

# APPENDIX

## ***B-5*** *PROVINCIAL AGENCIES CORRESPONDENCE RECORDS*

## Notice of Commencement Correspondence Record

**Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks**

**Ministère de l'Environnement,  
de la Protection de la nature  
et des Parcs**

Environmental Assessment  
Branch

Direction des évaluations  
environnementales

1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
135 St. Clair Avenue W  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
**Tel.:** 416 314-8001  
**Fax.:** 416 314-8452

Rez-de-chaussée  
135, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
**Tél. :** 416 314-8001  
**Télec. :** 416 314-8452

April 22, 2022

Dominic Parrella  
Executive Lead, Special Projects  
PUC Transmission LP  
dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com

**Re: 230 kV Transmission Line and Station, in the City of Sault Ste. Marie  
PUC Transmission LP  
Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities  
Response to Notice of Commencement**

Dear Dominic Parrella,

This letter is in response to the Notice of Commencement for the above noted project. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) acknowledges that PUC Transmission LP (proponent) has indicated that the study is following the approved environmental planning process under the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (Class EA).

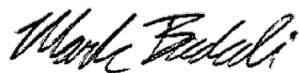
The **updated (February 2021)** attached “Areas of Interest” document provides guidance regarding the ministry’s interests with respect to the Class EA process. Please address all areas of interest in the EA documentation at an appropriate level for the EA study. Proponents who address all the applicable areas of interest can minimize potential delays to the project schedule. **Further information is provided at the end of the Areas of Interest document relating to recent changes to the Environmental Assessment Act through Bill 197, Covid-19 Economic Recovery Act 2020.**

We understand that the proponent will, through the EA process, study and evaluate the alternative circuit routes as shown on the Notice of Commencement to select a preferred route with the least overall effects to the environment and to assess the potential effects of the project, including incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge.

Please send a copy of the final notice to the MECP's Northern Region EA notification email account ([eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca)) and a copy of the draft Environmental Study Report to your assigned Regional Environmental Planner for download. Please be advised that the MECP Project Review Unit is currently undergoing staff transitions, so an alternate MECP Regional Environmental Planner may reach out to you in the coming months with updated contact information.

Should you or any members of your project team have any questions regarding the material above, please contact me at [mark.badali1@ontario.ca](mailto:mark.badali1@ontario.ca).

Yours truly,



Mark Badali  
Regional Environmental Planner  
Project Review Unit, Environmental Assessment Branch

Cc: Ron Dorscht, Supervisor, Sault Ste Marie Area Office, MECP  
Jeremiah Pariag, Consultation and Engagement Lead, WSP Canada Inc.  
Lina ElSetouhy, Environmental Planner, WSP Canada Inc.

Enclosed: Areas of Interest

Attached: Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk

## AREAS OF INTEREST (v. February 2021)

*It is suggested that you check off each section after you have considered / addressed it.*

### ☐ **Planning and Policy**

- Applicable plans and policies should be identified in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed project adheres to the relevant policies in these plans.
  - Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern or West Central Region may be subject to [A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe \(2020\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Central or Eastern Region may be subject to the [Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan \(2017\)](#) or the [Lake Simcoe Protection Plan \(2014\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Central, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the [Niagara Escarpment Plan \(2017\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the [Greenbelt Plan \(2017\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Northern Region may be subject to the [Growth Plan for Northern Ontario \(2011\)](#).
- The [Provincial Policy Statement \(2020\)](#) contains policies that protect Ontario's natural heritage and water resources. Applicable policies should be referenced in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed project is consistent with these policies.
- In addition to the provincial planning and policy level, the report should also discuss the planning context at the municipal and federal levels, as appropriate.

### ☐ **Source Water Protection**

The *Clean Water Act*, 2006 (CWA) aims to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. To achieve this, several types of vulnerable areas have been delineated around surface water intakes and wellheads for every municipal residential drinking water system that is located in a source protection area. These vulnerable areas are known as a Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs) and surface water Intake Protection Zones (IPZs). Other vulnerable areas that have been delineated under the CWA include Highly Vulnerable Aquifers (HVAs), Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas (SGRAs), Event-based modelling areas (EBAs), and Issues Contributing Areas (ICAs). Source protection plans have been developed that include policies to address existing and future risks to sources of municipal drinking water within these vulnerable areas.

Projects that are subject to the Environmental Assessment Act that fall under a Class EA, or one of the Regulations, have the potential to impact sources of drinking water if they occur in designated vulnerable areas or in the vicinity of other at-risk drinking water systems (i.e.

systems that are not municipal residential systems). MEA Class EA projects may include activities that, if located in a vulnerable area, could be a threat to sources of drinking water (i.e. have the potential to adversely affect the quality or quantity of drinking water sources) and the activity could therefore be subject to policies in a source protection plan. Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, policies in the local source protection plan may impact how or where that activity is undertaken. Policies may prohibit certain activities, or they may require risk management measures for these activities. Municipal Official Plans, planning decisions, Class EA projects (where the project includes an activity that is a threat to drinking water) and prescribed instruments must conform with policies that address significant risks to drinking water and must have regard for policies that address moderate or low risks.

- The proponent should identify the source protection area and should clearly document how the proximity of the project to sources of drinking water (municipal or other) and any delineated vulnerable areas was considered and assessed. Specifically, the report should discuss whether or not the project is located in a vulnerable area and provide applicable details about the area.
- If located in a vulnerable area, proponents should document whether any project activities are prescribed drinking water threats and thus pose a risk to drinking water (this should be consulted on with the appropriate Source Protection Authority). Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, the proponent must document and discuss in the report how the project adheres to or has regard to applicable policies in the local source protection plan. This section should then be used to inform and be reflected in other sections of the report, such as the identification of net positive/negative effects of alternatives, mitigation measures, evaluation of alternatives etc.
- While most source protection plans focused on including policies for significant drinking water threats in the WHPAs and IPZs it should be noted that even though source protection plan policies may not apply in HVAs, these are areas where aquifers are sensitive and at risk to impacts and within these areas, activities may impact the quality of sources of drinking water for systems other than municipal residential systems.
- In order to determine if this project is occurring within a vulnerable area, proponents can use this mapping tool: <http://www.applications.ene.gov.on.ca/swp/en/index.php>. Note that various layers (including WHPAs, WHPA-Q1 and WHPA-Q2, IPZs, HVAs, SGRAs, EBAs, ICAs) can be turned on through the “Map Legend” bar on the left. The mapping tool will also provide a link to the appropriate source protection plan in order to identify what policies may be applicable in the vulnerable area.
- For further information on the maps or source protection plan policies which may relate to their project, proponents must contact the appropriate source protection authority. **Please consult with the local source protection authority to discuss potential impacts on drinking water. Please document the results of that consultation within the report and include all communication documents/correspondence.**

### More Information

For more information on the *Clean Water Act*, source protection areas and plans, including specific information on the vulnerable areas and drinking water threats, please refer to [Conservation Ontario's website](#) where you will also find links to the local source protection plan/assessment report.

A list of the prescribed drinking water threats can be found in [section 1.1 of Ontario Regulation 287/07](#) made under the *Clean Water Act*. In addition to prescribed drinking water threats, some source protection plans may include policies to address additional "local" threat activities, as approved by the MECP.

### ☐ **Climate Change**

The document "[Considering Climate Change in the Environmental Assessment Process](#)" (Guide) is now a part of the Environmental Assessment program's Guides and Codes of Practice. The Guide sets out the MECP's expectation for considering climate change in the preparation, execution and documentation of environmental assessment studies and processes. The guide provides examples, approaches, resources, and references to assist proponents with consideration of climate change in EA. Proponents should review this Guide in detail.

#### **• The MECP expects proponents of projects under a Class EA or EA Act Regulation to:**

1. Consider during the assessment of alternative solutions and alternative designs, the following:
  - a. the project's expected production of greenhouse gas emissions and impacts on carbon sinks (climate change mitigation); and
  - b. resilience or vulnerability of the undertaking to changing climatic conditions (climate change adaptation).
2. Include a discrete section in the report detailing how climate change was considered in the EA.

How climate change is considered can be qualitative or quantitative in nature and should be scaled to the project's level of environmental effect. In all instances, both a project's impacts on climate change (mitigation) and impacts of climate change on a project (adaptation) should be considered.

- The MECP has also prepared another guide to support provincial land use planning direction related to the completion of energy and emission plans. The "[Community Emissions Reduction Planning: A Guide for Municipalities](#)" document is designed to educate stakeholders on the municipal opportunities to reduce energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and to provide guidance on methods and techniques to incorporate consideration of energy and greenhouse gas emissions into municipal activities of all types. We encourage you to review the Guide for information.

□ **Air Quality, Dust and Noise**

- If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of this project, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically includes source and receptor characterization and a quantification of local air quality impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern.  
**Please contact this office for further consultation on the level of Air Quality Impact Assessment required for this project if not already advised.**
- If a quantitative Air Quality Impact Assessment is not required for the project, the MECP expects that the report contain a qualitative assessment which includes:
  - A discussion of local air quality including existing activities/sources that significantly impact local air quality and how the project may impact existing conditions;
  - A discussion of the nearby sensitive receptors and the project's potential air quality impacts on present and future sensitive receptors;
  - A discussion of local air quality impacts that could arise from this project during both construction and operation; and
  - A discussion of potential mitigation measures.
- Dust and noise control measures should be addressed and included in the construction plans to ensure that nearby residential and other sensitive land uses within the study area are not adversely affected during construction activities.
- The MECP recommends that non-chloride dust-suppressants be applied. For a comprehensive list of fugitive dust prevention and control measures that could be applied, refer to [Cheminfo Services Inc. Best Practices for the Reduction of Air Emissions from Construction and Demolition Activities](#) report prepared for Environment Canada. March 2005.
- The report should consider the potential impacts of increased noise levels during the operation of the completed project. The proponent should explore all potential measures to mitigate significant noise impacts during the assessment of alternatives.
- Noise associated with a proposed transformer station should be evaluated. Note that any noise monitoring and assessment should be conducted in accordance with the requirements of MECP guidelines, such as MECP Publication NPC-233, *"Information to be Submitted for Approval of Stationary Sources of Sound"*.



- In order to address potential noise impacts of the transformer station, it may be necessary to first monitor ambient noise levels prior to the installation of the transformer station, and to then conduct a noise assessment after the transformer station is installed and operational. Depending on the results of these studies and the proximity to sensitive receptors, remedial measures may be needed to address noise generated by the transformer station.

#### ☐ **Ecosystem Protection and Restoration**

- Any impacts to ecosystem form and function must be avoided where possible. The report should describe any proposed mitigation measures and how project planning will protect and enhance the local ecosystem.
- Natural heritage and hydrologic features should be identified and described in detail to assess potential impacts and to develop appropriate mitigation measures. The following sensitive environmental features may be located within or adjacent to the study area:
  - Key Natural Heritage Features: Habitat of endangered species and threatened species, fish habitat, wetlands, areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs), significant valleylands, significant woodlands; significant wildlife habitat (including habitat of special concern species); sand barrens, savannahs, and tallgrass prairies; and alvars.
  - Key Hydrologic Features: Permanent streams, intermittent streams, inland lakes and their littoral zones, seepage areas and springs, and wetlands.
  - Other natural heritage features and areas such as: vegetation communities, rare species of flora or fauna, Environmentally Sensitive Areas, Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, Greenland systems etc.

We recommend consulting with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and your local conservation authority to determine if special measures or additional studies will be necessary to preserve and protect these sensitive features.

#### ☐ **Species at Risk**

- The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has now assumed responsibility of Ontario's Species at Risk program. Information, standards, guidelines, reference materials and technical resources to assist you are found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk>.
- The Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk (Draft May 2019) has been attached to the covering email for your reference and use. Please review this document for next steps.

- For any questions related to subsequent permit requirements, please contact [SAROntario@ontario.ca](mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca).

## ☐ **Surface Water**

- The report must include enough information to demonstrate that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or ecological functions of any watercourses within the study area. Measures should be included in the planning and design process to ensure that any impacts to watercourses from construction or operational activities (e.g. spills, erosion, pollution) are mitigated as part of the proposed undertaking.
- Additional stormwater runoff from new pavement can impact receiving watercourses and flood conditions. Quality and quantity control measures to treat stormwater runoff should be considered for all new impervious areas and, where possible, existing surfaces. The ministry's [Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual \(2003\)](#) should be referenced in the report and utilized when designing stormwater control methods. **A Stormwater Management Plan should be prepared as part of the Environmental Screening Process** that includes:
  - Strategies to address potential water quantity and erosion impacts related to stormwater draining into streams or other sensitive environmental features, and to ensure that adequate (enhanced) water quality is maintained
  - Watershed information, drainage conditions, and other relevant background information
  - Future drainage conditions, stormwater management options, information on erosion and sediment control during construction, and other details of the proposed works
  - Information on maintenance and monitoring commitments.
- Ontario Regulation 60/08 under the *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA) applies to the Lake Simcoe Basin, which encompasses Lake Simcoe and the lands from which surface water drains into Lake Simcoe. If the proposed sewage treatment plant is listed in Table 1 of the regulation, the report should describe how the proposed project and its mitigation measures are consistent with the requirements of this regulation and the OWRA.
- Any potential approval requirements for surface water taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) under the OWRA will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 L/day, except for certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking EASR Regulation – *O. Reg. 63/16*. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the [Water Taking User Guide for EASR](#) for more information. Additionally, an

Environmental Compliance Approval under the OWRA is required for municipal stormwater management works.

