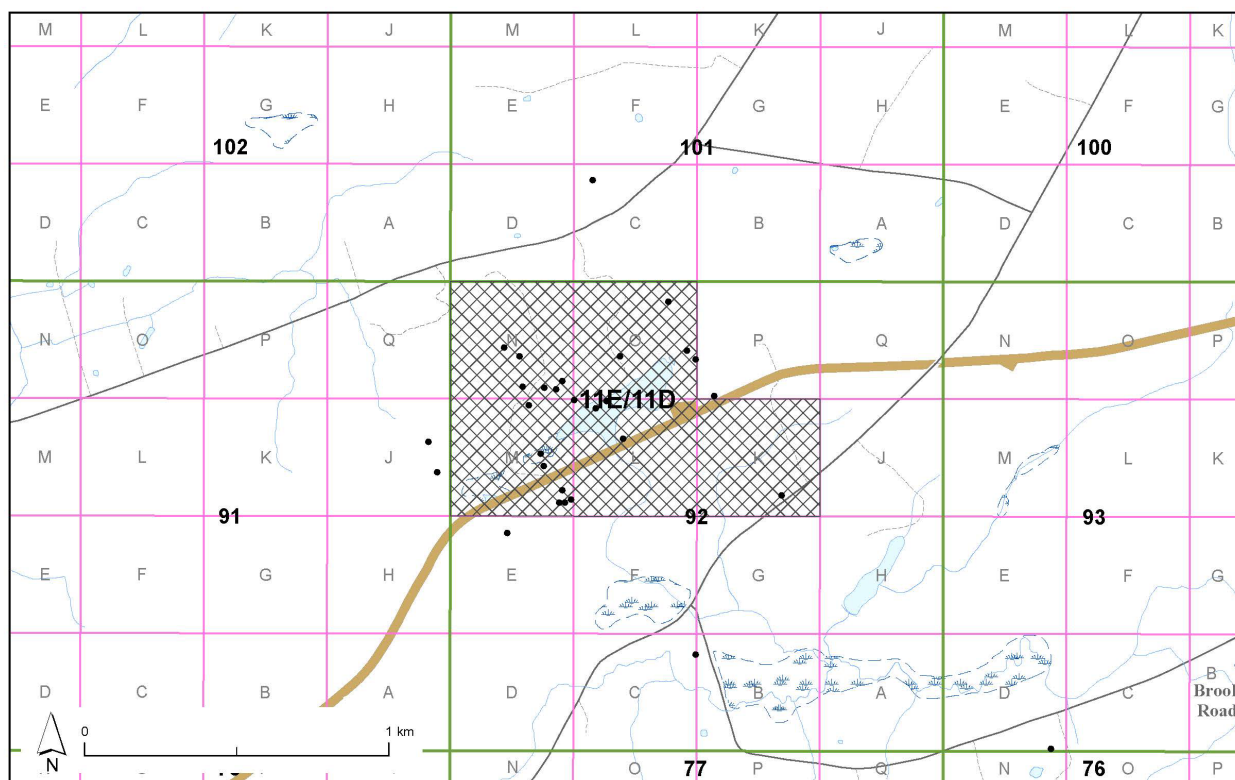


Figure 2 – Louisville Project Area.

2.0 Request for Proposal (RFP) Process

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this RFP is to seek mineral exploration proposals from proponents interested in evaluating the potential for uranium in the Project Area described in this document.

The Department acknowledges that designing an exploration program for the Project Area may be constrained by factors including but not limited to:

- land ownership and owner consent
- existing land uses
- community concerns
- potential environmental sensitivities and impacts
- previous exploration activity

Applicants submitting proposals are required to investigate and report how potential constraints will affect an exploration program for the Louisville Area.

Following review of applications, the Department will enter into an agreement with the successful applicant. The selected proposal will be approved, and conditional Exploration Licence(s) will be issued by the Department after the acceptance of the successful proposal(s).

2.2 Proposal Content and Format

The proposal must be accompanied by a \$2,000 deposit. The deposit must be in the form of a certified cheque or money order payable to the Minister of Natural Resources and should include a cover letter referencing this RFP. Deposits will be returned to unsuccessful applicants following the establishment of an agreement between the Department and the successful applicant.

