

LAKE MANITOBA AND LAKE ST. MARTIN OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT
RESPONSE TO IAAC TECHNICAL INFORMATION REQUESTS

Question IAAC-03

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

BMPs	best management practices
CEMP	Construction Environmental Monitoring Program
EIS	environmental impact statement
EMP	Environmental Management Program
MI	Manitoba Infrastructure

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EIS Guideline Reference: 9. Monitoring and Follow up Programs

EIS Reference: 6.2.7 Follow-up and Monitoring; 6.2.4 Assessment of Residual Environmental Effects on Atmospheric Environment

Context and Rationale

Section 9 of the EIS Guidelines requires that a follow-up program be designed to verify the accuracy of the effects assessment and to determine the effectiveness of the measures implemented to mitigate the adverse effects of the project. Further, the EIS guidelines state that follow-up programs should be used to ensure concerned/affected populations receive information on the status project impacts and related mitigation. In addition, programs should be used to obtain feedback from affected populations, including Indigenous Groups to determine appropriate mitigation measures and whether they are performing as expected.

Throughout section 6.2.4 the EIS states that air quality effects to receptors will be reassessed and further development/refining of mitigation measures may be conducted once final design details are determined. The EIS states that impacts to any receptors that were not initially identified in the EIS will be assessed as well.

The EIS does not specify how potential human receptors will be engaged in the preparing of the monitoring and follow-up program nor in the undertaking of this program.

No follow-up or monitoring is proposed for air quality, except for monitoring of the acoustic environment in the event of residential complaints related to construction noise.

Information Requests

- a) Provide the details of a mitigation, monitoring and follow-up plan to validate models and predictions for all aspects assessed under atmospheric environment: ambient air quality, GHG emissions, noise and light. Provide a description of how and when adaptive management strategies will be implemented, for all phases and components of the Project.
 - i. For the acoustic environment, describe a plan to monitor noise levels during construction phase, to validate models and predictions at key locations where human health may be impacted, such as permanent or seasonal residences. Describe adaptive management measures that could be taken to address impacts based on monitoring results, prior to complaints being brought forward. Include a formal plan to address noise complaints, describing corrective actions and determinants used to decide whether corrective action is required, and timelines for complaint resolution.

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- ii. Provide details on how follow-up and monitoring plans and programs will be communicated to concerned/affected populations within the RAA, how these populations will participate and/or be included in the plans/programs, and how they will be involved in the development of additional mitigation measures or monitoring as required.

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- a) Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) is developing a series of environmental management plans and monitoring plans as part of the Project Environmental Management Program (EMP). These plans are being developed to provide mitigation measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be applied during the Project pre-construction, construction, operation and maintenance activities to reduce or avoid potential adverse effects. The plans also outline monitoring activities that will be undertaken to confirm environmental impact statement (EIS) predictions and ensure that Project activities are carried out in compliance with applicable environmental legislation and Project environmental licensing requirements.

These plans will include measures to address potential project effects on atmospheric environment during project construction.

- i) For the acoustic environment, MI will implement a management process based on response to complaints. Components of the process may include:
 - Stakeholder/resident communication
 - Proactive notifications of high noise intensity construction activities
 - Noise complaint logging and initial response
 - Noise complaint investigation
 - Sound level measurements and follow-up
 - Complaint resolution and corrective action

The timeline for corrective action will depend on the nature of the complaint, results from any noise complaint investigation, if needed, and where applicable, technical challenges associated with the implementation of noise mitigation measures. Effort will be made to initiate the corrective action expeditiously. Details regarding complaints, specific mitigation implemented, the outcome from noise investigation process, and follow ups will be documented.

- ii) Follow-up and monitoring plans and programs will be communicated to concerned/affected populations through appropriate means such as callouts, mailouts and the noise complaint investigation process (as discussed above) These approaches will be integrated into the environmental management plans and monitoring plans as appropriate.

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Residential involvement in the development of noise mitigation measures at specific affected receptors will occur during the complaint investigation which will facilitate opportunity for feedback, follow-up and description of proposed mitigation. This will be iterative and adaptive to specific residential concerns to the extent possible.

As outlined in the Indigenous Consultation Approach and Current Status report (Volume 1, Appendix 5C of the EIS), discussion regarding the contents and implementation of draft plans that may comprise the EMP or the Construction Environmental Monitoring Program (CEMP) will also be discussed with potentially affected Indigenous groups to provide them an opportunity for input and feedback into the environmental programs and plans that will subsequently be finalized.