



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Ontario Region
600-55 York Street
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

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

August 8, 2022

Sent by email

Correspondence to Provincial Review Team

Gavin Downing, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Herb Vilneff, Ministry of Transportation

Jacquie Williamson, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

Kathleen O'Neill, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

Neil Zohorsky, Ministry of Transportation

Shruti Talwar, Ministry of Energy

Steven McInnis, Ministry of Transportation

Sylvain Lévesque, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Tiffany Mah, Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

Trina Rawn, Ministry of Mines

Tony Marzotto, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Dear Colleagues:

Subject: Request for Comments on the Crawford Nickel Project

Please complete and submit the attached form by September 7, 2022

On August 5, 2022, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) accepted the Initial Project Description for the Crawford Nickel Project (the Project) from Canada Nickel Company (the Proponent) as meeting the requirements of Schedule 1 of the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations* under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA). As of August 8, 2022, the 180-day planning phase of the impact assessment process has commenced. The Initial Project Description is available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Registry) at <http://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/83857>.

The Agency is conducting a 30-day comment period on the Initial Project Description from August 8, 2022, to September 7, 2022, inviting the public, Indigenous communities and other jurisdictions to provide feedback related to the Project.

Feedback will help the Agency prepare a Summary of Issues for the Proponent and inform the Agency's decision as to whether the Project requires an impact assessment. If an impact assessment is required, this same feedback would help the Agency prepare draft planning documents.

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Crawford Nickel Project

The Proponent is proposing the construction, operation, decommissioning and abandonment of an open-pit nickel-cobalt mine and on-site metal mill, located 43 kilometres north of Timmins, Ontario. As proposed, the Project would have a mine ore production capacity of 290,000 tonnes per day and a mill ore input capacity of 120,000 tonnes per day. The Project would operate for about 41 years.

Request for comments by September 7, 2022

Attached to this letter is the **Provincial Advice Record**. This form requests information on your ministry's mandate and invites your ministry's comments on the Proponent's Initial Project Description. This includes your ministry's input on key potential project effects and frameworks for addressing effects, relevant regulatory processes, opportunities to tailor the (potential) assessment requirements, and opportunities to cooperate with other jurisdictions.

Please submit the completed Provincial Advice Record via the *Submit a Comment* feature available on the Project's Registry page. 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. The Agency will consider input received **by September 7, 2022**, in its development of the Summary of Issues.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Any information submitted to the Agency to inform this project assessment will be made publicly available as part of the project file, and may be posted online via the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Reference #83857), subject to certain exceptions related to privacy, security or confidentiality. The Agency's Submission Policy¹ describes what submitted information can be shared publicly, and what should remain private. For further information on how we protect your privacy, please refer to the Privacy Notice.²

Should you wish to provide any comments or documents that contain confidential or sensitive information that should be protected from release to the public, please contact Harry Keess at 416-659-0765 or at Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca before submitting the information. This will ensure that your submission is handled appropriately.

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¹ <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/participation/conditions>

² <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/protection>

Next steps

Upon receipt of the Summary of Issues from the Agency, the Proponent will prepare and submit a Detailed Project Description, including the Response to the Summary of Issues that includes an explanation of how it intends to address the issues raised. Following acceptance of the Detailed Project Description, the Agency will decide³ whether an impact assessment of the Project is required.

If the Agency decides that an impact assessment is required for the Project, it will draft the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (Guidelines) and plans—which includes the Permitting Plan, the Public Participation Plan, an Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, and, the Cooperation Plan—for review and comment.

The comments you provide on the Initial Project Description will inform the decision as to whether an impact assessment is required, the draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, and draft Cooperation Plan.

The Agency will hold a comment period and will invite you to review the draft Guidelines and draft plans. These documents would be finalized and issued to the Proponent with the notice of commencement of the impact assessment.

During the impact statement phase, the proponent would be expected to satisfactorily complete the required information and studies set out in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines. At the end of the impact assessment process, a decision is made about whether the adverse effects of the Project are in the public interest.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Harry Keess, Project Manager, by email at *Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca* or by phone at 416-659-0765.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Marc Leger
A/ Director, Ontario Region

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³ In making its decision, the Agency must take into account the factors set out in subsection 16(2) of the *Impact Assessment Act*.

Enclosure: Provincial Advice Record

c.c.: Andrew Alkins, Ministry of Transportation
Andrew Evers, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Andrew Healy, Ministry of Transportation
Bob Barclay, Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development
Catherine Sutherland, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Chris Mahon, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Cory Wiseman, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
James Antler, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Karla Barboza, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Katy Potter, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Laura Romeo, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Michael Young, Ministry of Mines
Rene Aubin, Ministry of Mines
Robin Stewart, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Ryan Herbrand, Ministry of Transportation