□ **Groundwater**

- The status of, and potential impacts to any well water supplies should be addressed. If the project involves groundwater takings or changes to drainage patterns, the quantity and quality of groundwater may be affected due to drawdown effects or the redirection of existing contamination flows. In addition, project activities may infringe on existing wells such that they must be reconstructed or sealed and abandoned. Appropriate information to define existing groundwater conditions should be included in the report.
- If the potential construction or decommissioning of water wells is identified as an issue, the report should refer to Ontario Regulation 903, Wells, under the OWRA.
- Potential impacts to groundwater-dependent natural features should be addressed. Any changes to groundwater flow or quality from groundwater taking may interfere with the ecological processes of streams, wetlands or other surficial features. In addition, discharging contaminated or high volumes of groundwater to these features may have direct impacts on their function. Any potential effects should be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures should be recommended. The level of detail required will be dependent on the significance of the potential impacts.
- Where construction of transmission towers is proposed, any pile driving into the subsurface that is required for steel pile type tower foundations, particularly to the bedrock surface at depth, may have an adverse effect on local groundwater resources. Should steel pile type foundations be the preferred construction method for tower foundations based on geotechnical investigation findings, the ministry may require a detailed account of the installation procedures and protocols for steel piles on the tower foundations, including size, type, length and manner of installation prior to commencement of construction.
- Any potential approval requirements for groundwater taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) under the OWRA will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 L/day, with the exception of certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking EASR Regulation – *O. Reg. 63/16*. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the [Water Taking User Guide for EASR](#) for more information.
- Consultation with the railroad authorities is necessary wherever there is a plan to use construction dewatering in the vicinity of railroad lines or where the zone of influence of the construction dewatering potentially intercepts railroad lines.

- Groundwater should be protected from the potential for spills, dewatering and wood pole preservative during construction. A plan should be in place for preventing and dealing with spills. All spills that could potentially cause damage to the environment should be reported to the Spills Action Centre of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks at 1-800-268-6060.

#### ☐ **Excess Materials Management**

- In December 2019, MECP released a new regulation under the Environmental Protection Act, titled “On-Site and Excess Soil Management” (O. Reg. 406/19) to support improved management of excess construction soil. This regulation is a key step to support proper management of excess soils, ensuring valuable resources don’t go to waste and to provide clear rules on managing and reusing excess soil. New risk-based standards referenced by this regulation help to facilitate local beneficial reuse which in turn will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from soil transportation, while ensuring strong protection of human health and the environment. The new regulation is being phased in over time, with the first phase in effect on January 1, 2021. For more information, please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/handling-excess-soil>.
- The report should reference that activities involving the management of excess soil should be completed in accordance with O. Reg. 406/19 and the MECP’s current guidance document titled “Management of Excess Soil – A Guide for Best Management Practices” (2014).
- All waste generated during construction must be disposed of in accordance with ministry requirements

#### ☐ **Contaminated Sites**

- Any current or historical waste disposal sites should be identified in the report. The status of these sites should be determined to confirm whether approval pursuant to Section 46 of the EPA may be required for land uses on former disposal sites. We recommend referring to the [MECP’s D-4 guideline](#) for land use considerations near landfills and dumps.
  - Resources available may include regional/local municipal official plans and data; provincial data on [large landfill sites](#) and [small landfill sites](#); Environmental Compliance Approval information for waste disposal sites on [Access Environment](#).
- Other known contaminated sites (local, provincial, federal) in the study area should also be identified in the report (Note – information on federal contaminated sites is found on the Government of Canada’s [website](#)).

- The location of any underground storage tanks should be investigated in the report. Measures should be identified to ensure the integrity of these tanks and to ensure an appropriate response in the event of a spill. The ministry's Spills Action Centre must be contacted in such an event.
- Since the removal or movement of soils may be required, appropriate tests to determine contaminant levels from previous land uses or dumping should be undertaken. If the soils are contaminated, you must determine how and where they are to be disposed of, consistent with *Part XV.1 of the Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) and Ontario Regulation 153/04, Records of Site Condition, which details the new requirements related to site assessment and clean up. Consideration of potential environmental contamination should be given following regulatory guidance where the project involves decommissioning of facilities. Please contact the appropriate MECP District Office for further consultation if contaminated sites are present.
- Where poles are being removed that have been chemically treated, we recommend that the proponent consider soil testing to determine the extent of any related soil contamination. Soil testing may be contingent on factors such as proximity to water bodies or wetlands, proximity to wells, locations where poles are being removed but not replaced, and the treatment chemicals used (i.e. chromated copper arsenate (CCA) or creosote). In the case of poles which have been treated with CCA or creosote, testing for arsenic, copper and creosote should be completed.

#### ☐ **Servicing, Utilities and Facilities**

- The report should identify any above or underground utilities in the study area such as transmission lines, telephone/internet, oil/gas etc. The owners should be consulted to discuss impacts to this infrastructure, including potential spills.
- The report should identify any servicing infrastructure in the study area such as wastewater, water, stormwater that may potentially be impacted by the project.
- Any facility that releases emissions to the atmosphere, discharges contaminants to ground or surface water, provides potable water supplies, or stores, transports or disposes of waste must have an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) before it can operate lawfully. Please consult with MECP's Environmental Permissions Branch to determine whether a new or amended ECA will be required for any proposed infrastructure.

- We recommend referring to the ministry's [environmental land use planning guides](#) to ensure that any potential land use conflicts are considered when planning for any infrastructure or facilities related to wastewater, pipelines, landfills or industrial uses.

#### ☐ **Mitigation and Monitoring**

- Contractors must be made aware of all environmental considerations so that all environmental standards and commitments for both construction and operation are met. Mitigation measures should be clearly referenced in the report and regularly monitored during the construction stage of the project. In addition, we encourage proponents to conduct post-construction monitoring to ensure all mitigation measures have been effective and are functioning properly.
- Design and construction reports and plans should be based on a best management approach that centres on the prevention of impacts, protection of the existing environment, and opportunities for rehabilitation and enhancement of any impacted areas.
- The proponent's construction and post-construction effects monitoring strategies and programs must be documented in the report.
- The proponent must consider cumulative effects when planning projects. The assessment will include the proposed undertaking and any other proposed undertakings in the immediate project area where documentation is available (e.g. other environmental assessments).

#### ☐ **Consultation**

- The report must demonstrate how the consultation provisions of the Environmental Screening Process have been fulfilled, including documentation of all stakeholder consultation efforts undertaken during the planning process. This includes a discussion in the report that identifies concerns that were raised and **describes how they have been addressed by the proponent** throughout the planning process. The report should also include copies of comments submitted on the project by interested stakeholders, and the proponent's responses to these comments (as directed by the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects to include full documentation).
- Please include the full stakeholder distribution/consultation list in the documentation.

## □ **Environmental Screening Process**

- The report should provide clear and complete documentation of the planning process in order to allow for transparency in decision-making.
- The Environmental Screening Process requires the consideration of the effects of each alternative on all aspects of the environment (including planning, natural, social, cultural, economic, technical). The report should include a level of detail (e.g. hydrogeological investigations, terrestrial and aquatic assessments, cultural heritage assessments) such that all potential impacts can be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures can be developed. Any supporting studies conducted during the Environmental Screening Process should be referenced and included as part of the report.
- Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the preferred alternative, including but not limited to, MECP's PTTW, EASR Registrations and ECAs, conservation authority permits, species at risk permits, MTO permits and approvals under the *Impact Assessment Act*, 2019.
- Ministry guidelines and other information related to the issues above are available at <http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/environment-and-energy>. We encourage you to review all the available guides and to reference any relevant information in the report.

## **Amendments to the EAA through the Covid-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020**

Once the report is finalized, the proponent must issue a Notice of Completion providing a minimum 30-day period during which documentation may be reviewed and comment and input can be submitted to the proponent. The Notice of Completion must be sent to the appropriate MECP Regional Office email address (for projects in MECP Southwest Region, the email is [eanotification.swregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.swregion@ontario.ca)).

The public has the ability to request a higher level of assessment on a project if they are concerned about potential adverse impacts to constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. In addition, the Minister may issue an order on his or her own initiative within a specified time period. The Director (of the Environmental Assessment Branch) will issue a Notice of Proposed Order to the proponent if the Minister is considering an order for the project within 30 days after the conclusion of the comment period on the Notice of Completion. At this time, the Director may request additional information from the proponent. Once the requested information has been received, the Minister will have 30 days within which to make a decision or impose conditions on your project.

Therefore, the proponent cannot proceed with the project until at least 30 days after the end of the comment period provided for in the Notice of Completion. Further, the proponent may not proceed after this time if:

- a Part II Order request has been submitted to the ministry regarding potential adverse impacts to constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights, or
- the Director has issued a Notice of Proposed order regarding the project.

Please ensure that the Notice of Completion advises that outstanding concerns are to be directed to the proponent for a response, and that in the event there are outstanding concerns regarding potential adverse impacts to constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights, Part II Order requests on those matters should be addressed in writing to:

Minister Jeff Yurek  
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

and

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor  
Toronto ON, M4V 1P5  
EABDirector@ontario.ca



**From:** Badali, Mark (MECP) <Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** April 22, 2022 12:41 PM  
**To:** dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com  
**Cc:** jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com; Pariag, Jeremiah; Squires, Callum; Elsetouhy, Lina; Dorscht, Ron (MECP)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'  
**Attachments:** PUC Transmission LP\_Minor Transmission Class EA-NoC\_31Mar2022.pdf; MECP Acknowledgement - NoC - PUC Transmission LP Class EA for MTF 230 kV Transmission Project Sault Ste Marie.pdf; Supporting Attachment - Species at Risk Proponents Guide to Preliminary Screening (Draft May 2019).pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find the attached letter of acknowledgement and supporting attachments in response to the Notice of Commencement of the PUC Transmission LP Class Environmental Assessment project for a 230 kV Transmission line and station in the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

Best regards,

**Mark Badali** ([he/him](#))  
Regional Environmental Planner (REP) – Southwest Region  
Project Review Unit | Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
[Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca](mailto:Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca) | (416) 457-2155

**\*\*I am currently unable to receive calls by phone – please feel free to email me to setup an online audio call\*\***

---

**From:** Badali, Mark (MECP)  
**Sent:** April 21, 2022 2:56 PM  
**To:** 'Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com' <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** 'dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com' <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; 'jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com' <[jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)>; 'Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com' <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; 'Callum\_Squires@golder.com' <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Good afternoon,

I'm afraid I misspoke in previous email – my sincere apologies. For projects under the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities, per Section 4.1.1 of the parent Class EA document, the Ministry of Energy is the proponent's primary contact for matters regarding the Duty to Consult. As such, I would advise you to please reach out to your Ministry of Energy contact to request a list of communities and any other consultation resources that may be required.

I will be providing you with a letter acknowledgement in response to the Notice of Commencement for this Class EA project, including the MECP's areas of interest that the proponent should consider during the Class EA process.

Please be advised that our unit is currently undergoing some staff transitions, so an alternate MECP Regional Environmental Planner may reach out to you in the coming month with updated contact information.

Thank you,

**Mark Badali** ([he/him](#))  
Regional Environmental Planner (REP) – Southwest Region  
Project Review Unit | Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
[Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca](mailto:Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca) | (416) 457-2155

**\*\*I am currently unable to receive calls by phone – please feel free to email me to setup an online audio call\*\***

---

**From:** Badali, Mark (MECP)  
**Sent:** April 14, 2022 5:36 PM  
**To:** [Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)  
**Cc:** [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); [Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com); [Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

Thank you for your emails. We are in the process of preparing a list of Indigenous Communities for consultation, which I will provide to WSP and the proponent as soon as possible.

Have a great weekend,

**Mark Badali** ([he/him](#))  
Regional Environmental Planner (REP) – Southwest Region  
Project Review Unit | Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
[Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca](mailto:Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca) | (416) 457-2155

**\*\*I am currently unable to receive calls by phone – please feel free to email me to setup an online audio call\*\***



---

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** April 14, 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** EA Notices to NRegion (MECP) <[eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Majerovich, Mira (MECP) <[Mira.Majerovich@ontario.ca](mailto:Mira.Majerovich@ontario.ca)>; [shelley.waino2@ontario.ca](mailto:shelley.waino2@ontario.ca); Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Jairus Patterson <[jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Good morning,

Following up on my email below.

Please note that this Study is on a tight timeline. Could the MECP please confirm the list of Indigenous Communities as soon as possible (i.e., while the formal technical response is being prepared)?

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment



**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina  
**Sent:** March 31, 2022 1:36 PM  
**To:** [enotification.nregion@ontario.ca](mailto:enotification.nregion@ontario.ca)  
**Cc:** [mira.majerovich@ontario.ca](mailto:mira.majerovich@ontario.ca); [shelley.waino2@ontario.ca](mailto:shelley.waino2@ontario.ca); Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Jairus Patterson <[jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hello,

Please see attached for the Project Information Form and the Notice of Commencement for the PUC Transmission LP Class Environmental Assessment Study for a new 230 kV Transmission line and station in the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

Please note that this Study is on a tight timeline. Could the MECP please confirm the list of Indigenous Communities as soon as possible (i.e., while the formal technical response is being prepared)?

Thank you.

On behalf of the Project Team,

<b>Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.</b> Executive Lead, Special Projects PUC Transmission LP Tel.: (705) 941-8386 Email: <a href="mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com">dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com</a>	<b>Jeremiah Pariag</b> Consultation and Engagement Lead WSP Canada Inc. Tel.: (289) 835-2548 Email: <a href="mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com">jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com</a>
--	--

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy, She/Her**  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306

Vacation alert: April 18-22



*WSP and Golder have joined together to form the premier environmental consultancy in the industry. Together we are 14,000 strong, future ready and delivering innovative solutions to our clients around the globe.*

NOTICE: This communication and any attachments ("this message") may contain information which is privileged, confidential, proprietary or otherwise subject to restricted disclosure under applicable law. This message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any unauthorized use, disclosure, viewing, copying, alteration, dissemination or distribution of, or reliance on, this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, or you are not an authorized or intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by replying to this message, delete this message and all copies from your e-mail system and destroy any printed copies. You are receiving this communication because you are listed as a current WSP contact. Should you have any questions regarding WSP's electronic communications policy, please consult our Anti-Spam Commitment at [www.wsp.com/cas](http://www.wsp.com/cas). For any concern or if you believe you should not be receiving this message, please forward this message to [cascompliance@wsp.com](mailto:cascompliance@wsp.com) so that we can promptly address your request. Note that not all messages sent by WSP qualify as commercial electronic messages.

