

Attachment 1: Guiding Questions for this Comment Period

Please respond by February 16, 2021

ATCO Salt Cavern Storage Expansion Project
Canadian Impact Assessment Registry File No.: 81297

The Agency encourages you to use the "Submit a Comment" feature on the Agency's Registry website using reference number: 81297

Indigenous group: Kikino Metis Settlement			
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Potential Effects and Impacts

1. Please identify any potential effects of the Project that are of concern to your community. Also please identify any potential effects that you are aware of that are not listed in the initial project description. Note: *Information on effects and direct and incidental effects as well as effects within federal jurisdiction are defined in section 2 of IAA¹.*

Not noted was the indirect effect this project would have on the areas of extraction. With the increase in storage capacity it would be expected that other projects would also increase for natural gas extraction, since there is more capability of storage within Alberta. Where is the increase in natural gas extraction activities anticipated to take place in order to keep the expanded facility at capacity? The lands being used for activities could have a direct effect on traditional land use activities.

2. Please describe how the potential effects of the Project could result in changes to your community's:

- (a) physical and cultural heritage (e.g. ceremonial sites, burial sites, cultural landscapes)

The increase in activity can discourage cultural practices as there is less safe space available to conduct. There as well needs to be extensive ground truth work done to verify many sacred sites (burial, pathways) as there is limited capacity as is to conduct.

- (b) current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes (e.g. hunting, fishing, trapping)

An increase in natural gas extraction activities in our traditional land use area will impact access and fragmentation, wildlife populations and habitat, air/soil/water quality. This in turn will reduce the traditional land use activities and discourage land users to be on the landscape. Many land users fear being on the land and interfering with operations unknowingly.

- (c) structures, sites or things of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance (e.g. artifacts, important historic buildings or symbols)

An increase in activity will mean more field verification and ground truthing will need to be done in timelier manner. Currently due to capacity constraints, majority of the field verification work is placed on the back burner, and applications are able to be approved before field work is verified.

3. Please describe how the Project may result in changes (both positive and negative) to your community's:

- (a) health, social or economic conditions (e.g. employment opportunities, easier access to goods and services, economic development, accessibility to health-care services);

Economically, this will benefit the community as a whole. There will be employment and educational opportunities, economic development opportunities as well as better quality of life due to these opportunities.

¹ A link to IAA text can be found here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/corporate/acts-regulations/legislation-regulations.html>

(b) Indigenous knowledge, indigenous language or indigenous culture.

This is threatened and can be lost if not preserved and recorded properly as well as reinvested in by the communities these projects impact. Many indigenous peoples can lose touch with their cultural practices and traditions due to the fact they are busy working and being productive members of their society

4. Please describe how the Project may result in any change (positive or negative) to:

(a) the intersection of sex and gender with other identity factors (would there be effects to different sub-groups within your community, identified based on factors such as gender, age, race, religion etc.. For example, to women, youth, elders);

Expansion and increase of oil and gas activities encourages members to participate and take part in the industrial growth but in turn can discourage them from cultural practices and traditions. An example is that many indigenous languages are not spoken outside of the community, the industrial growth, including this project, contributes to the threat of many losses of indigenous language and practices. Awareness and integration within both systems is key.

(b) sustainability, considering, for example, the interconnectedness and interdependence of human-ecological systems and the well-being of present and future generations.

Increased activities contribute to the loss of indigenous culture and practice, allowing for harvesting time off where and when it is appropriate to Metis and First Nation employees. A continuous struggle is being able to find the time as well as take time off in a competitive industry to be able to harvest in the fall.

5. If you expect the Project may impact your community's potential and/or established rights as protected under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, please describe how.

Increased activities contribute to the loss of indigenous culture and practice. Time and space are taken away and replaced with western capitalistic modalities.

Approach to Consultation and Engagement

6. If a federal impact assessment is required for the Project, the Agency will be developing a draft Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan and, if applicable, will contact you to seek your comments. Please provide information on how you would like to be consulted by the Agency (for example, does your community have specific cultural practices, traditions or protocols, etc.).

Consultation Coordinator, communicate via email and telephone. Typically a community engagement session, due to covid restrictions this is beginning to look different.

7. Please also provide your views on how you would like the proponent to engage your community during all phases of the Project.

Via Consultation Coordinator

8. If a federal impact assessment is required for the Project, the Agency will act as the Crown Consultation Coordinator and will be responsible for implementing the Duty to Consult. Do you have any views on how the Agency should work with your community in relation to the assessment of impacts on the potential and/or established rights of your community, as protected under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*?

Work with the Consultation Coordinator, <email address removed>, this employee works closely with Council Members and if required or requested meetings with council can be arranged.
