



Métis Nation of Ontario
Lands, Resources and Consultations

18 July 2022

Ian Lindsay
Project Analyst
Ontario Regional Office
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
ian.lindsay@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

RE: MNO Comments Submission on Initial Project Description of Eastern Power's Hydrogen Ready Power Plant Project (CIAR No. 83696)

Dear Ian Lindsay,

On behalf of the Métis Nation of Ontario's (MNO) Clear Waters Métis Council, Thames Bluewater Métis Council, Grand River Métis Council and the Niagara Region Métis Council (the "Councils") and pursuant to the authorities in the MNO Region 9 Consultation Protocol, I am writing in response to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's (IAAC) notification to the MNO, dated 13 June 2022, indicating that the Initial Project Description for the Hydrogen Ready Power Plant Project ("the Project") is available for review and comment.

Thank you for the initial meeting with the MNO Region 9 Consultation Committee (R9CC) on 29 June 2022 and for your participation at a Region 9 community meeting on 12 July 2022. We also appreciate the funding provided to engage on the Project at this stage and for the extension on the deadline to submit comments (to 18 July 2022).

Please accept this letter as our formal submission of comments on the Project at this stage:

- The MNO is concerned about greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with the project construction as climate change is expected to disproportionately affect Métis peoples. As such the MNO would like GHG offsets to be purchased to offset construction emissions.
- The MNO is concerned about the project negatively affecting the local environment. As such the MNO asks that trees be planted in the Project area to compensate for trees and greenery lost to development in the area, and for improved air quality. The MNO asks that this be implemented as a mitigation measure for the Project.
- The MNO is concerned about the proponent having no further plans for engagement with the MNO. Relationship building and meaningful engagement should continue throughout the life of the Project as Métis will continue to be impacted by the Project beyond the initial stages.

- The MNO would like greater clarity on the proponent's plan for hydrogen supply and whether they foresee any additional pipeline infrastructure being required over the Project's lifetime to meet demand.
- The MNO would want to ensure a robust emergency management plan is in place for any potential incidents at the plant including a method for notifying MNO Region 9 of any pertinent emergency information representatives should be aware of.
- Where will the workforce for the Project come from? The MNO has concerns about a transient workforce and implications on the local economy and Métis community. The MNO would like to see good, stable job opportunities for the local area and Métis community.
- The MNO has general concerns about increased noise and air pollution in the area and the impact this will have on the wellbeing of birds in the Project area, migratory or otherwise.

Should you have any questions, please contact Jacqueline Barry, Climate Change Advisor with the MNO's Lands, Resources and Consultation Branch at your convenience (phone: 807-355-1448, email: JacquelineB@metisnation.org).

Sincerely,

Peter Rivers

Region 9 Provisional Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario Councillor & Chair of the Consultation Committee

cc.

Region 9 Consultation Committee

Andrew Buttenham, President of Clear Waters Métis Council

Kathleen Anderson, President of Thames Bluewater Métis Council

Jennifer Parkinson, President of Grand River Métis Council

Derrick Pont, President of Niagara Region Métis Council

Métis Nation of Ontario - Lands, Resources, and Consultations Branch:

Linda Norheim, Director

Jesse Fieldwebster, Manager

Jacqueline Barry, Climate Change Advisor

Ethan Roy, Consultation Advisor