The deposit will be returned to the successful proponent when the proponent files an acceptable assessment report to the Department before the anniversary of the first, two-year term of the exploration licence.

The proponent's deposit will be forfeited to the Department if the proponent does not file an assessment report before the anniversary of the first term of the exploration licence, or if the work described in the submitted assessment report varies significantly from the work described in the applicant's proposal.

Proposals must include:

(i) **Attestation**

Signed statement on behalf of the applicant that all the information provided is accurate, to the knowledge of the applicant.

(ii) **Registry of Joint Stock Companies and Geoscience Profession Act**

Nova Scotia law requires all businesses operating within the province to register with Nova Scotia's Registry of Joint Stock Companies (with some exceptions for New Brunswick businesses that are registered with the New Brunswick Corporate Affairs Registry). Applicants are required to provide evidence of good standing with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies.

Geoscience is a regulated profession in Nova Scotia and the *Geoscience Profession Act* requires that individuals and companies who offer, provide, or undertake geoscience in the province must be registered. Companies receiving an RFP should contact the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia regarding professional registration if they are not already registered. All applicable contractors must be registered to work in the province.

(iii) **Capability and Experience**

Corporate Information and Resourcing The applicant should identify the key project management resources, corporate information, and financial resources to be committed to the exploration program. Include curriculum vitae (CV) for key personnel highlighting relevant experience.

Program Management Team and Statement of Past Practice in Uranium Mineral Exploration

Describe relevant experience that the company (including proposed program leader and staff) has in exploration in general and uranium exploration in particular. Subcontractors should be described as to their role in the project.

Regulatory Approval Process

Demonstrate a clear understanding of the regulatory approval process for mineral exploration projects including but not limited to acquiring mineral rights, environmental approvals (Federal and Provincial), and an occupational health and safety review.

First Nation Engagement

Engagement with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia is expected. Proponents should describe a plan for engagement. (Please see Proponents Guide in references section (2.9)).

Community Engagement

Consistent with Section 44(1)(b) of the *Mineral Resources Act*, proponents are requested to submit a stakeholder engagement plan with the proposal.

Exploration Plan

Provide enough detail to demonstrate that the proponent has a clear comprehension of the exploration plan required to confirm a uranium resource. Applicants should elaborate on issues that are relevant and appropriate to describe their proposal. The proposed exploration plan described by proponents in this section will form the basis for work requirements for the first term of the issued exploration licence(s). Information submitted should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Uranium resource evaluation. Using existing resources, the proponent is required to submit a minimum of a desktop resource assessment for the Project Area. Classification of resources in the assessment should be based on accepted industry standards and practices used to determine uranium deposits.
- Exploration Program. Outline the exploration program to evaluate the potential uranium resource. Proposed exploration activities must include a description of the claims selected, work program, and fully document the expected cost for the proposed work program for the first term (two years) of the Exploration Licence.
- Environmental Management Plan. Identify any significant environmental issues that may need to be considered and describe how the issues can be addressed

within the context of the exploration program. Extra emphasis needs to be described with relation to the handling of any drill cuttings, sumps, water management, and remediation of all proposed disturbance activities.

- Occupational Health and Safety (OHS). Describe the OHS protocols that will be followed during the various activities as outlined in the exploration plan. With activities that are of higher OHS risk; extra detail is required with submission.
- Land Access. Identify land ownership for all properties for which surface- access rights will be required to undertake the exploration program. Outline specific issues related to property access that will need to be addressed prior to undertaking the project. Provide a strategy for gaining landowner approvals.
- Program Schedule. Provide a schedule for the two-year term of the exploration licence, including how staging factors in social acceptance risks (ensuring they are minimized) and any mitigation plans for delays or obstacles.
- Reclamation Approach. Describe the reclamation protocol for areas potentially and intentionally disturbed during proposed exploration activities.

Statement of Program Impacts and Benefits

The applicant must provide a statement of the anticipated impacts and benefits the proposed exploration program will have on the community and to the Province. This statement may include, but should not be limited to; environmental, financial, employment, economic and social impacts during exploration and following completion of the project, and should demonstrate alignment with Nova Scotia's priorities and commitments.

