



ELECTRONIC MAIL

December 20, 2024

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Weina Chong:

Subject: Notification that an Impact Assessment is Required and Referral to Review Panel for the Proposed Bruce C Nuclear Project and Next Steps

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) received the Response to the Summary of Issues for the Bruce C Nuclear Project (the Project) located in the Municipality of Kincardine, Ontario on December 6, 2024.

Taking into account the Initial Project Description, your Response to the Summary of Issues, and in consideration of comments received by IAAC from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), the public, federal authorities, Indigenous groups and other jurisdictions, IAAC has determined that the Project, as presented, could result in adverse effects in federal jurisdiction, including potential effects to fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, and Indigenous Peoples' health, social, and economic conditions as well as impacts on rights and potential effects to physical and cultural heritage, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, and any structure, site or thing of historical or archaeological significance.

As a result, IAAC has determined that an impact assessment for the Project under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) is required. A Notice of Impact Assessment Decision with Reasons has been posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Registry) website at: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/88771>.

IAAC's determination under section 16 of the IAA does not preclude any other federal or provincial legislative, regulatory and constitutional requirements that may be applicable to the Project.

In accordance with subsection 43(a) of the IAA, the Minister of Environment

and Climate Change (the Minister) must refer the impact assessment of a designated project with physical activities regulated under the *Nuclear Safety Control Act* to a review panel. On December 5, 2024, the Minister delegated the obligation under subsection 43(a) of the IAA to IAAC. As a result, a Notice of Referral to Review Panel has been posted to the Registry website.

In accordance with the [Cabinet Directive on Regulatory and Permitting Efficiency for Clean Growth Projects](#) (the Directive) commitments, IAAC and CNSC remain committed to a timely, efficient and predictable process.

Permitting Coordination Initiative for Projects Subject to the IAA

The Government of Canada is providing federal permitting coordination support for designated projects undergoing an impact assessment to accelerate decision-making processes for federal permits, licenses, and other authorizations required for projects to get to construction.

In addition to the integrated review process with CNSC, IAAC support would involve working with other federal regulators to provide clarity on requirements, timelines, providing guidance and information to proponents related to federal permitting processes, and increasing transparency through public reporting on the progress of permitting on the Registry website.

Next Steps

IAAC will continue to collaborate with you during the Planning phase and will work with the CNSC and federal authorities to prepare the Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (the Guidelines) and other Planning phase documents to inform the federal impact assessment process.

IAAC will carefully consider the potential adverse effects within federal jurisdiction in developing the Guidelines. Along with other key information, these potential effects will be used to inform the key issues related to the Project, the scope of the factors for the impact assessment, and the information or studies that may be specified in the Guidelines.

IAAC and the CNSC are anticipating a 40-day public comment period starting from mid-January 2025 to late February 2025, to gather views from Bruce Power and potentially impacted Indigenous Nations and communities, federal authorities, the public, and other interested parties on the draft Guidelines and draft Public Participation Plan. IAAC will be contacting you in the near future with further details.

IAAC would also be happy to further discuss the permitting coordination initiative with you, including what it means for your project.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at bruce@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

< sent electronically >

Dominic McRae
Acting Panel Manager
Review Panels Division

cc: Candida Cianci, Director, Review Panels Division, IAAC
Nicole Frigault, Acting Director of the Environmental Review Division,
CNSC
Mark Broeders, Director of the Advanced Reactor Licensing Division,
CNSC