AVIS : Ce message, incluant tout fichier l'accompagnant (« le message »), peut contenir des renseignements ou de l'information privilégiés, confidentiels, propriétaires ou à divulgation restreinte en vertu de la loi. Ce message est destiné à l'usage exclusif du/des destinataire(s) voulu(s). Toute utilisation non permise, divulgation, lecture, reproduction, modification, diffusion ou distribution est interdite. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, ou que vous n'êtes pas un destinataire autorisé ou voulu, veuillez en aviser l'expéditeur immédiatement et détruire le message et toute copie électronique ou imprimée. Vous recevez cette communication car vous faites partie des contacts de WSP. Si vous avez des questions concernant la politique de communications électroniques de WSP, veuillez consulter notre Engagement anti-pourriel au [www.wsp.com/lcap](http://www.wsp.com/lcap). Pour toute question ou si vous croyez que vous ne devriez pas recevoir ce message, prière de le transférer au [conformite@wsp.com](mailto:conformite@wsp.com) afin que nous puissions rapidement traiter votre demande. Notez que ce ne sont pas tous les messages transmis par WSP qui constituent des messages électroniques commerciaux.

LAEmHhH4aJzBfTV8a4Fgs7pbK0

# ***Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk***

***Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Species at Risk Branch, Permissions and Compliance  
DRAFT - May 2019***

## Table of Contents

1.0 Purpose, Scope, Background and Context .....	3
1.1 Purpose of this Guide.....	3
1.2 Scope.....	3
1.3 Background and Context.....	4
2.0 Roles and Responsibilities .....	5
3.0 Information Sources .....	6
3.1 Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas.....	7
3.2 Land Information Ontario (LIO) .....	7
3.3 Additional Species at Risk Information Sources.....	8
3.4 Information Sources to Support Impact Assessments .....	8
4.0 Check-List .....	9

## 1.0 Purpose, Scope, Background and Context

### 1.1 Purpose of this Guide

This guide has been created to:

- help clients better understand their obligation to gather information and complete a preliminary screening for species at risk before contacting the ministry,
- outline guidance and advice clients can expect to receive from the ministry at the preliminary screening stage,
- help clients understand how they can gather information about species at risk by accessing publicly available information housed by the Government of Ontario, and
- provide a list of other potential sources of species at risk information that exist outside the Government of Ontario.

It remains the client's responsibility to:

- carry out a preliminary screening for their projects,
- obtain best available information from all applicable information sources,
- conduct any necessary field studies or inventories to identify and confirm the presence or absence of species at risk or their habitat,
- consider any potential impacts to species at risk that a proposed activity might cause, and
- comply with the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA).

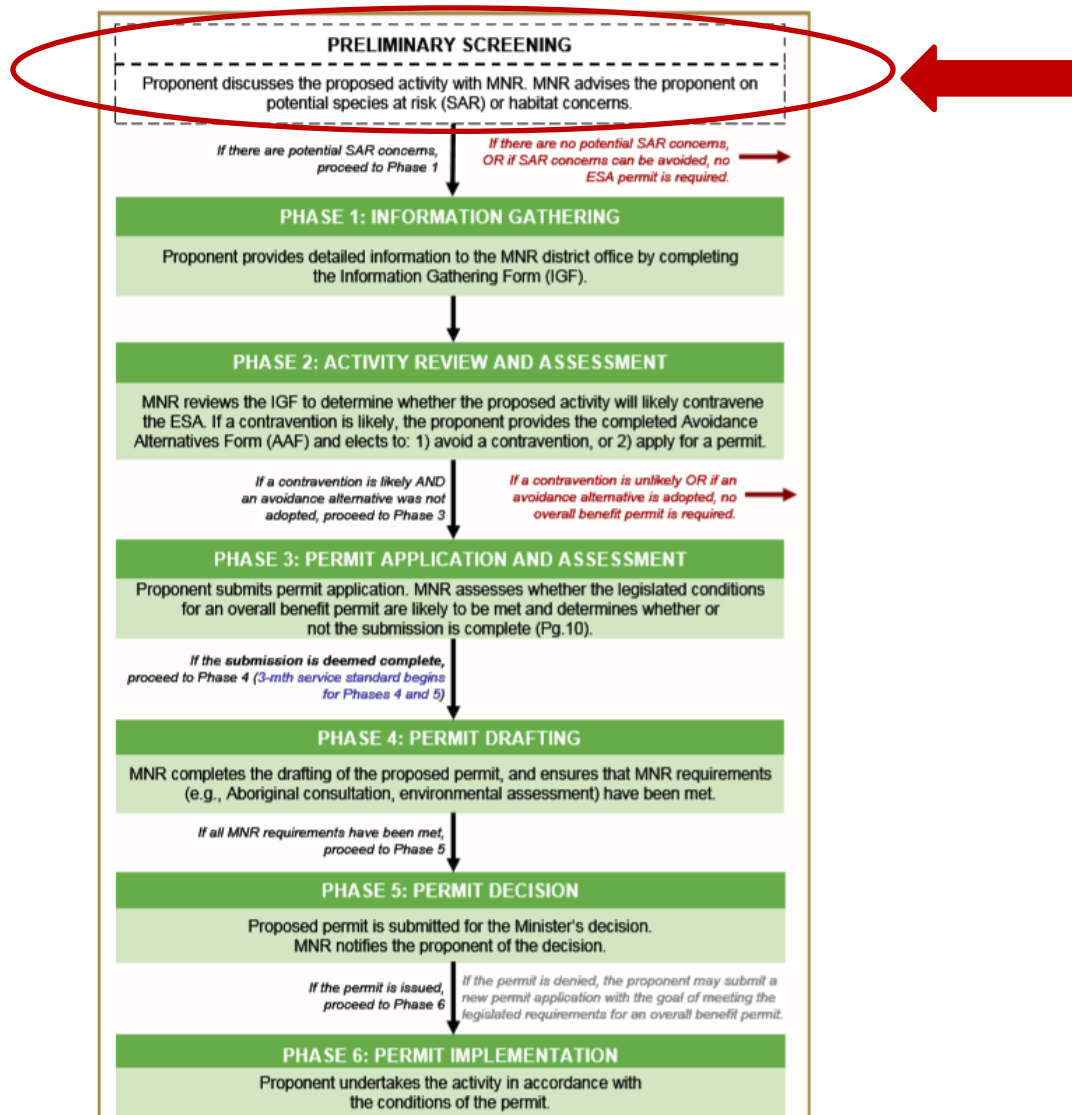
**To provide the most efficient service, clients should initiate species at risk screenings and seek information from all applicable information sources identified in this guide, at a minimum, prior to contacting Government of Ontario ministry offices for further information or advice.**

### 1.2 Scope

This guide is a resource for clients seeking to understand if their activity is likely to impact species at risk or if they are likely to trigger the need for an authorization under the ESA. It is not intended to circumvent any detailed site surveys that may be necessary to document species at risk or their habitat nor to circumvent the need to assess the impacts of a proposed activity on species at risk or their habitat. This guide is not an exhaustive list of available information sources for any given area as the availability of information on species at risk and their habitat varies across the province. This guide is intended to support projects and activities carried out on Crown and private land, by private landowners, businesses, other provincial ministries and agencies, or municipal government.

### 1.3 Background and Context

To receive advice on their proposed activity, clients must first determine whether any species at risk or their habitat exist or are likely to exist at or near their proposed activity, and whether their proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA. Once this step is complete, clients may contact the ministry at [SAROntario@ontario.ca](mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca) to discuss the main purpose, general methods, timing and location of their proposed activity as well as information obtained about species at risk and their habitat at, or near, the site. At this stage, the ministry can provide advice and guidance to the client about potential species at risk or habitat concerns, measures that the client is considering to avoid adverse effects on species at risk or their habitat and whether additional field surveys are advisable. This is referred to as the “Preliminary Screening” stage. For more information on additional phases in the diagram below, please refer to the *Endangered Species Act Submission Standards for Activity Review and 17(2)(c) Overall Benefit Permits* policy available online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk-overall-benefit-permits>



## 2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

To provide the most efficient service, clients should initiate species at risk screenings and seek information from all applicable information sources identified in this guide prior to contacting Government of Ontario ministry offices for further information or advice.

**Step 1:** Client seeks information regarding species at risk or their habitat that exist, or are likely to exist, at or near their proposed activity by referring to all applicable information sources identified in this guide.

**Step 2:** Client reviews and consider guidance on whether their proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA (see section 3.4 of this guide for guidance on what to consider).

**Step 3:** Client gathers information identified in the checklist in section 4 of this guide.

**Step 4:** Client contacts the ministry at [SAROntario@ontario.ca](mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca) to discuss their preliminary screening. Ministry staff will ask the client questions about the main purpose, general methods, timing and location of their proposed activity as well as information obtained about species at risk and their habitat at, or near, the site. Ministry staff will also ask the client for their interpretation of the impacts of their activity on species at risk or their habitat as well as measures the client has considered to avoid any adverse impacts.

**Step 5:** Ministry staff will provide advice on next steps.

**Option A:** Ministry staff may advise the client they can proceed with their activity without an authorization under the ESA where the ministry is confident that:

- no protected species at risk or habitats are likely to be present at or near the proposed location of the activity; or
- protected species at risk or habitats are known to be present but the activity is not likely to contravene the ESA; or
- through the adoption of avoidance measures, the modified activity is not likely to contravene the ESA.

**Option B:** Ministry staff may advise the client to proceed to Phase 1 of the overall benefit permitting process (i.e. Information Gathering in the previous diagram), where:

- there is uncertainty as to whether any protected species at risk or habitats are present at or near the proposed location of the activity; or
- the potential impacts of the proposed activity are uncertain; or
- ministry staff anticipate the proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA.

### 3.0 Information Sources

Land Information Ontario (LIO) and the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) maintain and provide information about species at risk, as well as related information about fisheries, wildlife, crown lands, protected lands and more. This information is made available to organizations, private individuals, consultants, and developers through online sources and is often considered under various pieces of legislation or as part of regulatory approvals and planning processes.

The information available from LIO or NHIC and the sources listed in this guide should not be considered as a substitute for site visits and appropriate field surveys. Generally, this information can be regarded as a starting point from which to conduct further field surveys, if needed. While this data represents best available current information, it is important to note that a lack of information for a site does not mean that species at risk or their habitat are not present. There are many areas where the Government of Ontario does not currently have information, especially in more remote parts of the province. The absence of species at risk location data at or near your site does not necessarily mean no species at risk are present at that location. On-site assessments can better verify site conditions, identify and confirm presence of species at risk and/or their habitats.

Information on the location (i.e. observations and occurrences) of species at risk is considered sensitive and therefore publicly available only on a 1km square grid as opposed to as a detailed point on a map. This generalized information can help you understand which species at risk are in the general vicinity of your proposed activity and can help inform field level studies you may want to undertake to confirm the presence, or absence of species at risk at or near your site.

Should you require specific and detailed information pertaining to species at risk observations and occurrences at or near your site on a finer geographic scale; you will be required to demonstrate your need to access this information, to complete data sensitivity training and to obtain a Sensitive Data Use License from the NHIC. Information on how to obtain a license can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-natural-heritage-information>.

Many organizations (e.g. other Ontario ministries, municipalities, conservation authorities) have ongoing licensing to access this data so be sure to check if your organization has this access and consult this data as part of your preliminary screening if your organization already has a license.



### 3.1 Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas

The Make a Natural Heritage Area Map (available online at [http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/mamnh/Index.html?site=MNR\\_NHLUPS\\_NaturalHeritage&viewer=NaturalHeritage&locale=en-US](http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/mamnh/Index.html?site=MNR_NHLUPS_NaturalHeritage&viewer=NaturalHeritage&locale=en-US)) provides public access to natural heritage information, including species at risk, without the user needing to have Geographic Information System (GIS) capability. It allows users to view and identify generalized species at risk information, mark areas of interest, and create and print a custom map directly from the web application. The tool also shows topographic information such as roads, rivers, contours and municipal boundaries.

Users are advised that sensitive information has been removed from the natural areas dataset and the occurrences of species at risk has been generalized to a 1-kilometre grid to mitigate the risks to the species (e.g. illegal harvest, habitat disturbance, poaching).

The web-based mapping tool displays natural heritage data, including:

- Generalized Species at risk occurrence data (based on a 1-km square grid),
- Natural Heritage Information Centre data.

Data cannot be downloaded directly from this web map; however, information included in this application is available digitally through Land Information Ontario (LIO) at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/land-information-ontario>.

### 3.2 Land Information Ontario (LIO)

Most natural heritage data is publicly available. This data is managed in a large provincial corporate database called the LIO Warehouse and can be accessed online through the LIO Metadata Management Tool at <https://www.javacoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/geonetwork/srv/en/main.home>. This tool provides descriptive information about the characteristics, quality and context of the data. Publicly available geospatial data can be downloaded directly from this site.

While most data are publicly available, some data may be considered highly sensitive (i.e. nursery areas for fish, species at risk observations) and as such, access to some data maybe restricted.

### 3.3 Additional Species at Risk Information Sources

- The Breeding Bird Atlas can be accessed online at <http://www.birdsontario.org/atlas/index.jsp?lang=en>
- eBird can be accessed online at <https://ebird.org/home>
- iNaturalist can be accessed online at <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- The Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas can be accessed online at <https://ontarionature.org/programs/citizen-science/reptile-amphibian-atlas>
- Your local Conservation Authority. Information to help you find your local Conservation Authority can be accessed online at <https://conservationontario.ca/conservation-authorities/find-a-conservation-authority/>

Local naturalist groups or other similar community-based organizations

- Local Indigenous communities
- Local land trusts or other similar Environmental Non-Government Organizations
- Field level studies to identify if species at risk, or their habitat, are likely present or absent at or near the site.
- When an activity is proposed within one of the continuous caribou ranges, please be sure to consider the caribou Range Management Policy. This policy includes figures and maps of the continuous caribou range, can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/range-management-policy-support-woodland-caribou-conservation-and-recovery>

### 3.4 Information Sources to Support Impact Assessments

- Guidance to help you understand if your activity is likely to adversely impact species at risk or their habitat can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/policy-guidance-harm-and-harass-under-endangered-species-act> and <https://www.ontario.ca/page/categorizing-and-protecting-habitat-under-endangered-species-act>
- A list of species at risk in Ontario is available online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk-ontario>. On this webpage, you can find out more about each species, including where it lives, what threatens it and any specific habitat protections that apply to it by clicking on the photo of the species.

