

ATTACHMENT: September 19, 2019
Federal Authority Advice Record form
Response due by October 9, 2019

Cedar LNG Project – Cedar LNG Export Development Ltd.
Agency File: 005734

Department/Agency	Women and Gender Equality (WAGE)
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1. Is it probable that your department or agency may be required to exercise a power or perform a duty or function related to the Project to enable it to proceed?

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

WAGE does not hold any regulatory powers, duties or functions.

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

Specify as appropriate.

WAGE holds expertise in the application of GBA+ and intersectional methodology and gender equality as well as information related to gender-based violence.

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

Specify as appropriate.

No.

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

Provide an overview of the information or advice exchanged.

N/A

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

Specify as appropriate.

No.

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

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

See attached

<Original signed by>

Denise Gareau

Name of Departmental / Agency
Responder

Director, Policy and External Relations

Title of Responder

Oct. 11 2019

Date

PART A – Summary of Issues – Cedar LNG Project

Following a review of the Proponent's Project Description, the following are WAGE's key suggested areas/issues for the proponent to consider:

Current situation and gender relevance

The initial Project Description and project consultations should serve to better understand the purpose of the proposed project and show how it connects with gender equality and broader inclusion goals. Ideally gender equality and inclusion issues should be found in all sections of the report rather than mentioned only in a specific section on gender. Having said that, the proponent may wish to include a specific section in the project description to highlight the relevancy between liquefied natural gas facilities and gender equality.

In addition to the gender relevancy, the project description should provide a detailed overview of the target group(s) and local context in order to clearly identify the segments of the population that will either benefit or be negatively impacted by the project. This includes individuals, groups and legal entities who the project is targeted at (direct beneficiaries). The proponent may also consider individuals who, even though the project is not directly targeted at them, can be affected by its implementation (indirect beneficiaries). There are very few cases, if any, that a project is considered gender neutral where there are no differential positive or negative impacts on gender equality.

Extractive industries - oil, gas, and mining can drive economic growth and provide opportunities, including the creation of jobs, access to revenues and expanded investment in the local communities. However, to ensure that men, women and diverse groups of people have equitable access to the benefits of resource development, it requires an understanding of the gender dimensions of the sector. A Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) can help highlight how the project might impact diverse peoples. To be most effective, GBA+ should be undertaken throughout the lifecycle of an initiative from the early project planning stage to implementation in order to assess the differential impacts on diverse groups of people and to design mitigation strategies to address these impacts. Gender provisions should also be considered in the monitoring framework to describe results that are expected from the project.

The extractive industries can have broad impacts on the economic, social and environmental situations of the communities and a GBA+ can highlight whether these impacts are differential, for example, in terms of income and employment, these projects can create a host of jobs but opportunities often primarily go to men. Despite making progress, the extractive industries continue to miss out on the full benefits of a diverse workforce and face challenges in attracting and retaining more women in the workforce, and in removing barriers that may currently hinder or discourage women from leadership roles. In addition, extractive industries can change the gender dynamic of a community. For example, if men have increasing access to formal employment and decision-making while women and diverse groups of people are marginalized, this would negatively impact the socio-economic and power balance in the community which can be detrimental to the community at large.

The extractive industries can also significantly impact the natural environment, with different impacts on men, women and diverse groups of people. For example, where women work in agriculture, pollution can jeopardize their health disproportionately. Furthermore, the extractive industries can also generate and result in increased migration and an influx of transient or temporary male workers, which may raise public safety concerns for women and minorities in these communities. These demographic changes can also bring increased risks, such as sharp increases in land prices, greater spread of sexually transmitted

infections and HIV, and gender based violence (e.g. human trafficking). Women are often disproportionately affected by these risks. The project description would benefit from an overview of the current local pool of labour and summarize what efforts will be undertaken to recruit and develop diverse individuals from the local community. If expertise is required but unavailable locally, a description of potential measures to upskill diverse groups of individuals from the local community should be included.