2.3 Submission of Applications

Proposals must be submitted through the Mineral Rights Online Registry System (NovaROC) - (Application for Licence->Tender call for a mineral licence; choose tender #57088). The system will accept only a PDF file as an attachment. Application fees will be required to be paid in the NovaROC system at this stage and will be refunded to unsuccessful applicants after the completion of the entire process.

For assistance with the NovaROC application, please contact the Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles (see references section (2.9) for contact information).

Proposals must be received by the system prior to midnight ADT on June 11th, 2025. The deposit cheque must be received by the Registrar of Mineral and Petroleum Titles at the following address prior to 16:00 ADT on June 16th, 2025.

Registrar of Mineral and Petroleum Titles
Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources
3rd Floor, Founders Square
1701 Hollis Street
P. O. Box 698
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T9

Proposals received after the closing date and time will not be considered and proposals sent by means other than the process prescribed herein will not be accepted.

Note: To submit a proposal in the NovaROC system, clients must have an account and login credentials; prospective applicants are encouraged to obtain an account well in advance of any deadline as there may be additional requirements, in particular, a Nova Scotia Business Registration which may be obtained through the NS Registry of Joint stock Companies. Please see the references section (2.9) for contact information.

Information submitted in support of a proposal shall be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 141(3) of the *Mineral Resources Act*.

The document size must be under 50MB.

Key Dates:

RFP Application Phase: May 14th to June 11th

Evaluation Phase: June 12th to June 26th

Announcement of successful Applicant: July 7th

Issuance of Exploration Licence: July 11th

2.4 Evaluation

Applications will be reviewed by a Review Committee that will provide recommendations to the Minister of Natural Resources. All proposals received will be evaluated on the criteria and must meet the minimum requirements of 60%.

A Review Panel will be assigned to make recommendations on the relative merits of the proposals that meet the minimum requirements. All proposals received will be evaluated on the criteria set out in Section 2.2. and detailed in Appendix B.

Appendix 2 - “Uranium Exploration RFP Evaluation Guide” sets out the criteria and the relative weighting for each criterion.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Points</u>
Corporate Information and Resourcing	5
Program Management Team	5
Regulatory Approval Process	10
First Nation Engagement	15
Community Engagement	15
Exploration Plan	40
Statement of Project Impacts and Benefits	10
Total	100

2.5 Ownership of Applications and Freedom of Information

After the Closing Date, all applications submitted shall be the sole property of the Province and are subject to the provisions and disclosure requirements of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and any other disclosure requirements imposed by law. The Minister or the Minister’s designate reserves the right to make copies of any applications which it receives for its internal review process and to provide such copies to its staff, legal and financial advisors and representatives. Applications will not be shared with the public or other applicants, with the exception of in accordance with disclosure requirements under law.

2.6 Results

The result of the application evaluation will be recommended to the Minister within 21 days of the closing date.

2.7 Requirements of Successful Applicant

The successful proponent must meet the requirements of the *Mineral Resources Act* when applying for an exploration licence. The successful proponent will be issued an exploration licence with conditions within five days of being notified as having the successful proposal.

The proposed exploration plan of the successful application will become a condition of the licence, as described in Section 21 of the Mineral Resources Regulations and will form the basis of the required assessment work for renewal as described in Section 74 of the *Mineral Resources Act*.

The successful proponent will be responsible for obtaining all approvals and permits required to conduct their exploration program, including environmental approvals, and any associated private land access agreements, as well as completing the work outlined within their proposal.

The successful proponent will be responsible for submitting interim reports during the two-year term to notify the Department of the progress of their exploration plan. The First and Second Interim Reports are to be submitted through NovaROC. The requirements for interim reports are as follows:

First Interim Report:

- The successful applicant is required to submit their First Interim Report to the Department no later than 4:00 pm, Monday, January 5, 2026. The report must include updates on the following items; Exploration Program, Land Access, Program Schedule Progress, Environmental Management and OHS progress.

Second Interim Report:

- The successful applicant is required to submit their Second Interim Report to the Department no later than 4:00 pm, Monday, October 26, 2026. The report must include updates on the following items; Exploration Program, Land Access, Program Schedule Progress, Environmental Management and OHS progress.

Final Report:

- The successful applicant is required to submit their Final Report to the Department no later than the expiry date of the licence. The report must include the requirements for an assessment report as laid out in the *Mineral Resources Act* and regulations.