## 4.0 Check-List

Please feel free to use the check list below to help you confirm you have explored all applicable information sources and to support your discussion with Ministry staff at the preliminary screening stage.

- ✓ Land Information Ontario (LIO)
- ✓ Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC)
- ✓ The Breeding Bird Atlas
- ✓ eBird
- ✓ iNaturalist
- ✓ Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas
- ✓ List Conservation Authorities you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List local naturalist groups you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List local Indigenous communities you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List any other local land trusts or Environmental Non-Government Organizations you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List and field studies that were conducted to identify species at risk, or their habitat, likely to be present or absent at or near the site: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List what you think the likely impacts of your activity are on species at risk and their habitat (e.g. damage or destruction of habitat, killing, harming or harassing species at risk): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina  
**Sent:** April 1, 2022 3:51 PM  
**To:** Omer, Omerdin (NDMNRF)  
**Cc:** Dominic Parrella; Pariag, Jeremiah; Squires, Callum  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP - Notice of Commencement for Class Environmental Assessment for new 230 kV Transmission Line and Station  
**Attachments:** 500mStudyArea2.zip; 221-01502-00 PUC Transmission EA\_Proposed Study Area and Route Options.pdf

Hello Omer,

Thank you for your interest in the PUC Transmission Class EA for a new Line and Station.

As requested, please see attached the 500m buffer that forms the boundaries of the Class EA’s Study Area, as shown in the attached map.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Best regards,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306  
**Vacation alert: April 18-22**



**From:** Omer, Omerdin (NDMNRF) <[Omerdin.Omer@ontario.ca](mailto:Omerdin.Omer@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 1, 2022 11:50 AM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP - Notice of Commencement for Class Environmental Assessment for new 230 kV Transmission Line and Station

Hi Lina: thanks for sharing this notice. Our experts would like to see a **GIS/shape file** for the project area - to review the EA for impacts related to mines and mineral related concerns , if any. Could you please provide.

Thanks  
Omer

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** March 31, 2022 5:29 PM  
**Cc:** Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** PUC Transmission LP - Notice of Commencement for Class Environmental Assessment for new 230 kV Transmission Line and Station

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hello,

Please see the attached Notice of Commencement for information regarding the Class Environmental Assessment for PUC Transmission LP’s proposed new 230 kV Transmission line and station in the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

The public will have the opportunity to participate in multiple in-person and virtual open houses to discuss the project as the Study proceeds.

To provide comments, request additional information or to be added to the Project mailing list, please contact either of the following Project Team members listed below or visit our website at [www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com).

Thank you,

<b>Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.</b> Executive Lead, Special Projects PUC Transmission LP Tel.: (705) 941-8386 Email: <a href="mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com">dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com</a>	<b>Jeremiah Pariag</b> Consultation and Engagement Lead WSP Canada Inc. Tel.: (289) 835-2548 Email: <a href="mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com">jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com</a>
--	--

NOTICE: This communication and any attachments ("this message") may contain information which is privileged, confidential, proprietary or otherwise subject to restricted disclosure under applicable law. This message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any unauthorized use, disclosure, viewing, copying, alteration, dissemination or distribution of, or reliance on, this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, or you are not an authorized or intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by replying to this message, delete this message and all copies from your e-mail system and destroy any printed copies. You are receiving this communication because you are listed as a current WSP contact. Should you have any questions regarding WSP's electronic communications policy, please consult our Anti-Spam Commitment at [www.wsp.com/cas](http://www.wsp.com/cas). For any concern or if you believe you should not be receiving this message, please forward this message to [cascompliance@wsp.com](mailto:cascompliance@wsp.com) so that we can promptly address your request. Note that not all messages sent by WSP qualify as commercial electronic messages.

AVIS : Ce message, incluant tout fichier l'accompagnant (« le message »), peut contenir des renseignements ou de l'information privilégiés, confidentiels, propriétaires ou à divulgation restreinte en vertu de la loi. Ce message est destiné à l'usage exclusif du/des destinataire(s) voulu(s). Toute utilisation non permise, divulgation, lecture, reproduction, modification, diffusion ou distribution est interdite. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, ou que vous n'êtes pas un destinataire autorisé ou voulu, veuillez en aviser l'expéditeur immédiatement et détruire le message et toute copie électronique ou imprimée. Vous recevez cette communication car vous faites partie des contacts de WSP. Si vous avez des questions concernant la politique de communications électroniques de WSP, veuillez consulter notre Engagement anti-pourriel au [www.wsp.com/lcap](http://www.wsp.com/lcap). Pour toute question ou si vous croyez que vous ne devriez pas recevoir ce message, prière de le transférer au [conformite@lcap@wsp.com](mailto:conformite@lcap@wsp.com) afin que nous puissions rapidement traiter votre demande. Notez que ce ne sont pas tous les messages transmis par WSP qui constituent des messages électroniques commerciaux.

LAEmHhHoiJzBITW0w4Hgs7pbKQ

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina  
**Sent:** March 31, 2022 5:29 PM  
**Cc:** 'Dominic Parrella'; Pariag, Jeremiah; Squires, Callum  
**Subject:** PUC Transmission LP - Notice of Commencement for Class Environmental Assessment for new 230 kV Transmission Line and Station  
**Attachments:** PUC Transmission LP\_ Minor Transmission Class EA-NoC\_31Mar2022.pdf

Hello,

Please see the attached Notice of Commencement for information regarding the Class Environmental Assessment for PUC Transmission LP's proposed new 230 kV Transmission line and station in the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

The public will have the opportunity to participate in multiple in-person and virtual open houses to discuss the project as the Study proceeds.

To provide comments, request additional information or to be added to the Project mailing list, please contact either of the following Project Team members listed below or visit our website at [www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com).

Thank you,

<b>Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.</b> Executive Lead, Special Projects PUC Transmission LP Tel.: (705) 941-8386 Email: <a href="mailto:dominic.parrella@smpuc.com">dominic.parrella@smpuc.com</a>	<b>Jeremiah Pariag</b> Consultation and Engagement Lead WSP Canada Inc. Tel.: (289) 835-2548 Email: <a href="mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com">jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com</a>
--	--

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina  
**Sent:** April 1, 2022 9:34 AM  
**Subject:** PUC Transmission LP - Notice of Commencement for Class Environmental Assessment for new 230 kV Transmission Line and Station  
**Attachments:** PUC Transmission LP\_Minor Transmission Class EA-NoC\_31Mar2022.pdf

Hello,

Please see the attached Notice of Commencement for information regarding the Class Environmental Assessment for PUC Transmission LP's proposed new 230 kV Transmission line and station in the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

The public will have the opportunity to participate in multiple in-person and virtual open houses to discuss the project as the Study proceeds.

To provide comments, request additional information or to be added to the Project mailing list, please contact either of the following Project Team members listed below or visit our website at [www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com).

Thank you,

**Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.**  
Executive Lead, Special Projects  
PUC Transmission LP  
Tel.: (705) 941-8386  
Email: [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)

**Jeremiah Pariag**  
Consultation and Engagement Lead  
WSP Canada Inc.  
Tel.: (289) 835-2548  
Email: [jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com](mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com)

**From:** Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** May 30, 2022 3:12 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah; dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com; jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com; Gibson, Amy (ENERGY); Skillen, Tamara; Adkar, Samir (ENERGY)  
**Subject:** Delegation Letter - PUC Transmission LP - Sault Ste. Marie Line and Substation  
**Attachments:** DelegationLtr\_PUCSaultSteMarie\_22\_05\_30.pdf

Hi Lina,

I hope you are having a lovely day.

Please see attached for the delegation letter for the Sault Ste. Marie transmission line and substation project, sent on behalf of Samir Adkar, Director of Energy Networks and Indigenous Policy.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Gillian

---

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** 18 May 2022 15:08  
**To:** Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <[Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca](mailto:Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com) <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com) <[jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)>; Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hi Gillian,

Thank you very much for your response and for providing the interim list of Ingenious communities. We will await the Ministry's formal delegation of specific communities.

As well, your note regarding the writ period and approvals is understood and the project team will keep that in mind moving forward.

Much appreciated,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy (RPP, MCIP, ENV SP),** *She/Her*  
Environmental Planner  
Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306



---

**From:** Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <[Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca](mailto:Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** May 18, 2022 2:37 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

Thank you for reaching out.

Since PUC provided the detailed project information on May 10<sup>th</sup>, the Ministry of Energy has moved forward with its preliminary assessment with respect to the Project and its potential impacts to the Aboriginal and treaty rights of Indigenous communities. As Amy previously mentioned, this entails careful analysis and coordination with ministry partners, which can often take some time. While work is progressing well and our recommendation will soon be sent up for approval, given that we are in a writ period with the upcoming election, the approvals process could take more time than usual.

Given that PUC is hoping to organize a public information centre soon and would like to ensure Indigenous communities are engaged early, we believe it is best to provide an interim list of communities that may take an interest in the project based on proximity and/or our knowledge of the treaties and traditional territories associated with these communities. We expect to provide our formal delegation of the specific communities identified for rights-based consultation as soon as possible, which will identify the level of consultation required for each of the communities. Please note the list of communities identified as potentially impacted will not necessarily be as lengthy as the list below, as the duty to consult flows from the potential of the project to impact constitutionally-protected Aboriginal and treaty rights.

We hope that this approach will allow PUC to invite the communities listed below on an interest-basis, with the understanding that an invitation to a public open house would likely not constitute formal consultation, but would still be a helpful initial engagement opportunity and support more meaningful relationships with communities in the region. Please let us know if you have any questions.

**Communities that may be interested in the project:**

**Batchewana First Nation**  
236 Frontenac Street  
Sault Ste Marie, ON, P6A 5K9  
Chief: Dean Sayers, (705) 759-0914, [chiefdeansayers@batchewana.ca](mailto:chiefdeansayers@batchewana.ca)  
Consultation Coordinator: Danny Sayers Jr., (705) 759-0914, [dansayers@batchewana.ca](mailto:dansayers@batchewana.ca)

**Garden River First Nation**  
7 Shingwauk Street,  
RR 4  
Garden River, ON, P6A 6Z8  
Chief: , (705) 946-6300, [arickard@gardenriver.org](mailto:arickard@gardenriver.org)  
Consultation Coordinator: Cheyenne Nolan, (705) 946-6300 ext 233, [cnolan@gardenriver.org](mailto:cnolan@gardenriver.org)

**Michipicoten First Nation**  
PO Box 1, Site 8,  
RR 1  
Wawa, ON, P0S 1K0  
Chief: Patricia Tangie, (705) 856-1993, [ptangie@michipicoten.com](mailto:ptangie@michipicoten.com)  
Community and Land Use Planner: Alex Marques, (705) 856-1993 ext 217, [a.marques@michipicoten.com](mailto:a.marques@michipicoten.com)

**MNO Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council**  
26 Queen Street East  
Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6A 1Y3  
President: Kim Powley, [kimmysue2014@gmail.com](mailto:kimmysue2014@gmail.com)

#### **MNO Region 4**

**Consultation Advisor:** Justin Hunt, (705) 527-3612, [JustinH@metisnation.org](mailto:JustinH@metisnation.org)

Thank you,  
Gillian

---

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** May 17, 2022 11:00 AM  
**To:** Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <[Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca](mailto:Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hello Gillian,

I am following up on our request for the indigenous communities list as the Public Information Centre is fast approaching. Currently planned for May 26. Any update on this request will be very helpful.

Thanks,

**Lina ElSetouhy (RPP, MCIP, ENV SP)**, *She/Her*  
Environmental Planner  
Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306



---

**From:** Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <[Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca](mailto:Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** May 10, 2022 2:45 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

Thank you for following up with the requested information. I will review and be in touch if I have any questions.

Best,  
Gillian

---

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** 10 May 2022 11:04  
**To:** Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <[Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca](mailto:Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com) <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com) <[jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)>; Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hello Gillian and Amy,

On behalf of PUC, please see attached a letter response that includes the information requested.

As well, attached is a zipped folder that includes Shapefiles with locations of the proposed route and station options.

Thank you,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306



---

**From:** Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <[Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca](mailto:Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** May 10, 2022 10:33 AM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am following up in regards to the below in the hopes of receiving some additional project information that will inform our analysis. The potential impacts on the land would be most helpful.

Would you be able to let me know if the below information is available, and if so, could you please provide it?

Thank you kindly,  
Gillian

---

**From:** Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>



**Sent:** May 3, 2022 1:30 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); Brown, Gillian (ENERGY) <[Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca](mailto:Gillian.Brown2@ontario.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi again Lina,

Looping in our staff lead for this project, Gillian, so we are all connected and on the same page. She has identified some further information we are interested in receiving to assist in our duty to consult (DTC) assessment for the PUC project:

Are shape files available? If not, what are the coordinates for the start point, the end point, and the existing and proposed station options?  
What potential impacts on air, water, land and/or natural resources can reasonably be foreseen?  
What is the likely geographical scope of the impacts? (e.g., will road allowances be used where possible, entirely within municipal boundaries, mitigation measures, etc.)  
Have any Indigenous communities been engaged to-date?

Our time to complete a preliminary assessment of potential rights impacts/duty to consult considerations depends greatly on the project location and scope of work, but we typically allot up to 25 business days on our end to get a delegation letter out the door, for the reasons I flagged below about needing to chase information, assess/identify potentially impacted communities, coordinate with ministry partners and our legal counsel and seek internal approvals.