Insufficient disaggregated data

We are concerned about the level of detail in the data provided by the Proponent. The Project Description should include at minimum demographic and economic information disaggregated by sex, age and ethnicity. It is important that this data is further disaggregated and should include information such as indigeneity, religion, education levels, disability or accessibility, etc. If data gaps exist, then this should be mentioned up front in the Project Description. For example, the Proponent's Project Description provided a list of the Indigenous groups within the project area, however no detail on the sex, age or gender identity of those populations was provided. This may provide an inaccurate assumption of the population homogeneity and that all individuals in these communities are impacted equally. Disaggregated baseline information is essential to demonstrate changes over the life of the project and provide a reference point for assessing gender equality results. The quantitative information, including gender sensitive data, should also be complemented by qualitative insights from studies or consultations, and from various sources. For example, there should be a profile of the socio-economic conditions of the households and communities that may be affected by the project.

Consultations with various groups and individuals is also an important element. Although the Proponent's Project Description outlined the consultation and engagement activities undertaken, further detail on the nature of these consultations and participants is required to ensure transparent and inclusive processes. GBA+ is a useful tool for more inclusive engagement as it involves reaching the voices that are often overlooked. This will ensure that the views of those being affected by the proposed project, directly and indirectly are heard. Stakeholder mapping is a useful method to assess stakeholder groups and identify the opportunities and barriers affecting the participation of different stakeholders that may be marginalized, particularly for women, indigenous peoples, youth and people with disabilities.

Lack of information that examines the project's impacts on various groups of women, men and diverse groups.

In order to assess the dynamics in the current environment, the analysis should look not only at demographics but also information on socio-economic, cultural trends, including relevant laws and policies in order to obtain a context-specific analysis. A GBA+ informed analysis will consider, for example, who does what, and who has access to what resources. This initial analysis should reveal any inequalities and assist in, eventually, designing mitigation strategies to address potential differential impacts. A baseline should therefore seek to examine and assess how diverse groups of peoples may experience the proposed project. GBA+ can help inform the project by considering:

- **Status of men and women and diverse people before the law**, i.e., to provide an overview of the legal framework, both formal and informal, including relevant labour laws, searching for provisions that guarantee equality before the law, including discriminatory provisions.
- **Most marginalized groups or intersectional considerations**, with the objective to identify and understand people that are most marginalized due to compounded identity factors e.g., project impacts on not only women but women with disabilities or older men. The project may want to consider these potential impacts or unintended negative impacts on most marginalized groups.
- **The division of labour**, e.g., refers to the norms and practices that govern the allocation of work, tasks and responsibilities (paid and unpaid in private and public life) between men, women and diverse

groups in their daily lives. The differences in the gender division of labour explores how these divisions are influenced by societal, economic and historical factors. For example, who is responsible for seafood harvested from the Kitimat area? The project outlines potential change in regional labour force and in regional business during construction, operation and closure and reclamation of the project, however no mention of diverse labour force considerations, including women's participation are included.

- **Access to power and control of resources:** i.e., understand the constraints and barriers to women and men and diverse groups of people in access to and use of resources, such as information and knowledge or services. The project, for example, describes a potential increased demand for accommodation, transportation and community infrastructure, but fails to describe who may be affected by these demands? This information helps to identify where adjustments need to be made to ensure that intended beneficiaries, particularly women, can all benefit from available resources.
- **Recognition of differentiated needs,** i.e., whether the specific needs of men, women and diverse groups of people are understood and catered for (e.g. women's differentiated needs may relate to biological conditions such as menstrual hygiene or sex and pregnancy related needs). Not having access to services that address people's needs can ultimately restrict their options, including people's specific health needs. For example, the project describes low levels of access to health care services due to a shortage of doctors and related professions, in addition to a potential change in health risk due to explosion to chemicals. Who and how will different people's health and wellness be further affected by the project? Who may be exposed to chemicals of concern through air inhalation, food and water ingestion?
- **Decision making ability,** i.e., understand people's decision making abilities – who but also the different kinds of decisions people make, particularly on the use of resources. For example, companies often fail to adequately consult with women or diverse groups when negotiating access to land, compensation or benefit-sharing agreements, this can disempower and disadvantage individuals and groups, and may also undermine traditional decision-making structures.
- **Gender based violence** is a persistent problem in all societies and should be explored in the assessment, e.g., ensure that contractors take measures to prevent sexual harassment and gender-based violence (GBV). We recommend that the Proponent includes background information of gender-based violence in the impacted communities and how project interventions may have unintended impact or risk. For example, will the temporary infrastructure and facilities within the project facility site establish dormitories and washroom facilities that are safe spaces for all workers during the construction phase?

