



Quebec, September 13th, 2021

Grand Chief Abram Benedict
Mohawk Council Of Akwesasne
P.O. Box 90
Akwesasne, QC H0M 1A0
<données d'identification caviardées>

SUBJECT : Designation Request for the industrial building project proposed by Meltech Innovation Canada inc. at Montreal-Trudeau Airport under the *Impact Assessment Act*

Grand Chief Benedict;

On August 23rd, 2021, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (the Minister) received a request to designate the industrial building project proposed by Meltech Innovation Canada inc. at Montreal-Trudeau Airport (the Project) under subsection 9(1) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA).

The Proposed Project

The Project would be located on the island of Montreal which the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) understands falls within your ancestral territory. Meltech Innovation Canada plans the construction and operation of an industrial building on the northern part of lot 5 599 104 located on the Chemin de l'Aviation at Montreal-Trudeau International Airport. The building's ground surface area would be approximately 4,000 square meters in size and located on a 15,500 square meter lot. The building would be used to produce nonwoven fabric for surgical mask manufacturing. The land has been unused since 2016 and is located on the site of two former fairways of an existing golf course adjacent to its southern boundary. Enclosed is the designation request received by the Minister. The following [link](#) also leads to a study published on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry by Aéroports de Montréal regarding the project site. You will find the location of the project in Appendix A of this study. The Project as proposed is not a designated project as described in the *Physical Activities Regulations* (commonly known as the Project List). The impact assessment process under IAA only applies to designated projects.

Under subsection 9(1) of IAA the Minister may, by order, designate a physical activity that is not prescribed in the *Physical Activities Regulations*. The Minister may do this, if, in the Minister's opinion, the physical activity may cause adverse

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effects within federal jurisdiction or adverse direct or incidental effects (resulting from federal decisions), or public concerns related to those effects warrant the designation. In accordance with subsection 9(4) of IAA, it is expected that the Minister will respond, with reasons, to the request by November 21st, 2021.

The Agency will review information about the Project; any concerns expressed by your community, from the public and other Indigenous groups; and expert advice from federal authorities and input from provincial ministries in order to inform the Minister on whether the Project should be designated. If designated, to proceed with the Project, Meltech Innovation Canada inc. would be required to submit an Initial Project Description, thereby commencing the planning phase of IAA. In that case, the planning phase would include the Agency determining whether a federal impact assessment is required.

Additional information regarding the process for designation requests can be found at the following link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/designating-project-impact-assessment-act.html>.

Seeking your views

The Agency is requesting that you provide responses to the following questions:

1. Please describe whether and how the potential adverse effects of the Project could result in changes to your community's:
 - (a) physical and cultural heritage (e.g. ceremonial sites, burial sites, cultural landscapes)
 - (b) current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes (e.g. hunting, fishing, trapping)
 - (c) structures, sites or things of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance (e.g. artifacts, important historic buildings or symbols)
2. Please describe whether and how the Project may result in changes to your community's health, social or economic conditions (e.g. employment opportunities, access to goods and services, economic development, access to health-care services).
3. Please describe whether and how the Project may impact your community's rights as protected under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

Given the 90-day legislated timeline, your response is requested by **October 4th, 2021**.

Next Steps

The Minister's determination on whether the Project is to be designated, with reasons, will be posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site. Should the Project be designated, the Agency will contact you to discuss further steps under IAA.


In the coming days, a Registry page for the Project (Reference number to come) will be available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site.

Important Note: All records produced, collected or received in relation to the designation request process – unless prohibited under the *Access to Information Act* or *Privacy Act* – will be considered public and may be released. 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.

Further questions regarding this request can be directed to Noémie Deshaies at 343 549-5074 or noemie.deshaies@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>


Noémie Deshaies
Senior consultation analyst – Quebec

c.c. : Abraham Francis, Program Manager, Department of Tehotiennawakon
Mireille Lapointe, project manager, IAAC

Enclosure : Request for Designation of Meltech Project