NOTES:

- An on-site inspection of project activities will be conducted by the Department to verify project progress, compliance, and completion.
- It is recommended that the successful applicant maintain regular contact with the Department throughout the duration of the project.
- Successful applicant shall comply with all applicable provincial and federal laws and regulations, including those respecting mineral resources, surface rights, health, environment, safety, and conditions of labour.

2.8 Additional Terms and Conditions

2.8.1- Reserved Rights. Notwithstanding anything else in this RFP, the Province reserves the right to:

- (a) make public the names of any or all proponents;
- (b) request written clarification in relation to a proponent's bid;
- (c) waive minor formalities that do not constitute mandatory requirements or mandatory technical requirements;
- (d) verify with any proponent or with a third party any information set out in a bid;
- (e) where references are requested, check references other than those provided by any proponent;
- (f) disqualify any proponent whose bid contains misrepresentations or any other inaccurate or misleading information;
- (g) disqualify any proponent or a bid submitted by any proponent who has engaged in conduct prohibited by this RFP;
- (h) amend this RFP process without liability at any time prior to announcing the successful proponents.
- (i) cancel this RFP process without liability at any time prior to announcing the successful proponents, and may in its sole discretion issue a new RFP for the same or similar rights; or
- (j) reject any or all bids and these reserved rights are in addition to any other express rights or any other rights that may be implied in the circumstances.

2.8.2 - Limitation of Liability. By submitting a bid, each proponent agrees that neither the Province nor any of its employees, officers, agents, elected or appointed officials, advisors or representatives will be liable, under any circumstances, for any claim arising out of this RFQ process including but not limited to costs of preparation of the bidder, loss of profits, loss of opportunity or for any other claim.

2.8.3. - Governing Law. Paragraphs 2.9.1 and 2.9.2 non-exhaustive and shall not be construed as intending to limit the pre-existing rights of the Province and this entire RFP is to be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Nova Scotia and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein.

2.8.4 - No Implied Approvals. The selection of any proponent does not imply any further approval, authorization, or permit either under the *Mineral Resources Act* or under any other legislation.

2.8.5 - Notice. Any proponent and any other person who believes they have a mineral right in the areas of lands subject to this RFP should notify the Department of Natural Resources c/o Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles. See the references section (2.9) for contact details. The Department will require proof.

2.9 References

Geoscience and Mines Website: [Geoscience & Mines Branch | novascotia.ca](http://novascotia.ca/geoscience)

NovaScan - the Nova Scotia Geoscience Maps and Publications Database: [NovaScan - the Nova Scotia Geoscience Maps and Publications Database | novascotia.ca](http://novascotia.ca/novaScan)

Proponents' Guide: THE ROLE OF PROPONENTS IN CROWN CONSULTATION WITH THE MI'KMAQ OF NOVA SCOTIA

20 pages. Available online: [Proponents Guide November 2011 ecopy.pdf](#)

Community Consultation: A Guide for Prospectors and Mineral Exploration Companies Working in Nova Scotia

9 pages. Information Circular ME 068 available online: [NSDNR, MRB, IC ME 68](#)

For further information on the NovaROC application, the *Mineral Resources Act* and the Mineral Resources Regulations, contact the Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles.

O'Reilly, G.A. et al., (1994). *The Activities, Conclusions and Recommendations of the Interdepartmental Uranium Committee Concerning the Uranium Exploration and Mining Industries*. Open File Report ME 1994-006. Province of Nova Scotia.

Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles
Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and
Renewables 3rd Floor, Founders Square
1701 Hollis Street
P. O. Box 698
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T9

Tel: (902) 424-4068
Email: NovaROC@novascotia.ca
Web: <https://novascotia.ca/natr/meb/registry-minerals-petroleum/>

Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stock Companies (required business
registration): <https://rjsc.novascotia.ca/>

