

ATTACHMENT August 17, 2022

Federal Authority Advice Record: Designation Request under IAA

Response due by September 7, 2022

Patterson Lake South Mine Project

Department/Agency	Indigenous Services Canada
Lead Contact	Theresa Marion, A/Regional Program Development Advisor Consultation and Addition to Reserve Lands and Economic Development
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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?

No

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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?

No

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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?

n/a

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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?

Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) holds some general information on First Nations communities that is accessible to general public and could potentially inform the assessment, should a federal assessment be required. This information can be accessed via the First Nations Profiles and the Community Well-being Index.

First Nations Community Profiles

The First Nation Profiles is a collection of information that describes individual First Nation communities across Canada. The profiles include general information on a First Nation along with more detailed information about its reserve(s), governance, federal funding, geography, registered population statistics and various Census statistics.

Community Well-being Index

ISC maintains the Community Well-being Index (CWB). This index measures socio-economic well-being for individual Indigenous communities across Canada. It has 4 components: education, labour force activity, income, and housing. It is compatible with other community-level data to facilitate a wide variety of research on the factors associated with well-being, and allows for cross-comparison with other Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

ISC operates numerous programs and services for on-reserve First Nations, which provide similar functions as a province or municipality does off-reserve. These programs include health, social, education, economic development, governance and infrastructure services. Although ISC maintains inventories of data related to each of these programs, often this data belongs to the participating community. Concerning health related information or knowledge, the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) of ISC holds some types of data relevant to Indigenous communities.

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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?

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?

ISC does not participate in the technical review of the project and will not be issuing a licence, permit, approval, regulatory permit, or authorization in relation to the project. ISC can assist with issues or concerns related to the legal duty to consult, the implementation of UNDA, or Canada's relationships with Indigenous groups.

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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. The Project:
- is located in an environmentally sensitive area including within the territory of the Boreal Shield Woodland Caribou;
 - is anticipated to adversely impact areas within federal jurisdiction, including Indigenous peoples and lands, species at risk, fish and fish habitats;
 - is anticipated to significantly and adversely impact the ability for Métis people to exercise their rights and may compromise the integrity of their Land Claim;
 - presents a risk to the human and socio-economic health of Métis and other Indigenous peoples, both in and around the Project location, and through the transportation corridor which passes through a number of majority-Métis communities;
 - will contribute to the cumulative impacts of other developments in an around Patterson Lake, an area of cultural significance to Metis Nation of Saskatchewan; and
 - will create adverse impacts that will not be adequately or fully addressed through the provincial environmental assessment process.

If the project is designated and undergoes an impact assessment, as per IAA 2019, ISC would potentially be able to provide information relevant to the health, social or economic conditions of Indigenous peoples (if deemed impacted by this project). See Question 4 for detail.

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?

This project may affect the following groups that are near or overlap with the Project, though this list is not necessarily comprehensive:

- **Treaty 8 First Nations, in particular Athabasca Chipewyan FN, whose asserted traditional territory is within 20 km of the Project;**
- **Metis Nation of Alberta.**

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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.

Theresa Marion

Name of departmental / agency responder

A/Regional Program Development Advisor

Title of responder

September 12, 2022

Date