I understand the desire to engage any potentially impacted communities and share a notice of commencement from an optics perspective ahead of the PIC in late May, while noting any participation in a public open house would not likely constitute DTC-driven consultation with Indigenous communities (if this is even required for this one, TBC through our preliminary assessment). Regardless, it is an important initial engagement opportunity and we appreciate that. If you can share any responsive information for the list of questions above in a timely fashion, we will endeavour to complete our preliminary assessment and confirm one way or another whether there are communities owed a DTC as soon as possible keeping your timelines in mind.

Let Gillian or I know if there are any questions in the meantime, and we look forward to working with you on this!

Cheers, Amy

**Amy Gibson (she/her)** | Manager, Indigenous Energy Policy | Strategic, Network and Agency Policy Division | **Ministry of Energy** | 416-315-8641 | [amy.gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:amy.gibson@ontario.ca)

---

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** May 2, 2022 9:24 AM  
**To:** Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hi Amy,

Nice to virtually meet you as well and thank you for confirming that I am finally in the right place

Would you be able to let me know the average processing time for this request? As I mentioned that project is on a tight timeline and so we would like to know how long the process will take as we are planning an upcoming Public Information Centre in late May and ideally we would like to invite the relevant Indigenous communities to the event and share with the Notice of Commencement prior to the event.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy, she/her**  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306



---

**From:** Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 29, 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

I'm glad you were finally directed to the right place – it is nice to meet you over email.

We are looking at this one, and I will follow up early next week to connect you with our staff lead and to advise whether we have any need for additional project information for our preliminary assessment. We appreciate that the project is on a tight timeline, but we do have to meet our Crown obligation to conduct a preliminary assessment of potentially impacted communities and then coordinate with our partner regulatory ministries and legal internally.

Have a great weekend, and I look forward to connecting next week.

Cheers, Amy

**Amy Gibson (she/her)** | Manager, Indigenous Energy Policy | Strategic, Network and Agency Policy Division | **Ministry of Energy** | 416-315-8641 | [amy.gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:amy.gibson@ontario.ca)

---

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** April 28, 2022 3:49 PM  
**To:** Gibson, Amy (ENERGY) <[Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:Amy.Gibson@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** FW: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hi Amy,

I was advised by Andrea Pastori to contact you to request a list of indigenous communities and organizations for the PUC 250 kV Transmission Project. I attached the Notice of Commencement, which includes the project study area, for your reference.

Please note that the project is on a tight timeline and so we would really appreciate a quick turnaround on this request.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment  
  
T+ 1 289-982-4306



**From:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY) <[Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 28, 2022 1:52 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

I've been asked to put you directly in touch with the Indigenous Energy Policy Unit. Can you please reach out directly to Amy Gibson ([amy.gibson@ontario.ca](mailto:amy.gibson@ontario.ca)).

Thank you,  
Andrea

**From:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY)  
**Sent:** April 28, 2022 12:53 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

Thanks for getting in touch. I am following up with our Indigenous Energy Policy Unit for the list.

Andrea

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** April 28, 2022 8:36 AM  
**To:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY) <[Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hi Andrea,

I am following up with you as recommended since I have not received a response from the Indigenous Energy Policy Unit. Would you be able to provide an update on when I can anticipate receiving the list of indigenous communities to consult with for this project?

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment  
  
T+ 1 289-982-4306



**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina  
**Sent:** April 26, 2022 9:00 AM  
**To:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY) <[Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Andrea,

Thank you for your response. I will be sure to follow up if I don't receive anything within two business days.

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment  
  
T+ 1 289-982-4306



**From:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY) <[Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 25, 2022 1:49 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Thanks for letting me know about the tight timeline. Perhaps, if you haven't received anything in a couple of days, you can follow up with me. The list is likely to be sent to you directly and I may not be copied when this happens.

Andrea

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** April 25, 2022 1:47 PM  
**To:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY) <[Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hi Andrea,

Thank you for your response. Please let me know if there is any way we can expedite the response as the Study is on a tight timeline.

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306



**From:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY) <[Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 25, 2022 1:29 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

Thank you for reaching out to me for the list. I do not a list, but I have reached out to our Indigenous Energy Policy Unit for assistance. Please let me know if you do not receive the information you need in due time.

Thank you,  
Andrea

**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** April 25, 2022 11:40 AM  
**To:** Pastori, Andrea (ENERGY) <[Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Pastori@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** FW: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hello Andrea,

We are looking for confirmation on the list of indigenous communities to be consulted for the PUC Transmission Class EA, please see attached Notice of Commencement for reference.

We were advised by the MECP to contact the Ministry of Energy to request a list of indigenous communities and any other consultation resources that may be required for this Class EA.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306



**From:** Badali, Mark (MECP) <[Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca](mailto:Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 21, 2022 2:56 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Good afternoon,

I'm afraid I misspoke in previous email – my sincere apologies. For projects under the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities, per Section 4.1.1 of the parent Class EA document, the Ministry of Energy is the proponent's primary contact for matters regarding the Duty to Consult. As such, I would advise you to please reach out to your Ministry of Energy contact to request a list of communities and any other consultation resources that may be required.

I will be providing you with a letter acknowledgement in response to the Notice of Commencement for this Class EA project, including the MECP's areas of interest that the proponent should consider during the Class EA process.

Please be advised that our unit is currently undergoing some staff transitions, so an alternate MECP Regional Environmental Planner may reach out to you in the coming month with updated contact information.

Thank you,

**Mark Badali** ([he/him](#))  
Regional Environmental Planner (REP) – Southwest Region  
Project Review Unit | Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
[Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca](mailto:Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca) | (416) 457-2155  
**\*\*I am currently unable to receive calls by phone – please feel free to email me to setup an online audio call\*\***

**From:** Badali, Mark (MECP)  
**Sent:** April 14, 2022 5:36 PM  
**To:** [Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)

cc: [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); [Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com); [Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)  
Subject: RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hi Lina,

Thank you for your emails. We are in the process of preparing a list of Indigenous Communities for consultation, which I will provide to WSP and the proponent as soon as possible.

Have a great weekend,

**Mark Badali** ([he/him](#))  
Regional Environmental Planner (REP) – Southwest Region  
Project Review Unit | Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
[Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca](mailto:Mark.Badali1@ontario.ca) | (416) 457-2155  
**\*\*I am currently unable to receive calls by phone – please feel free to email me to setup an online audio call\*\***



**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** April 14, 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** EA Notices to NRegion (MECP) <[eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca)>  
**Cc:** Majerovich, Mira (MECP) <[Mira.Majerovich@ontario.ca](mailto:Mira.Majerovich@ontario.ca)>; [shelley.waino2@ontario.ca](mailto:shelley.waino2@ontario.ca); Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Jairus Patterson <[jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Good morning,

Following up on my email below.

Please note that this Study is on a tight timeline. Could the MECP please confirm the list of Indigenous Communities as soon as possible (i.e., while the formal technical response is being prepared)?

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *she/her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306  
**Vacation alert: April 18-22**



**From:** ElSetouhy, Lina  
**Sent:** March 31, 2022 1:36 PM  
**To:** [eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca)  
**Cc:** [mira.majerovich@ontario.ca](mailto:mira.majerovich@ontario.ca); [shelley.waino2@ontario.ca](mailto:shelley.waino2@ontario.ca); Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Jairus Patterson <[jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; Squires, Callum <[Callum\\_Squires@golder.com](mailto:Callum_Squires@golder.com)>  
**Subject:** PUC Transmission LP, Minor transmission facilities Class EA, Category 'B'

Hello,

Please see attached for the Project Information Form and the Notice of Commencement for the PUC Transmission LP Class Environmental Assessment Study for a new 230 kV Transmission line and station in the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

Please note that this Study is on a tight timeline. Could the MECP please confirm the list of Indigenous Communities as soon as possible (i.e., while the formal technical response is being prepared)?

Thank you.

On behalf of the Project Team,

<b>Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.</b> Executive Lead, Special Projects PUC Transmission LP Tel.: (705) 941-8386 Email: <a href="mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com">dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com</a>	<b>Jeremiah Pariag</b> Consultation and Engagement Lead WSP Canada Inc. Tel.: (289) 835-2548 Email: <a href="mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com">jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com</a>
--	--

Thanks,  
Lina

**Lina ElSetouhy**, *She/Her*  
Environmental Planner, RPP, MCIP, ENV SP  
Environmental Planning, Earth and Environment

T+ 1 289-982-4306  
**Vacation alert: April 18-22**



[wsp.com](http://wsp.com) | [golder.com](http://golder.com)

*WSP and Golder have joined together to form the premier environmental consultancy in the industry. Together we are 14,000 strong, future ready and delivering innovative solutions to our clients around the globe.*

NOTICE: This communication and any attachments ("this message") may contain information which is privileged, confidential, proprietary or otherwise subject to restricted disclosure under applicable law. This message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any unauthorized use, disclosure, viewing, copying, alteration, dissemination or distribution of, or reliance on, this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, or you are not an authorized or intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by replying to this message, delete this message and all copies from your e-mail system and destroy any printed copies. You are receiving this communication because you are listed as a current WSP contact. Should you have any questions regarding WSP's electronic communications policy, please consult our Anti-Spam Commitment at [www.wsp.com/casf](http://www.wsp.com/casf). For any concern or if you believe you should not be receiving this message, please forward this message to [cascompliance@wsp.com](mailto:cascompliance@wsp.com) so that we can promptly address your request. Note that not all messages sent by WSP qualify as commercial electronic messages.

AVIS : Ce message, incluant tout fichier l'accompagnant (« le message »), peut contenir des renseignements ou de l'information privilégiés, confidentiels, propriétaires ou à divulgation restreinte en vertu de la loi. Ce message est destiné à l'usage exclusif du/des destinataire(s) voulu(s). Toute utilisation non permise, divulgation, lecture, reproduction, modification, diffusion ou distribution est interdite. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, ou que vous n'êtes pas un destinataire autorisé ou voulu, veuillez en aviser l'expéditeur immédiatement et détruire le message et toute copie électronique ou imprimée. Vous recevez cette communication car vous faites partie des contacts de WSP. Si vous avez des questions concernant la politique de communications électroniques de

LAEmH8HtdJzBITW0x4Hgs7pbK0

Public Information Centre #1 Notice  
Correspondence Record

**From:** [ElSetouhy, Lina](#)  
**Cc:** [Dominic Parrella](#); [Pariag, Jeremiah](#)  
**Bcc:** [Jairus Patterson](#); [shelley.waino2@ontario.ca](#); [eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca](#); [jocelyn.beatty@ontario.ca](#); [Pastori, Andrea \(ENERGY\)](#); [mary.perry@ontario.ca](#); [Omer, Omerdin \(NDMNRF\)](#); [jennifer.paetz@ontario.ca](#); [justin.standeven@ontario.ca](#); [karla.barboza@ontario.ca](#); [jack.mallon@ontario.ca](#); [anna.little@ontario.ca](#); [john.fraser3@ontario.ca](#); [shireen.mohammed@ontario.ca](#); [nathan.hammill@ontario.ca](#); [joanna.brown@infrastructureontario.ca](#); [David.Macey@infrastructureontario.ca](#); [ainsley.davidson@infrastructureontario.ca](#); [joanna.craig@infrastructureontario.ca](#); [noticereview@infrastructureontario.ca](#); [nature@ssmrca.ca](#); [jennifer.davey@opp.ca](#); [k.kirkham@socialservices-ssmd.ca](#); [naadia.carrier@enbridge.com](#); [Majerovich, Mira \(MECP\)](#); [orlan.euale@ssmpuc.com](#); [andrew.bostelaar@ssmpuc.com](#); [andrew.hallett@ssmpuc.com](#); [bassel.alkosani@ssmpuc.com](#); [brooke.suurna@ssmpuc.com](#); [carla.buckner@ssmpuc.com](#); [carmen.coccimiglio@ssmpuc.com](#); [claudio.stefano@ssmpuc.com](#); [danielle.tonucci@ssmpuc.com](#); [darren.seabrook@ssmpuc.com](#); [David.mclaughlin@ssmpuc.com](#); [david.vilaca@ssmpuc.com](#); [guillaume.vachon@ssmpuc.com](#); [hannu.keranen@ssmpuc.com](#); [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](#); [janis.gartshore@ssmpuc.com](#); [jennifer.uchmanowicz@ssmpuc.com](#); [Jim McLean](#); [Joe.Genua@ssmpuc.com](#); [katie.elliott@ssmpuc.com](#); [Kelly McLellan](#); [kelly.sutton@ssmpuc.com](#); [Kevin Bell](#); [Kevin Whalen](#); [Marc Coletti](#); [Marisa Bague](#); [Mark Britton](#); [mark.faught@ssmpuc.com](#); [Matthew Ritchie](#); [Michael Tomas](#); [Mikaela McDermid](#); [mike.torresan@ssmpuc.com](#); [Mitchell Paradis](#); [Orlan Euale](#); [Phil Johnston](#); [Pina Pacione](#); [Rob Harten](#); [Robert Battisti](#); [robert.boston@ssmpuc.com](#); [robert.brewer@ssmpuc.com](#); [Robert Krysa](#); [Ryan Palahnuk](#); [Shelley Hambly](#); [Sherri Cleaves](#); [Stephen Conway](#); [Travis Seabrook](#); [Trina Avery](#); [Tyler Alleway](#); [Tyler Kasubeck](#); [d.perri@cityssm.on.ca](#); [c.rumiel@cityssm.on.ca](#); [m.mcauley@cityssm.on.ca](#); [c.taddo@cityssm.on.ca](#); [mayor.provenzano@cityssm.on.ca](#); [p.christian@cityssm.on.ca](#); [s.hollingsworth@cityssm.on.ca](#); [l.dufour@cityssm.on.ca](#); [l.vezeuallen@cityssm.on.ca](#); [d.hilsinger@cityssm.on.ca](#); [m.shoemaker@cityssm.on.ca](#); [m.bruni@cityssm.on.ca](#); [r.niro@cityssm.on.ca](#); [c.gardi@cityssm.on.ca](#); [m.scott@cityssm.on.ca](#)  
**Subject:** PUC Transmission LP - Notice of Public Information Centre #1 for Class Environmental Assessment of new 230 kV Transmission Line and Station  
**Date:** May 19, 2022 2:40:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [PUC Transmission LP\\_Minor Transmission Class EA PIC #1 Notice.pdf](#)

---

Hello,

Please see the attached Notice of Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 for information regarding the Class Environmental Assessment for PUC Transmission LP's proposed new 230 kV Transmission line and station in Sault Ste. Marie.