Appendix A

Area 1 – C000021 – East Dalhousie

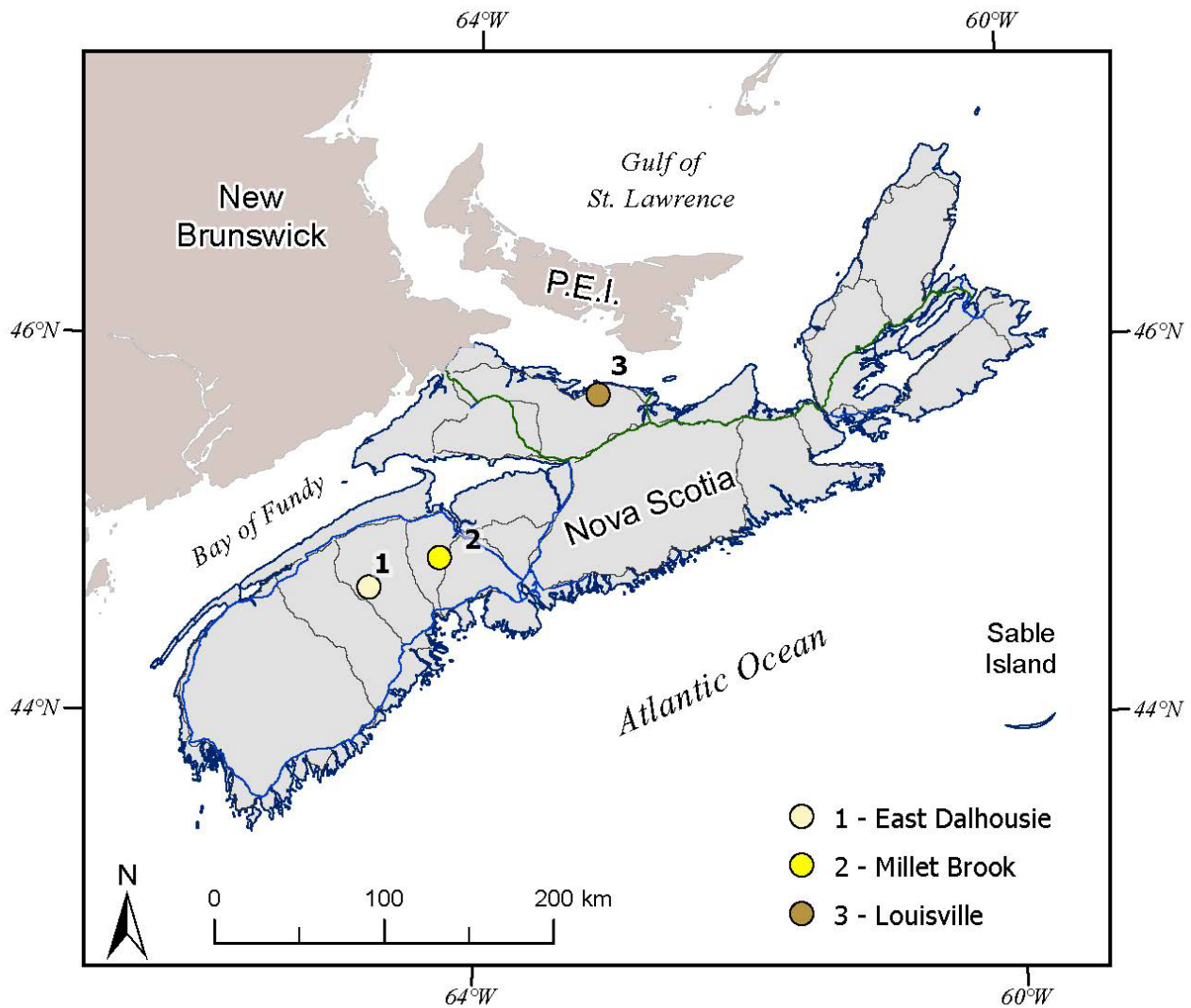
The East Dalhousie uranium occurrence is found in granitic rocks within and adjacent to a gravel pit along the Cherryfield Road near the east end of Annapolis County. The occurrence was discovered by Esso Minerals Limited in the late 1970's and 52 diamond-drillholes were drilled. Twenty-seven of the drillholes intersected uranium mineralization above the 100 ppm economic uranium concentration threshold. The uranium mineralization was deemed to be of too low a grade and tonnage to be considered for mining so the claims were dropped by Esso Minerals in 1979 (O'Reilly et al. (1994)).

