

AOPFN Initial Comments on Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project

Meeting Date: June 16th, 2023

Special Council Meeting Date: June 30th, 2023

The following comments were informed by review of the following:

- Summary Initial Project Description – Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project (May 2023)
- Agency Slide Deck – Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project: Planning Phase (May 2023)

AOPFN understands that the original comment period on the Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project has passed. AOPFN comments and IAAC responses are provided in Table 1 to ensure that our concerns are acknowledged and or addressed. Chief and Council comments and questions are provided in Table 2. AOPFN looks forward to discussing this further with the Proponent.

Please set up future engagement by contacting Korey Kauffeldt at <Email address removed>

Table 1: AOPFN Comments on Impact Assessment process and the proposed Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project

AOPFN #	Subject	Comment	Response from Agency/Proponent
1	Economic	Noted small current territory with few economic opportunities and comparatively large traditional territories.	
2	Administrative	Mentioned a consultation policy document and relevant issues about consultation, such as costs, social and economic issues, a housing crisis, loss of cultural identity, and keenness on training and capacity building.	
3	Administrative	Asked how comments from Indigenous groups are incorporated into the impact assessment for the Project.	
4	Administrative	Noted that the project likely falls outside traditional territory but may be of interest. May contact the proponent post-discussion with the Chief.	
5	Technical	Asked for clarification on the content and purpose of the Initial Project Description (IPD).	
6	Technical	Asked if either the upper or lower reservoir needs to be constructed, or if both already exist.	
7	Environmental	Asked if clearcutting or other environmentally disruptive processes are required when constructing the upper reservoir.	
8	Technical	Asked if the lower reservoir will be lined.	
9	Environmental	Asked about the possibility that water from the lower reservoir could seep into the ground and spread contaminants from the former mine.	
10	Technical	Asked about the relationship between the solar facilities and the closed loop hydroelectric system.	
11	Environmental	Suggested the use of floating solar panel technology in the open pit to reduce the need for clearcutting in the area designated for the solar facility.	

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12	Administrative	Confirmed interest in receiving the \$5,000.00 grant funding available during the ongoing comment period on the IPD.	
13	Unique Identity and Representation	AOPFN emphasized the need for their specific representation, separate from the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO), and highlighted the potential for AOPFN to contribute their traditional ecological knowledge to the project's environmental stewardship. This might have included sustainable land and resource management practices.	
14	Partnership and Collaboration	Emphasized the importance of collaborative initiatives. Proposed the implementation of joint projects that could serve both AOPFN's interests and the proponent's goals. Suggested that AOPFN's unique knowledge and skills could have contributed to the project's success and authenticity.	
15	Economic	Expressed interest in exploring possibilities for economic participation. This could have been through employment opportunities, contracts, or partnerships that provided income and employment for the AOPFN community members.	
16	Cultural	Suggested the inclusion of interpretive elements that showcased AOPFN's culture and history in the project. Proposed the development of educational programs or materials to raise awareness of AOPFN's rich cultural heritage. (Cultural Awareness Training)	
17	Capacity Building	Advocated for capacity-building programs to strengthen AOPFN's community skills, knowledge, and leadership. This could have included technical training, scholarships, internships, and mentoring programs associated with the project.	
18	Community Development	Expressed possibilities for project contributions towards community enhancements such as improved infrastructure,	

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		housing, health and educational facilities, and other resources that would directly benefit the AOPFN community.	
19	Land Management	Proposed that the AOPFN be consulted and involved in decision-making related to land use and resource management within their traditional territories, ensuring sustainable and respectful use of the land.	
20	Financial Benefits	Discussed the possibility of a benefits agreement that ensured AOPFN's involvement and gain from the project. This might have included royalties, revenue-sharing, or other financial benefits.	
21	Reconciliation	Suggested that the proponent take concrete actions towards reconciliation, respecting the rights of AOPFN, acknowledging past wrongs, and promoting a future of mutual respect and understanding.	
22	Environmental	Suggested the creation of an AOPFN-led guardianship program to monitor and protect the land, water, and wildlife in the project area, building on traditional knowledge and stewardship practices.	
23	Technical	Asked what a pumped storage and hydroelectric facility was?	