PIC #1 will take place as follows:

**IN-PERSON PIC #1 DETAILS\***

**Date:** May 26th, 2022

**Time:** 4:30PM to 7:30PM

**Location:** Northern Community Centre  
(556 Goulais Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, ON,  
P6C 5A7)

**Registration:** Please sign-in at the PIC

**VIRTUAL PIC #1 DETAILS**

**Date:** May 31st, 2022

**Time:** 6:00PM to 7:30PM

**Location:** To be held virtually via Zoom  
(Link to be provided upon registration)

**Registration:** visit

[www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com)

\* Please note that masks are required for the in-person PIC.

If you are unable to attend the live meeting, the presentation materials and meeting recording will be shared after virtual PIC #1 at [www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com). If you have any questions about the project or wish to be added to the mailing list, please contact the undersigned.

Thank you,

**Lina ElSetouhy (RPP, MCIP, ENV SP), She/Her**  
Environmental Planner  
Earth and Environment  
T+ 1 289-982-4306



*On behalf of:*

**Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.**

Executive Lead, Special Projects

PUC Transmission LP

Tel.: (705) 941-8386

Email:

[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)

**Jeremiah Pariag**

Consultation and Engagement Lead

WSP Canada Inc.

Tel.: (289) 835-2548

Email: [jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com](mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com)



**To:** Pariag, Jeremiah  
**Subject:** RE: PUC Class EA 230kV Transmission Project - NDMNRF Comments

---

**From:** Laidley, Jon (NDMNRF) <[Jon.Laidley@ontario.ca](mailto:Jon.Laidley@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:19 PM  
**To:** Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** [dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)  
**Subject:** PUC Class EA 230kV Transmission Project - NDMNRF Comments

Good afternoon Jeremiah,

I want to apologize for the delay in providing these comments to you for PUC's Class EA Study for the 230kV Transmission Project. The Sault Ste. Marie District NDMNRF office unfortunately did not receive the initial Notice of Commencement when your team had circulated the notice back in March. In the event you are circulating NDMNRF on future notices related to this (or other) projects within Sault Ste. Marie District, could you please also cc myself in addition to the ministry's Northeast Regional Office.

I have provided comments from the Sault Ste. Marie District NDMNRF, below:

There are multiple unevaluated wetlands in the approximate area of the proposed study area. For further information regarding the location of wetlands and other identified non-sensitive natural heritage features in the study area, the proponent can utilize Land Information Ontario (LIO) or NDMNRF's publicly available "Make a Natural Heritage Map" tool at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/make-natural-heritage-area-map>

Several species at risk are known to occur throughout the area and as a result may be affected by the proposed undertaking. For information on species at risk please contact the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks at [SAROntario@ontario.ca](mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca).

Damage or destruction of beaver dams and/or stick nests may require an authorization under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* and as a result NDMNRF should be contacted if these features have the potential to be impacted.

There is the potential for unmapped Significant Wildlife Habitat to exist within the subject area, especially those associated with wetlands (i.e. Amphibian Breeding Habitat)

In the event that the work taking place on private land has the potential to impact Crown land or Crown land resources (i.e. shorelands or the bed of a waterway), the proponent should contact NDMNRF to determine any further permitting requirements.

In-water work has the potential to require authorization from NDMNRF under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* or the *Public Lands Act*. If in-water work is planned, the proponent should contact NDMNRF to determine any further permitting requirements.

If in-water work is planned to occur, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) may need to be consulted. The proponent should refer to DFO's website at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/prw-ppe/index-eng.html> to determine if project review is required. If uncertain about whether the project requires DFO review or if there are related questions, please contact DFO by telephone at 1-855-852-8320 or by email at [fisheriesprotection@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:fisheriesprotection@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

Apologies again for the delay in these comments. I want to thank you for your patience. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Thank you,  
**Jon Laidley**  
District Planner  
Sault Ste. Marie District | Northeast Region | Regional Operations Division  
Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF)  
[jon.laidley@ontario.ca](mailto:jon.laidley@ontario.ca) | (705) 618-1972

**Please Note:** As part of providing [accessible customer service](#), please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats.

Notice of Completion and Public  
Information Centre #2  
Correspondence Record

**From:** [Murtada, Jad](#)  
**To:** [Laura.E.Hatcher@ontario.ca](mailto:Laura.E.Hatcher@ontario.ca)  
**Cc:** [Dominic Parrella](#); [Skillen, Tamara](#); [ElSetouhy, Lina](#)  
**Subject:** RE: File 0016504: PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2  
**Date:** September 2, 2022 2:05:42 PM

---

Hi Laura,

Please note that I have replaced Jeremiah as the Consultation and Engagement Lead for this project. My contact information is included in the signature below.

Thank you for your interest in the Minor Transmission Class Environmental Assessment for PUC Transmission LP's proposed new 230 kV Transmission line and station in the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

As well, thank you for your review of the draft ESR. We will address your comment as part of the final ESR.

If you have any additional comments, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

**Jad Murtada**, *He/Him/His*  
Environmental Planner – Ontario  
Earth and Environment

T+ 1 905-829-6262



---

**From:** Dominic Parrella <dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 1, 2022 5:07 PM  
**To:** ElSetouhy, Lina <Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com>; Skillen, Tamara <Tamara\_Skillen@golder.com>; Murtada, Jad <Jad.Murtada@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** FW: File 0016504: PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

Please see below, response from MTCS.

Thanks,  
Dominic.

---

**From:** Hatcher, Laura (MTCS) <[Laura.E.Hatcher@ontario.ca](mailto:Laura.E.Hatcher@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 1, 2022 4:55 PM  
**To:** [Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com); Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: File 0016504: PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

**CAUTION:** This email originated outside of PUC. Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

Thank you for circulating MTCS on this notice. I have reviewed the document and find that the ESR includes the appropriate due diligence with respect to cultural heritage resources for this stage of project planning.

I have one additional comment. On page 98 of the report it says that, following the Stage 2 archaeological assessment:

- “Where recommended by the MTCS, complete further archaeological studies in areas with archaeological potential prior to construction.”

Please note this does not exactly describe what happens with the archaeological assessment review process after the completion of the ESR, and the role that MTCS will play in this project. MTCS will review the Stage 2 archaeological assessment and, once it is complete, accept it onto the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. The licensed archaeologist who prepares the report will make recommendations about whether additional study is required. If the report recommends further work (Stage 3) it will be the proponent’s responsibility to ensure this work is completed prior to construction.

I hope these comments of assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Laura

**Laura Hatcher, MCIP, RPP**

Heritage Planner

Heritage Planning Unit | Programs and Services Branch | Heritage, Tourism and Culture Division

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Tel. 437-239-3404 **New** | email: [laura.e.hatcher@ontario.ca](mailto:laura.e.hatcher@ontario.ca)

---

**From:** Murtada, Jad <[Jad.Murtada@wsp.com](mailto:Jad.Murtada@wsp.com)>

**Sent:** August-02-22 5:01 PM

**Cc:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; [jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com](mailto:jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com); Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>

**Subject:** PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the**

sender.

Hello,

Please see attached for the combined *Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report* and *Notice of Public Information Centre #2* regarding the Class Environmental Assessment for PUC Transmission LP's proposed new 230 kV Transmission line and station in Sault Ste. Marie.

PIC #2 will take place as follows:

**IN-PERSON PIC #2 DETAILS\***

**Date:** August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 4:30PM to 7:00PM

**Location:** Northern Community Centre  
(556 Goulais Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6C 5A7)

**Registration:** Please sign-in at the PIC

\* Please note that masks are required for the in-person PIC.

**VIRTUAL PIC #2 DETAILS**

**Date:** August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 6:00PM to 7:30PM

**Location:** To be held virtually via Zoom  
(Link to be provided upon registration)

**Registration:** visit  
[www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com)

If you are unable to attend the live meeting, the presentation materials and meeting recording will be shared after virtual PIC #2 at [www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com). If you have any questions about the project or wish to be added to the mailing list, please contact the undersigned.

Thank you.

On behalf of the Project Team,

**Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.**  
Executive Lead, Special Projects  
PUC Transmission LP  
(705) 941-8386  
[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)

**Jeremiah Pariag**  
Consultation and Engagement Lead  
WSP Canada Inc.  
(289) 835-2548  
[jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com](mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com)

---

NOTICE: This communication and any attachments ("this message") may contain information which is privileged, confidential, proprietary or otherwise subject to restricted disclosure under applicable law. This message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any unauthorized use, disclosure, viewing, copying, alteration, dissemination or distribution of, or reliance on, this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, or you are not an authorized or intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by replying to this message, delete this message and all copies from your e-mail system and destroy any printed copies. You are receiving this communication because you are listed as a current WSP contact. Should you have any questions regarding WSP's electronic communications policy, please consult our Anti-Spam Commitment at [www.wsp.com/casl](http://www.wsp.com/casl). For any concern or if you believe you should not be receiving this message, please forward this message to [caslcompliance@wsp.com](mailto:caslcompliance@wsp.com) so that we can promptly address your request. Note that not all messages sent by WSP qualify as commercial electronic messages.

AVIS : Ce message, incluant tout fichier l'accompagnant (« le message »), peut contenir des renseignements ou de l'information privilégiés, confidentiels, propriétaires ou à divulgation restreinte en vertu de la loi. Ce message est destiné à l'usage exclusif du/des destinataire(s) voulu(s). Toute utilisation non permise, divulgation, lecture, reproduction, modification, diffusion ou distribution est interdite. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, ou que vous n'êtes pas un destinataire autorisé ou voulu, veuillez en aviser l'expéditeur immédiatement et détruire le message et toute copie électronique ou imprimée. Vous recevez cette communication car vous faites partie des contacts de WSP. Si vous avez des questions concernant la politique de communications électroniques de WSP, veuillez consulter notre Engagement anti-pourriel au [www.wsp.com/lcap](http://www.wsp.com/lcap). Pour toute question ou si vous croyez que vous ne devriez pas recevoir ce message, prière de le transférer au [conformitelcap@wsp.com](mailto:conformitelcap@wsp.com) afin que nous puissions rapidement traiter votre demande. Notez que ce ne sont pas tous les messages transmis par WSP qui constituent des messages électroniques commerciaux.

-LAEmHhHzdJz8ITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

**From:** [Kaurin, Kady \(MECP\)](#)  
**To:** [Murtada, Jad](#)  
**Cc:** [ElSetouhy, Lina](#); [Jairus Patterson](#); [Dominic Parrella](#); [Skillen, Tamara](#); [Potter, Katy \(MECP\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: MECP Comments - PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2  
**Date:** September 26, 2022 9:38:28 AM  
**Attachments:** [MECP GW Comments - PUC Class EA .pdf](#)

---

Hi Jad, coincidentally I just received groundwater comments, and am sending them now, haha. Hopefully it is not too late to incorporate.

Thank You

Kady Kaurin

Environmental Resource Planner/EA Coordinator | Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Project Review Unit, Environmental Assessment Branch

---

**From:** Murtada, Jad <Jad.Murtada@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** September 26, 2022 9:30 AM  
**To:** Kaurin, Kady (MECP) <Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca>  
**Cc:** ElSetouhy, Lina <Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com>; Jairus Patterson <jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com>; Dominic Parrella <dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com>; Skillen, Tamara <Tamara\_Skillen@golder.com>; Potter, Katy (MECP) <Katy.Potter@ontario.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: MECP Comments - PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Good Morning Kady,

Thank you for providing the update. Unfortunately, today is the last day we would be able to incorporate new comments into the ESR. Could you please follow up with groundwater Tech Support Team to see if they have any comments ready?

Best wishes for your maternity leave! I will keep an eye out for the contact covering you.

Thank You,

**Jad Murtada**, *He/Him/His*  
Environmental Planner – Ontario  
Earth and Environment

T+ 1 905-829-6262

**wsp** **GOLDER**

---

**From:** Kaurin, Kady (MECP) <[Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca](mailto:Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 21, 2022 4:18 PM

**To:** Murtada, Jad <[Jad.Murtada@wsp.com](mailto:Jad.Murtada@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** RE: MECP Comments - PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

Hi Jad, I haven't got a response back about the groundwater review. I asked the reviewer if I could just get an update if there is anything of concern I should let you know about but just no response yet, they are just so busy. I will let you know, but I am leaving Sept 30<sup>th</sup> for maternity leave so someone else will be covering me. I don't know who that is yet, but you will see their contact in my away email if I cannot get you an answer by next week. I apologize for the inconvenience, hopefully I will get you a response soon.

Thank You

Kady Kaurin

Environmental Resource Planner/EA Coordinator | Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Project Review Unit, Environmental Assessment Branch

---

**From:** Murtada, Jad <[Jad.Murtada@wsp.com](mailto:Jad.Murtada@wsp.com)>

**Sent:** September 20, 2022 10:34 AM

**To:** Kaurin, Kady (MECP) <[Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca](mailto:Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca)>

**Cc:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>; jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com; Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>; Potter, Katy (MECP) <[Katy.Potter@ontario.ca](mailto:Katy.Potter@ontario.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: MECP Comments - PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hi Kady,

Thank you for providing MECP's comments, we will work to incorporate these in the final ESR.

Do you have an estimated time for when part 2 of the comments will be ready, as we are hoping to finalize the ESR at the end of this week?

