

## ATTACHMENT

### Federal Authority Advice Record: Designation Request under IAA

Response due by **February 18, 2022**

Lambert La Ronge Peat Harvest Project

Department/Agency	Health Canada
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1. Has your department or agency considered whether it has an interest in 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 (including provision of financial assistance) that would allow the Project to proceed in whole or in part?

Specify as appropriate.

[Not applicable.](#)

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2. 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 that power, duty or function and its legislative source.

[Not applicable.](#)

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3. If your department or agency will exercise a power or perform a duty or function under any Act of Parliament in relation to the Project, will it involve public and Indigenous consultation?

Specify as appropriate.

[Not applicable.](#)

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4. Is your department or agency in possession of specialist or expert information or knowledge that may be relevant to any potential adverse effects within federal jurisdiction caused by the Project or adverse direct or incidental effects stemming from the Project?

Specify as appropriate.

[As a Federal Authority, Health Canada will provide specialist or expert information and knowledge in the Department's possession \(expertise\) to support the assessment of potential impacts on human health from projects considered individually and cumulatively under the \*Impact Assessment Act\* \(IAA\). The Department](#)

provides expertise in the areas described below; it does not play a regulatory role. It should also be noted that expertise related to assessing human health that is relevant to Impact Assessments (IAs) may be held by other federal, provincial, and municipal partners, reflecting the shared jurisdiction for environmental and human health within Canada. For example, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has expertise in the social determinants of health approach and health equity, and may provide that expertise through Health Canada, upon request from the reviewing body(ies). How the expertise provided by Health Canada and PHAC will be used in the IA process will ultimately be determined by the reviewing body(ies).

To support the implementation of the IAA, Health Canada can provide expertise in the following areas:

- Air quality
- Recreational and drinking water quality
- Contamination of traditional foods (country foods)
- Noise
- Methodological expertise in human health risk assessment (HHRA)
- Methodological expertise in conducting health impact assessment (HIA)
- Electromagnetic fields
- Radiological emissions
- Public health emergency management of toxic exposure events

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5. Has your department or agency had previous contact or involvement with the proponent or other parties in relation to the Project?

Provide an overview of the information or advice exchanged.

No.

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6. From the perspective of the mandate and area(s) of expertise of your department or agency, does the Project have the potential to cause adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or adverse direct or incidental effects as described in section 2 of IAA? Could any of those effects be managed through legislative or regulatory mechanisms administered by your department or agency? If a licence, permit, authorization or approval may be issued, could it include conditions in relation to those effects?

Specify as appropriate.

Information included in the Proponent's [Technical Proposal](#) does not provide sufficient detail to evaluate the Project's potential to adversely affect human health within federal jurisdiction, i.e., effects to Indigenous Peoples. The Proposal indicates that there are several Indigenous communities within 100 km of the Project, with the closest being about 15 km from the Project (pg. ii), and the Request for Designation indicates that the Project would be located on the traditional lands and Treaty 6 Territory of Indigenous Peoples of northern Saskatchewan. However, a lack of detailed information on traditional land use and possible Project interactions with these communities limits Health Canada's ability to provide feedback on potential risks. In order to determine the extent of any direct effects on Indigenous Peoples, Health Canada would seek to understand whether Project-related changes to air quality, water quality, noise, and country foods have the potential to affect Indigenous health.

Health Canada does not administer legislative or regulatory mechanisms, or issue licenses, permits, authorizations, or approvals under the *Impact Assessment Act* (the Act). If the Minister of Environment and Climate Change designates the project under the Act, Health Canada can provide expertise on issues addressed within its departmental mandate to support the Agency with its review.

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7. Does your department or agency have a program or additional authority that may be relevant and could be considered as a potential solution to concerns expressed about the Project? In particular, the following issues have been raised by the requestor:

- effects to fish and fish habitats due to reduction in the volume of water, reduction in water filtration capacity of the watershed, and change in natural stream flow;
- adverse effects on migratory birds and species at risk and their critical habitats (including the following threatened species at risk: Northern Leopard Frog, Common Nighthawk, Rusty Blackbird, and the boreal population of Woodland Caribou);
- contribution to climate change due to greenhouse gas emissions and loss of carbon sequestration capacity;
- adverse impacts on the rights of Indigenous peoples; and,
- lack of consultation by the Crown.

If yes, please specify the program or authority.

No.

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8. Does your department or agency have information about the interests of Indigenous groups in the vicinity of the Project; the exercise of their rights protected by section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*; and/or any consultation and accommodation undertaken, underway, or anticipated to address adverse impacts to the section 35 rights of the Indigenous groups?

If yes, please specify.

No.

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9. If your department has guidance material that would be helpful to the proponent or the Agency, please include these as attachments or hyperlinks in your response.

Health Canada has published the following guidance documents for evaluating human health impacts:

Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Environmental Assessment:

- [Human Health Risk Assessment](#)
- [Air Quality](#)
- [Drinking and Recreational Water Quality](#)
- [Country Foods](#)
- [Noise](#)
- [Radiological Impacts](#)

<Original signed by>

Paul Partridge  
Name of department

A/ Regional Manager  
Title of responder

February 18, 2022  
Date