Area 2 – C000075C – Millet Brook

The Millet Brook uranium deposit occurs in the granitic rocks northwest of Vaughans, Hants County. This deposit is the only one known in the Province that is of significant size. There was a considerable amount of diamond-drilling and trenching at the site before calling of the moratorium and therefore, calculated grade and tonnage figures for uranium exist. Although the mineralized zones from which the tonnage reserves for the deposit were calculated vary from 0.15-0.25 % U_3O_8 almost all drillholes in the area intersected uranium mineralization above the 100 ppm economic concentration threshold. The deposit consists of three separate zones occurring in close proximity to each other. In addition to the three zones, there are numerous other uranium occurrences throughout this area, many of which contain uranium mineralization above 100 ppm (O'Reilly et al. (1994)).

Area 3 – C000075B – Louisville

The Louisville closure is located 3 km west of River John, Pictou County. The uranium mineralization occurs as thin, discontinuous strata-bound horizons in Pictou Group sedimentary rocks. Lacana Mining Corporation carried out a 20 hole diamond-drilling program in 1977 and 1978 and encountered uranium mineralization above 100 ppm in 9 of the holes. The uranium intersections are quite low (100-200 ppm), but potentially there may be a significant tonnage of rock containing these levels (O'Reilly et al. (1994)).



Appendix B

APPENDIX B		
POINT-RATED CRITERIA	SCORING	PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS
<p>R1. Corporate Information and Resourcing</p> <p>The applicant should identify the key project management resources, corporate information, and financial resources to be committed to the exploration program. Include curriculum vitae (CV) for key personnel highlighting relevant experience.</p>	<p><u>Five (5) Points Maximum</u></p> <p>1. Resources</p> <p>Zero (0) Points: Information requested is not provided or is not relevant in the specific context of the RFP.</p> <p>One (1) Point: Information is provided with some of the elements required and most aspects have clear links to the specific context of the RFP.</p> <p>Three (3) Points: Information is provided with all the elements required and all aspects have clear links to the specific context of the RFP.</p> <p>2. Corporate Information</p> <p>Zero (0) Points: Information not provided or not relevant in the specific context of the RFP.</p> <p>Two (2) Points: Corporate information provided is sufficient to Satisfy s.33 <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>. All requested information has clear links to the specific context of the RFP.</p>	<p>The following items at a minimum should be included in the applicant's response:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CVs of individuals on the management team identifying experience and relevance to project. Company financial statements or other documentation detailing methods of funding the project. Corporate information <ol style="list-style-type: none"> That meet the requirements of s.33 <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>. (Having a client profile in the NovaROC registry system is highly recommended)
<p>R2. Program Management Team and Statement of Past Practice in Uranium Mineral Exploration</p> <p>The applicant should identify relevant experience that the company (including proposed program leader and staff) has in exploration in general and uranium exploration in particular. Subcontractors should be described as to their role in project.</p>	<p><u>Five (5) Points Maximum</u></p> <p>Zero (0) Points: No relevant experience</p> <p>Two (2) Points: 5 years of relevant experience</p> <p>Four (4) Points: 10 years of relevant experience</p> <p>Five (5) Points: More than 10 years of highly relevant experience</p> <p>Note: Relevant experience considered to be exploration for uranium or other materials with similar environmental/personnel safety</p>	<p>The applicant must provide the following information at a minimum for each member of their proposed project team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Title Start and end date that resource worked on relevant project Detailed information that describes, explains, and clearly demonstrates experience. High level or generic tasks or simply repeating the statement contained in the bid solicitation without supporting detail is not sufficient and does not demonstrate experience. <p>Note: Teams average years of experience will contribute to scoring</p>