Thank you,

**Jad Murtada**, *He/Him/His*  
Environmental Planner – Ontario  
Earth and Environment

T+ 1 905-829-6262



---

**From:** Kaurin, Kady (MECP) <[Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca](mailto:Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 16, 2022 7:22 PM  
**To:** Murtada, Jad <[Jad.Murtada@wsp.com](mailto:Jad.Murtada@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>; jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com; Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>; Skillen, Tamara <[Tamara\\_Skillen@golder.com](mailto:Tamara_Skillen@golder.com)>; Potter, Katy (MECP) <[Katy.Potter@ontario.ca](mailto:Katy.Potter@ontario.ca)>  
**Subject:** MECP Comments - PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

Thank you for providing the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (ministry) with an opportunity to comment on the draft Environmental Study Report (ESR), for the PUC 230 kV Transmission Project, being completed in accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (Class EA). The ministry comment letter is attached.

Please note this is Part 1 of the comments and does not include a full groundwater or species at risk review. I will update you when I receive the groundwater comments from our Tech Support team. For SAR, an email has been sent to Jenny Enoae from our SAR Biologist for the area, regarding further steps needed for SAR review.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the material provided, please contact me.

Thank you

Kady Kaurin

Environmental Resource Planner/EA Coordinator | Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Project Review Unit, Environmental Assessment Branch

---

**From:** Murtada, Jad <[Jad.Murtada@wsp.com](mailto:Jad.Murtada@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** August 2, 2022 5:01 PM  
**Cc:** ElSetouhy, Lina <[Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com](mailto:Lina.Elsetouhy@wsp.com)>; Pariag, Jeremiah <[Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Pariag@wsp.com)>; jairus.patterson@ssmpuc.com; Dominic Parrella <[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)>  
**Subject:** PUC Transmission - Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

**CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.**

Hello,

Please see attached for the combined *Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report* and *Notice of Public Information Centre #2* regarding the Class Environmental Assessment for PUC Transmission LP's proposed new 230 kV Transmission line and station in Sault Ste. Marie.



PIC #2 will take place as follows:

**IN-PERSON PIC #2 DETAILS\***

**Date:** August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 4:30PM to 7:00PM

**Location:** Northern Community Centre  
(556 Goulais Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6C 5A7)

**Registration:** Please sign-in at the PIC

\* Please note that masks are required for the in-person PIC.

**VIRTUAL PIC #2 DETAILS**

**Date:** August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 6:00PM to 7:30PM

**Location:** To be held virtually via Zoom  
(Link to be provided upon registration)

**Registration:** visit  
[www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com)

[www.PUCTransmissionLP.com](http://www.PUCTransmissionLP.com). If you have any questions about the project or wish to be added to the mailing list, please contact the undersigned.

Thank you.

On behalf of the Project Team,

**Dominic Parrella, P. Eng.**  
Executive Lead, Special Projects  
PUC Transmission LP  
(705) 941-8386  
[dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com](mailto:dominic.parrella@ssmpuc.com)

**Jeremiah Pariag**  
Consultation and Engagement Lead  
WSP Canada Inc.  
(289) 835-2548  
[jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com](mailto:jeremiah.pariag@wsp.com)

---

NOTICE: This communication and any attachments ("this message") may contain information which is privileged, confidential, proprietary or otherwise subject to restricted disclosure under applicable law. This message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any unauthorized use, disclosure, viewing, copying, alteration, dissemination or distribution of, or reliance on, this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, or you are not an authorized or intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by replying to this message, delete this message and all copies from your e-mail system and destroy any printed copies. You are receiving this communication because you are listed as a current WSP contact. Should you have any questions regarding WSP's electronic communications policy, please consult our Anti-Spam Commitment at [www.wsp.com/casl](http://www.wsp.com/casl). For any concern or if you believe you should not be receiving this message, please forward this message to [caslcompliance@wsp.com](mailto:caslcompliance@wsp.com) so that we can promptly address your request. Note that not all messages sent by WSP qualify as commercial electronic messages.

AVIS : Ce message, incluant tout fichier l'accompagnant (« le message »), peut contenir des renseignements ou de l'information privilégiés, confidentiels, propriétaires ou à divulgation restreinte en vertu de la loi. Ce message est destiné à l'usage exclusif du/des destinataire(s) voulu(s). Toute utilisation non permise, divulgation, lecture, reproduction, modification, diffusion ou distribution est interdite. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, ou que vous n'êtes pas un destinataire autorisé ou voulu, veuillez en aviser l'expéditeur immédiatement et détruire le message et toute copie électronique ou imprimée. Vous recevez cette communication car vous faites partie des contacts de WSP. Si vous avez des questions concernant la politique de communications électroniques de WSP, veuillez consulter notre Engagement anti-pourriel au [www.wsp.com/lcap](http://www.wsp.com/lcap). Pour toute question ou si vous croyez que vous ne devriez pas recevoir ce message, prière de le transférer au [conformitelcap@wsp.com](mailto:conformitelcap@wsp.com) afin que nous puissions rapidement traiter votre demande. Notez que ce ne sont pas tous les messages transmis par WSP qui constituent des messages électroniques commerciaux.

-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

**Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks**

**Ministère de l'Environnement,  
de la Protection de la nature  
et des Parcs**

Environmental Assessment  
Branch

Direction des évaluations  
environnementales

1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
135 St. Clair Avenue W  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
**Tel.:** 416 314-8001  
**Fax.:** 416 314-8452

Rez-de-chaussée  
135, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
**Tél. :** 416 314-8001  
**Télééc. :** 416 314-8452

September 16, 2022

Jad Murtada  
Environmental Planner  
Ontario Earth and Environment  
WSP Canada Inc.

**Re: PUC Transmission LP - 230 kV Transmission Project  
Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities – Category B  
Draft Environmental Study Report  
Project Review Unit Comments**

Dear Jad,

Thank you for providing the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (ministry) with an opportunity to comment on the above noted draft Environmental Study Report (ESR), being completed in accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (Class EA). Our understanding is that PUC Transmission LP has identified the need for a double-circuit 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new transformer station in the city of Sault Ste. Marie, in northern Ontario. The project will require the construction of a transmission station located near the Algoma Steel Plant. The proposed activities will be approximately 12km long, conveying electricity from an existing Hydro One station to a new PUC transformer station. Four alternative route segments and three station options, as well as their associated variations, were evaluated. Based on environmental, social, and technical information collected, including feedback received, Route Alternative D and Station Option 1-A were selected as the preferred options for the new transmission line and station. The 230 kV line, which will be approximately 14 km long, will start from Third Line Transformer Station (TS) in Sault Ste. Marie, and will terminate at a new transformer station, which will be located near the Algoma Steel plant.

The ministry is responsible for protecting clean and safe air, land, and water to ensure healthy communities, ecological protection, and sustainable development for present and future generations of Ontarians. We do this through the implementation of applicable legislation including the Environmental Protection Act and the Ontario Water Resources Act, as well as related policies and procedures. The ministry provides the following comments for your consideration as you finalize the ESR for this Class EA project.

### **1. Notice of Completion**

- a) Although the proponent has accurately reflected the updated scoped grounds for requesting a Minister's order, the "Part II Order" language in their Notice is out of date. "In order to best reflect the changes made to the *Environmental Assessment Act* in July 2020, which scoped the grounds on which a s.16 order request can be made to the Minister, the ministry recommends replacing the phrase "*Part II Order requests*" with "*section 16 order requests (formerly referred to as a Part II order requests)*"

### **2. Air Quality**

- a) Further to the consideration of mitigation measures for impacts on air quality presented in Section 7.3.1.2 of the draft ESR, please note that the ministry recommends that non-chloride dust suppressants be applied during construction.

### **3. Surface Water**

- a) The draft ESR adequately identifies potential impacts to surface water and its related features along the corridor of the proposed undertaking and reasonable and feasible mitigation measures to minimize those impacts have been proposed.
- b) There are several coldwater streams that will be crossed, and Section 7.3.5.2 has identified the need to adhere to fish timing windows for any in-water work and obtain necessary approvals from DFO. Measures are also outlined that will be implemented to minimize impacts due to erosion and shoreline disturbance, as well as accidental spills.
- c) Installation of sediment and erosion control measures during the construction is critical both in terms of protecting the water quality and reducing the impacts to local aquatic community. As proposed in the draft ESR, Section 7.3.4.2, erosion, and sediment control fencing (ESC) will be installed to mark the vegetation clearing zones and prevent encroachment into vegetation beyond ESC fencing. An appropriate sediment and erosion control plan should be designed during the detailed design stage and submitted to the ministry for review once finalized.
- d) The proposed water takings are groundwater dewatering of excavations needed for tower foundation construction. This work likely requires Environmental Activity & Sector Registry

(EASR) registration or a Permit to Take Water (PTTW) for dewatering activities during the site preparation and construction of transmission line. In Section 7.3.3.2 the proponent states they will register the activities under the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR). They have proposed standard mitigation measures for the discharge of this water to minimize impacts to the environment. No surface water takings are proposed. A separate ministry approval process is required to ensure the quality and quantity of surrounding surface water is not adversely affected during the dewatering activities.

#### **4. Groundwater**

- a) The construction of the proposed transmission line may have an adverse effect on the local groundwater resource depending on the construction method used for the tower foundations.
- b) The ministry suggests two additions/modifications to the recommendations/actions found currently in Section 7.3.3.2 Mitigating and Monitoring Measures. Both are related to ensuring PUC and its contractors handle/report issues/incidents which are under the ministries mandate and would require action by the local office (ie. spills and well complaints).

1. Leaks of fuel, hydraulic fluids and/or other potential deleterious substance can occur not only with maintenance/fueling but also during field operations/work. Having robust plans help to ensure that on-site staff have the materials, knowledge, and training to promptly and correctly handle/report emergency events such as spills. Regarding the actions required by PUC or its contractors, the ministry would recommend strengthening the language by clarifying that the actions required by a spill are part of the projects “Emergency Response Plan” as required or similar to the one mentioned in the “Surface Water Fish and Aquatic Habit” Mitigating and Monitoring Measures (section 7.3.5.2) regarding the release of potential deleterious substances. Training/documentation in the plan and required actions by PUC and its contractors would also be recommended.

2. Ensuring that the lines/methods of communication and reporting of potential impacts are known to residents who may be impacted can reduce concerns. It also lays out some corrective/reactive actions for the PUC in the event a complaint is received. Additionally earlier notification may reduce the extent of potential impacts.

Adding some additional notification, reporting and actions regarding well complaints.

- possible notification (letters, signage, or website info) of well owners within the 500 meters of the ongoing work and how to report issues regarding well water changes (quality or quantity).

- having a log of complaints received (re: well impacts).
- having an action plan to respond (this may include sampling, testing and/or providing alternative sources of drinking water).
- Notification procedures to MECP (the ministry).

Ministry groundwater staff have not fully completed their review of the draft ESR. They may have other concerns regarding groundwater that may require assessments be completed. The ministry cannot make all recommendations until all comments are received.

## 5. Source Water Protection

- The EA study area, for these minor electrical transmission facilities is located in the Sault Ste. Marie Source Protection Area (SPA) and is therefore subject to the approved Sault Ste. Marie Source Protection Plan (SPP).
- The proposed construction of the new transformer station includes the construction of a storm water management facility (SWMF) and drainage. SWMF's are a prescribed threat to sources of drinking water defined under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The proposed transformer station sites are **not** located within a vulnerable area. Therefore, the construction of SWMF's to service the transformer station is **not a significant drinking water threat**.
- The project area is located at the West end of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, spanning an approximated 12km long area. As shown in Figure 1 of the ESR, the study area intersects a Wellhead Protection Area C (WHPA-C) with a vulnerability score of 6, a WHPA-D with a vulnerability score of 2, a Highly Vulnerable Aquifer scoring 6 (Figure 2), a water quantity WHPA-Q1 and WHPA-Q2 with low stress, and a Significant Groundwater Recharge Area.
- Activities related to the construction of the double-circuit 230 kilovolt transmission line and new transformer station are **not significant drinking water threats**. This means certain activities can be moderate/low threats to drinking water and select policies may still apply. In addition, within Highly Vulnerable Aquifers and Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas there may be other kinds of drinking water systems present that are not explicitly addressed by the source protection plan and the proponent should take these into consideration. EA projects should protect sensitive hydrologic features including current or future sources of drinking water not explicitly addressed in source protection plans, such as private systems – individual or clusters, and designated facilities within the meaning of O. Reg. 170/03 under the Safe Drinking Water Act – i.e., camps, schools, health care facilities, seasonal users, etc.
- In the Draft Environmental Study Report for PUC Transmission LP's minor electrical transmission facilities the proponent has discussed source water protection briefly in Section 4.2.7.2 Source Water Protection. However, the proponent **does not** identify the

location of the project site within a WHPA-C and D with a vulnerability scores 6 and 2 respectively, WHPA Q1 and Q2 with low stress, highly vulnerable aquifer (figure 2), or the significant groundwater recharge area. The Draft Environmental Study Report provides a general summary of activities that pose temporary drinking water threats, as a result of construction in Section 7.3.3.2 Mitigation and Monitoring Measures. The Draft environmental Study Report correctly identifies the applicable SPA and SPP but **does not** indicate that Sault Ste. Marie Source Protection Plan and its policies may apply to this project.

