

**ATTACHMENT: October 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Federal Authority Advice Record**  
**Response due by November 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Gazoduq Project – Gazoduq inc.  
Agency File: 80264

Department/Agency	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
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1. Is it probable that your department or agency may be required to exercise a power or perform a duty or function related to the Project to enable it to proceed?

If yes, specify the Act of Parliament and that power, duty or function.

An authorization under paragraphs 34.4(2)(b) and 35(2)(b) of the Fisheries Act may be required for proposed works, undertakings or activities that could result in the death of fish or harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat. It is also possible that a permit under the Species at Risk Act may be required if the proposed project has an adverse impact on aquatic species at risk listed on Schedule 1 of the Act or on any element of their critical habitat or the residence of their individuals in a manner that is prohibited under sections 32 and 33 and subsection 58(1) of the Act.

However, the initial project description does not currently include sufficient information, particularly with respect to the planned crossing methods and watercourses considered, to determine whether either of these approvals would be required or not.

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2. Is your department or agency in possession of specialist or expert information or knowledge that may be relevant to the conduct of an impact assessment of the Project?

Specify as appropriate.

DFO can provide specialist or expert information or knowledge on assessment of impacts on fish and fish habitat, and aquatic species at risk. Our department may provide information to the proponent in order to avoid and mitigate the negative impacts of the proposed works, undertakings or activities.

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3. Has your department or agency considered the Project; exercised a power or performed a duty or function under any Act of Parliament in relation to the Project; or taken any course of action that would allow the Project to proceed in whole or in part?

Specify as appropriate.

No

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4. Has your department or agency had previous contact or involvement with the proponent or other party in relation to the Project? (for example, enquiry about methodology, guidance, or data; introduction to the project)

Provide an overview of the information or advice exchanged.

The proponent submitted a separate request for review to DFO (Quebec Region) to conduct geophysical surveys (seismic and electrical tomography) on six major rivers to be crossed within the preferred development area for the pipeline. During this process DFO had discussions with the Province of Quebec and the proponent on mitigation measures, including specific timing window restrictions for fish. On September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, DFO Quebec Region issued a letter of advice to the proponent for the geophysical surveys planned for 2019 and 2020 in the Kinojévis and Harricana rivers in Abitibi-Témiscamingue, the Saint-Maurice river in Mauricie, the Métabetchouane, Pikauba and du Moulin rivers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. This exploratory work is intended to confirm the crossing method that will be proposed for these watercourses as part of the Gazoduq project. Further requests for geophysical surveys could be expected.

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5. Does your department or agency have additional information or knowledge not specified, above?

Specify as appropriate.

No.

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6. From the perspective of the mandate and area(s) of expertise of your department or agency, what are the issues that should be addressed in the impact assessment of the Project, should the Agency determine that an impact assessment is required?

For each issue discussed, provide a concise, plain-language summary that is appropriate for inclusion in the Summary of Issues.

The initial project description does not include any information regarding the expected water crossing methods or the fish species and fish habitat potentially impacted. At this early stage, the issues listed below are potential issues:

#### Fish and Fish Habitat

- Impacts to fish and fish habitat are uncertain, including but not limited to:
  - harmful alteration or destruction of sensitive habitat (spawning habitat, rearing habitat, etc.) by permanent encroachment of the trench into the aquatic environment or by permanent alteration of the banks and bed of the stream during the construction and operation phase or frac-outs with the directional drilling of the pipeline;
  - disturbance by erosion and sedimentation during the construction phase, particularly during excavation and backfilling of trench in riparian and aquatic environments.
- Effect on the free passage of fish during the construction phase, depending on the stream crossing methods chosen or potential culverts to be used.
- Fish mortality in the pre-construction and construction phase, including but not limited to:
  - during geophysical surveys to be carried out during the pre-construction phase in riparian and aquatic environments in order to determine stream crossing methods;
  - by the potential use of explosives during the construction phase for trenching in aquatic and riparian environments;
  - by impingement/entrainment of fish when pumping water in connection with the installation of temporary structures during the construction phase or during hydrostatic tests before the pipeline is put into service.

#### Species at Risk

- Death, harm, or harassment of an individual of a species listed as extirpated, endangered or threatened under SARA through project pre-construction, construction and operation.
- Destruction of the residence of one or more individuals of a listed endangered, threatened or extirpated species through project construction and operation.
- Destruction of critical habitat of listed aquatic species through project construction and operation.

- Alternatives  
Currently proposed corridor for the pipeline with respect to issues raised by DFO on alternative sites considered as part of the ongoing environmental assessment for the LNG terminal (Saguenay Energy Project).

Name of Departmental / Agency Responder

Date \_\_\_\_\_