



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Ontario Region
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Toronto ON M5J 1R7

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

Région de l'Ontario
600-55 rue York
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

September 11, 2019

Sent by email

Correspondence to Federal Review Team

Christine Beeraj, Employment and Social Development Canada
John Woodward, Canadian Transportation Agency
Jennifer McKay, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Aime Dimatteo, Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario
Thomas Hoggarth, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Deborah Silver, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Chantal Roberge, Health Canada
Anik Guertin, Indigenous Services Canada
Chad Aramburo, Indigenous Services Canada
Julie-Anne Marcoux, Infrastructure Canada
Patrick Hum, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
Gail Wannop, Transport Canada
John Clarke, Natural Resources Canada
Denise Gareau, Women and Gender Equality Canada
Nicola Epprecht, Public Safety Canada

Dear Colleagues:

**Re: Federal Authority and Advice Record for the Marten Falls Community
Access Road Project in the Ring of Fire Area – Authority and
Summary of Issues**

**Please respond to Part A of the attached form by September 26, 2019, Part
B by October 7, 2019, and Part C by October 25, 2019.**

On August 9, 2019, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada provided an early notification letter containing information about the transition of the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project, proposed by Marten Falls First Nation (the proponent), to the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA). As of August 28, 2019, the Project Description that was accepted under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) is deemed to be the Initial Project Description (IPD) under IAA as per the transitional provision in section 180 of IAA. The IPD is available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site at <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80184>.

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The Agency is conducting a 20-day comment period from September 11, 2019, to October 1, 2019, on the Initial Project Description. All comments received during the comment period held from August 9, 2019, to August 29, 2019, will also be considered. All comments that will inform the Summary of Issues¹ with respect to the Project will be provided to the proponent.

Request for comments

Attached to this letter is the **Federal Authority Advice Record: Authority and Summary of Issues**. The Agency requires your department to complete **Part A** and return as per subsection 13(1) of IAA **no later than September 26, 2019**, (prior to the deadline provided to the public and Indigenous groups). **Part B is due by October 7, 2019, and Part C by October 25, 2019**. In relation to its mandate, your department is encouraged to provide as much detail as practicable in describing the potential issues that may be of relevance or concern in relation to the Project, and is required to also provide a concise synopsis of each issue for inclusion in the Summary of Issues. All comments (parts A and C) should be submitted via the *submit a comment* feature available on the Project's Canadian Impact Assessment Registry page (Reference #80184 at <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80184>). Letters and forms can be uploaded using this feature. If you have any difficulties submitting this way, please contact the Agency using the information provided below for assistance.

Important note: All records produced, collected or received in relation to the impact assessment of the Project – unless prohibited under the *Access to Information Act* – will be considered public and will be posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site (Reference #80184). Should you wish to provide any comments or documents that contain confidential or sensitive information that you believe should be protected from release to the public, please contact the Agency before submitting the information. Information marked as confidential will not be accepted without prior contact made with the Agency.

Project team

Concurrent with this comment period, the Agency will convene a Project Team comprised of representatives from the relevant federal authorities (and if applicable Provincial ministries). A representative from your department may have already been contacted separately regarding the Project Team.

The Agency will develop, in consultation with federal authorities, a project-specific work plan that sets out the detailed tasks, deliverables and timelines,

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¹ The Summary of Issues is a list of issues raised in the planning phase prepared by the Agency. This document provides the proponent with an understanding of issues and allows participants to see how their comments and concerns have been characterized.

consistent with the Act's legislated time limits, for each phase of the impact assessment of the Project. The work plan may be updated as the assessment of the Project progresses and will be shared whenever it is updated.

Next steps

Once the Summary of Issues is provided to the proponent, the proponent will submit a Detailed Project Description that includes an explanation of how it intends to address the issues raised. The Agency may contact your department for information or advice at that time for the purpose of determining if the Detailed Project Description is complete. Following acceptance of the Detailed Project Description, the Agency may seek the opinion of your department to inform its decision on whether an impact assessment of the Project is required.

Future steps

If the Agency determines that an impact assessment is required, it will develop a draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, a Permitting Plan, a Public Participation Plan, an Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, and a Cooperation Plan with other jurisdictions. In addition to form parts B and C, your department will be contacted in the near future regarding the information and advice that you are required to provide in the development of the draft guidelines and plans. These documents should be finalized and issued to the proponent by no later than February 24, 2020.

The Agency will hold meetings to discuss the draft guidelines and plans in Fall 2019. The Agency intends to hold a future comment period sometime between December 2019 and January 2020. During this comment period, the Agency intends to hold two open houses (one each in Thunder Bay and Geraldton). Additionally, the Agency is presently seeking information from Indigenous groups regarding their interest in having the Agency visit communities in late November 2019. Should you have an interest in participating in the open houses or the meetings with Indigenous communities, please complete form part B and contact the Agency. If you do participate, any travel expenses will need to be borne by your respective departments.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Chiara Calabrese by phone at 416-476-8915 or email *CEAA.MartenFalls.ACEE@canada.ca*. If desired, the Agency is also available to meet and discuss.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by> _____

Anjala Puvananathan
Director, Ontario Region

Attachment:

**Federal Authority Advice Record: Authority and Summary
of Issues**

C.C.: Martin Demers, Employment and Social Development Canada
Michael Walker, Employment and Social Development Canada
Denise Fell, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Sandro Leonardelli, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Dan McDonnell, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Gilles Brunet, Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario
Carmaine Cuillerier, Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario
Lucie Perreault, Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario
Jennifer Whissell, Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario
Stephanie Martens, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Marek Janowicz, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Kitty Ma, Health Canada
Aurelia Thevenot, Health Canada
Christopher Cornish, Indigenous Services Canada
Justin Hoffman, Indigenous Services Canada
Peter Jones, Indigenous Services Canada
Jody Knibbs, Indigenous Services Canada
Lina Letiecq, Indigenous Services Canada
Julieta Werner, Indigenous Services Canada
Gilles Brunet, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
Brian McGregor, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
Jessica Coulson, Natural Resources Canada
Marie-Eve Lenghan, Natural Resources Canada
Sara Ryan, Natural Resources Canada
Monique Mousseau, Transport Canada
David Zeit, Transport Canada
Leanne Dustan, Women and Gender Equality Canada