Considering that the project area is located within a Highly Vulnerable Aquifer, the following policies from the Sault Ste. Marie Source Protection Plan apply:

- SSM-HVA-E/F-1.0 directed at the City of Sault Ste. Marie regarding the protection of Highly Vulnerable Aquifers
- f) The ministry recommends that the proponent plainly identify the Sault Ste. Marie Source Protection Plan as their applicable SPP, review the full text of the drinking water source protection policies that may apply to this project in the Sault Ste. Marie Source Protection Plan and incorporate them in the future considerations for this project, and correctly identify the vulnerable areas that intersect with the proposed activity area. The proponent should also consult with the local source protection authority if they have not already done so.
- g) Specifically, electrical transmission lines projects may include activities during the construction or maintenance phases that, if located in a vulnerable area, may pose a risk to sources of drinking water (i.e. have the potential to adversely affect the quality or quantity of drinking water sources) and could be subject to policies in a source protection plan. Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, policies in the local source protection plan may impact how or where that activity is undertaken. Policies may prohibit certain activities, or they may require risk management measures for these activities. Where an activity related to the construction or maintenance phase of the electrical transmission line poses a risk (significant, moderate, or low) to drinking water, the proponent should document and discuss in the ESR how the project addresses applicable policies in the local source protection plan. This section should then be used to inform, and be reflected in, other sections of the ESR, such as the identification of net positive/negative effects of alternatives, mitigation measures, evaluation of alternatives, etc.
- h) For further information about the source protection plan and assistance in identifying all applicable policies and their requirements, proponents should contact source protection program manager for the applicable source protection region (resources available online: <https://conservationontario.ca/conservation-authorities/source-water-protection/source-protection-plans-and-resources/>).

## **6. Excess Materials and Waste**

- a) In December 2019, the ministry released a new regulation under the Environmental Protection Act, titled [On-Site and Excess Soil Management](#) (O. Reg. 406/19) to support improved management of excess construction soil. The regulation is being phased in over time, with the first phase in effect on January 1, 2021. For more information, please visit [www.ontario.ca/page/handling-excess-soil](http://www.ontario.ca/page/handling-excess-soil). The Report should reference that activities involving the management of excess soil should be completed in accordance with O. Reg. 406/19 and the ministry's current guidance document titled "[Management of Excess Soil – A Guide for Best Management Practices](#)" (2014). All waste generated during construction must be disposed of in accordance with ministry requirements.

## **7. Species at Risk**

- a) If activities are planned that could impact species at risk or their habitat, the proponent would need to determine if an ESA authorization is required before the activities are undertaken. Please visit "How to avoid authorization" and "Permit types" (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-get-endangered-species-act-permit-or-authorization>) for more information.
- b) Regarding Section 7.3.7.2 of the ESR, please note that timing windows for SAR bats are mitigation measures that allow contravention of the ESA. If these cannot be adhered to then please contact the ministry's SAR Branch at [SARontario@ontario.ca](mailto:SARontario@ontario.ca), as an authorization may be required.

Ministry SAR staff have not fully completed their review of the draft ESR. They may have other concerns regarding SAR and may suggest permits that would be required, for example. The ministry cannot make final recommendations on SAR until all comments are received.

## **8. Indigenous Consultation**

- a) The proponent should continue to engage with all communities that have been engaged with to date as the Class EA process proceeds.
- b) Please continue reaching out to communities if there are any substantial changes to the project/process or if the proponent is applying for subsequent permits from the ministry that may be of interest or concern to communities. The ministry recommends that the proponent include the record of consultation with any subsequent applications to the ministry to help in our review of those applications.
- c) The ministry recommends that proponents include a summary of questions, comments and concerns raised by communities, and how they have been or will be addressed. If none were received, then this should be documented in the Report. Please make sure that all records are included in the record of consultation, and that it is organized to be readily

navigated by the reader (e.g. by community). Please make sure to include any follow-up emails or phone calls with communities in the record of consultation and be prepared to provide the record of consultation to Ontario on request. Section 3.7 says to refer to Appendix B-7 for a complete list of comments and questions received. Please ensure these Appendices are available.

- d) Ensure that the draft ESR is shared with Indigenous communities for their review and comment. It is important for the proponent to record these comments in an updated record of consultation and to make sure that they are addressed in the final ESR.

## 9. Climate Change

- a) Climate change considerations have not been documented in the ESR. The document "Considering Climate Change in the Environmental Assessment Process" (Guide) ([www.ontario.ca/page/considering-climate-change-environmental-assessment-process](http://www.ontario.ca/page/considering-climate-change-environmental-assessment-process)) is now a part of the EA program's Guides and Codes of Practice. The Guide sets out the ministry's expectation for considering climate change in the preparation, execution and documentation of environmental assessment studies and processes. The guide provides examples, approaches, resources, and references to assist proponents with consideration of climate change in EA. The proponent should review this Guide in detail. The ministry expects proponents of Class EA projects to:
  - Consider the project's expected production of greenhouse gas emissions and impacts on carbon sinks (climate change mitigation), as well as resilience or vulnerability of the undertaking to changing climatic conditions (climate change adaptation).
  - Include a discrete section in the ESR/Report detailing how climate change was considered in the EA.
- b) How climate change is considered can be qualitative or quantitative in nature and should be scaled to the project's level of environmental effect. In all instances, both a project's impacts on climate change (mitigation) and impacts of climate change on a project (adaptation) should be considered.

## 10. Cumulative Effects

- a) Section 6.5 *Consideration of Cumulative Effects* of the *Hydro One Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities* document states on Page 54,  
*"All proponents will consider cumulative effects when planning projects. The assessment will include the proposed undertaking and any other proposed undertakings in the immediate project area where documentation is available (e.g., other environmental assessments)."*

In order to meet these requirements of the Class EA, the ESR should clearly document how anticipated cumulative effects, including but not limited to residual environmental effects, have been assessed through the planning process and how cumulative impacts will be addressed. The ministry recommends that the proponent revise the ESR to include, at a



minimum, a separate section that discusses the cumulative effects of the project in the context of near- to mid-term forecasted load growth in combination with effects from other proposed undertakings in the immediate project area. The ministry would be pleased to discuss this comment further with the proponent as required.

---

Thank you for providing the ministry with an opportunity to comment on the above noted draft ESR. The ministry looks forward to the circulation of a finalized ESR that documents the content of this letter and incorporates all comments raised, as well as to the submission of a corresponding Statement of Completion.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the material provided, please contact me at Kady.Kaurin2@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'KAURIN' in a stylized, cursive font.

Kady Kaurin, Regional Environmental Planner/EA Coordinator  
Project Review Unit, Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Cc: Katy Potter, Supervisor, Environmental Assessment Services, MECP  
Ron Dorscht, Supervisor, Sault Ste. Marie Area Office, DWECD, Northern Region, MECP

**Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks**

**Ministère de l'Environnement,  
de la Protection de la nature  
et des Parcs**

Environmental Assessment  
Branch

Direction des évaluations  
environnementales

1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
135 St. Clair Avenue W  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
**Tel.:** 416 314-8001  
**Fax.:** 416 314-8452

Rez-de-chaussée  
135, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
**Tél. :** 416 314-8001  
**Télec. :** 416 314-8452

September 26, 2022

Jad Murtada  
Environmental Planner  
Ontario Earth and Environment  
WSP Canada Inc.

**Re: PUC Transmission LP - 230 kV Transmission Project  
Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities – Category B  
Draft Environmental Study Report  
Project Review Unit Comments**

Dear Jad,

Groundwater-related aspects were examined of the documents entitled:

- “PUC Transmission LP - 230 kV Transmission Project, Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2”  
PUC Transmission LP / WSP Canada Inc., August 2022.

- “The 230 kV Transmission Project, Class Environmental Assessment, Draft Environmental Study Report” DRAFT, WSP Canada Inc., August 2, 2022.

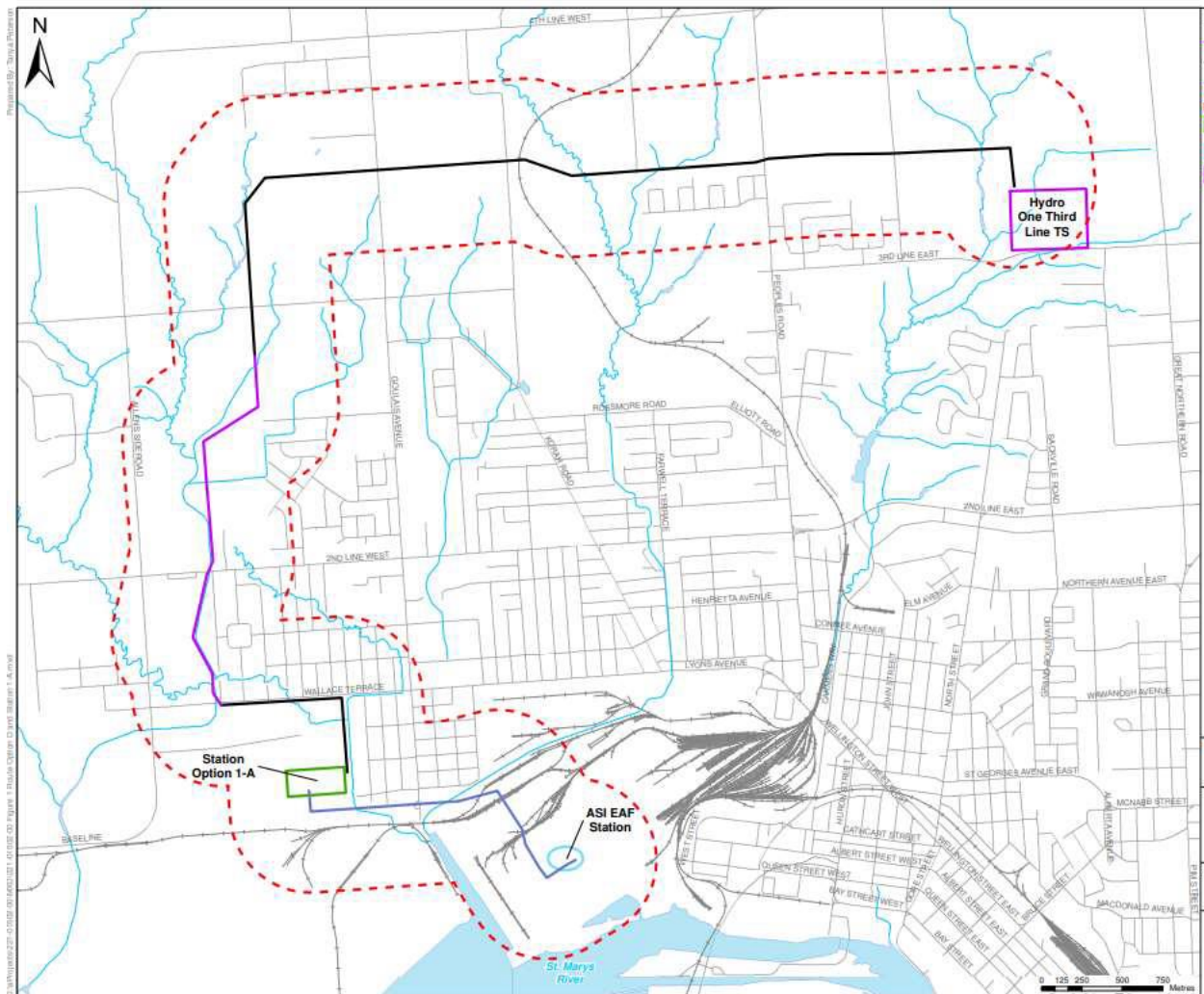
#### **4. Groundwater**

Based upon the provided information, I submit the following comments for your consideration.

- Four route options were considered and evaluated using assigned scores as presented in Section 5.4.1 pgs. 68-72 of the ESR Report. Lower scoring options were deemed preferable.
- Groundwater related scoring is presented on pages 69-70. Five hydrogeological criteria were considered, for a maximum total score of 20, specifically:
  - Hectares of drinking water Source Protection Area crossed by the proposed option. Max 4 pts.
  - Hectares of Highly Vulnerable Aquifer crossed by the proposed option. Max 4 pts.
  - Hectares of potential GW Discharge Area crossed by the proposed route option. Max 4 pts.
  - Hectares pr potential GW Recharge Area crossed by the proposed route option. Max 4 pts.
  - Number of reported water supply wells within 125 m of proposed route option. Max 4 pts.
- The order of preference scores, considering only groundwater were as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: Option D = 1.6 / 20 (see included figure below).
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Option C = 4.3 / 20,
  - 3<sup>rd</sup>: Option A = 15.8 / 20,
  - 4<sup>th</sup>: Option B = 16.8 / 20
- The preferred overall alternative route option scores also identified "Route Option D" This overall selection appears satisfactory.
- Two viable transformer station location options were considered and evaluated using assigned scores as presented in Section 5.4.2 pgs. 73-76 of the ESR Report. Again, lower scoring options were deemed preferable.
- The same hydrogeological criteria were considered for transformer location options. Both locations options scored the maximum. There is no preferred transformer location from a groundwater perspective.
- Transformer Station Option 1-A (see included figure below) was deemed preferable based upon non-groundwater criteria (e.g., archeological, nearby watercourses, conservation authority lands, wetland and floodplains, fish habitat, and constraints on future public works.)
- The Interaction Screening Matrix (Table 7-1, pg. 87 and Section 7.3.3.1, pg. 99) state that there is potential for the groundwater table to be encountered during construction. Water taking may be required for dewatering excavations. There

may also be a potential for accidental spills within the SSM Source Water Protection Area. These are realistic considerations.

- The proposed mitigation and monitoring measures itemized in Section 7.3.3.2, pg. 100 appear to conform with legal requirements under the OWRA and EPA and are satisfactory.
- The consultants conclude in Section 7.3.3.3, pg. 100 that the proposed mitigation measures will prevent significant net effects on groundwater resources. This is a reasonable prediction.



## Statement of Limitations

The purpose of the preceding review is to provide advice to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding subsurface conditions based on a review of the information provided in the above-referenced documents.

The conclusions, opinions and recommendations of the reviewer are based on information provided by others, except where otherwise noted. The Ministry cannot guarantee that the information that is provided by others is accurate or complete. A lack of specific comment by the reviewer is not to be construed as endorsing the content or views expressed in the reviewed material.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Shawn Kinney, P.Geo.  
SK/sk

cc. GW AL SA 04 06 (PUC Transmission LP Class EA, Tarentorus, Korah and  
Awenge Twps., Sault Ste. Marie, Algoma District)

ec. Todd Kondrat (Water Resources Unit)  
Carroll Leith (Technical Support Section)  
Katy Potter (EAB Project Review Unit)  
Ron Dorscht (Sault Ste Marie Area Office)  
SK # 1-124968075