	considerations. Applicants should clearly articulate relevancy of experience when appropriate.	
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POINT-RATED CRITERIA	SCORING	PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS
<p>R3. Regulatory Approval Process</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate their awareness of the regulatory framework(s) for mineral exploration with reference to specific projects and experience where appropriate.</p>	<p><u>Ten (10) Points Maximum</u></p> <p>Zero (0) Points: Information not included or not relevant in the specific context of the RFP.</p> <p>Five (5) Points: Information included describes most relevant regulatory requirements and is supported by some reference to specific projects.</p> <p>Ten (10) Points: Information included describes all relevant regulatory requirements and is consistently supported by reference to specific projects.</p> <p>Note: Relevant experience/projects considered to be exploration for uranium or other materials with similar regulatory considerations. When experience is outside of NS, applicant should compare/contrast regulatory framework between other jurisdiction and NS. Applicant should clearly articulate relevancy when appropriate.</p>	<p>The following items at a minimum should be included in the applicant's response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key legislation and associated regulation(s) pertaining to Nova Scotia • Their experience in working in the mineral regulatory environment • Any key expected challenges/risks and proposed mitigations
<p>R4 First Nation Engagement The applicant should identify groups within the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia that would be engaged for the proposed program, and identify examples of other past relevant engagement plans prepared and implemented.</p>	<p><u>Fifteen (15) Points Maximum</u></p> <p>(Zero (0) Points: No clear understanding of which groups should be engaged; No experience or past plans prepared or implemented</p> <p>Seven (7) Points: Identification of which groups should be engaged; One or two examples of similar past engagements</p> <p>Fifteen (15) Points: Comprehensive list of groups that should be engaged; Three or more examples of similar past engagements with successes/lessons highlighted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General property information of proposed project area • List and description of relevant First Nations groups • Relevant existing relationship • Examples of First Nation engagement plans developed and executed in the past

<p>R5. Community Engagement</p> <p>The applicant should identify the communities of interest that would be engaged for the proposed program, and identify examples of other past relevant engagement plans prepared and imple.</p>	<p><u>Fifteen (15) Points Maximum</u></p> <p>Zero (0) Points: No clear idea of which groups should be engaged; No experience or plans prepared or implemented.</p> <p>Seven (7) Points: Identification of most relevant communities of interest which should be engaged; One or two examples of similar past engagements</p> <p>Fifteen (15) Points: Comprehensive list of communities of interest which should be engaged; Three or more examples of similar past engagements with successes/lessons highlighted</p>	<p>The following items at a minimum should be included in the applicant's response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General property information of proposed project area • List and description of relevant community groups • Existing landowner relationships • Number of similar Engagement Plans developed in the past
<p>R6. Exploration Plan</p> <p>The applicant should provide all relevant details of their exploration plan including approach, purpose, activities and timeline. Considerable detail should be included for environmental and safety aspects of the program.</p>	<p><u>Forty (40) Points Maximum</u></p> <p>Zero (0) Points: No plan or not relevant to specific context of the RFP; does not advance understanding of the area</p> <p>Twenty (20) Points: Generic or missing key elements or unachievable goals</p> <p>Thirty (30) Points:</p>	<p>The applicant must include the following information in their response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration plan description identifying the overall purpose and intended outcome(s) of the project

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POINT-RATED CRITERIA	SCORING	PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS
	<p>Detailed plan with realistic goals/outcomes</p> <p>Forty (40) Points: Detailed plan with realistic goals/outcomes; innovation and key risks and mitigations described. Links to past completed successful projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration and proposed program start and end dates Detailed information that describes, explains, or illustrates through examples the specific program and reasons behind the techniques used Detailed considerations for environmental, safety and reclamation plans Plan/approach for gaining surface access along with key risks and mitigations
<p>R7. Statement of Project Impacts and Benefits</p> <p>The applicant should identify the potential impacts and benefits of the immediate exploration program as well as wider benefits for Nova Scotia.</p>	<p><u>Twenty-five (10) Points Maximum</u></p> <p>Zero (0) Points: Information not included</p> <p>Five-Ten (5-10) Points: Generic or missing key element</p> <p>Ten-Fifteen (10-15) Points: Detailed listing</p> <p>Fifteen-Twenty (15-25) Points: Detailed listing with rationale and determinations clearly laid out. Clear consideration for both benefits and impacts</p>	<p>The applicant must include the following information in their response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Description identifying the overall purpose or intended outcome(s) of the project with the impacts and benefits Duration expected for respective impact or benefit Potential social-economic benefits quantified Alignment with Nova Scotia's priorities and commitments

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POINT-RATED CRITERIA	SCORING	PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS
Total Available Points	<u>100</u> Note: in all cases points and described content are meant as guide posts and points may be allocated at any amount up to the maximum for a particular category	
Minimum Overall Pass Mark	60	