

**Comment Form – Draft Cooperation Plan and Draft Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines – Provincial Review Team**

**Bruce C Nuclear Project**

**Response required by: July 11, 2025**

All comments should be submitted via the Submit a Comment feature available on the Project’s Canadian Impact Assessment Registry page (<https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/88771?culture=en-CA>). Documents can be uploaded using this feature. If you have any difficulties submitting this way, please contact the Registry directly at [registry-registre@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:registry-registre@iaac-aeic.gc.ca). All comments submitted using this form will be posted on the Registry website for the Project.

Please note that this is your opportunity to tailor the draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines.

Ministry/Office:	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks		
IA Contact:	May Lyn Trudelle	Telephone:	437-855-6117
		Email:	MayLyn.Trudelle@ontario.ca

**Section 1 – Draft Cooperation Plan:**

1. Indicate whether your Ministry or office has identified any legislative and regulatory oversight that may apply to the Project and/or incidental activities related to the Project, under the authority of your Ministry or office.

**Insert response here:**

This project occurs within the province of Ontario, and therefore the following legislation administered by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks may apply to the Project and/or incidental activities related to the Project:

- *Endangered Species Act, 2007* (ESA) generally applies. The ESA may not apply to this project under special circumstances because it is also regulated by federal legislation.
- *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA). Amendments to existing environmental compliance approvals for the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station and new environmental compliance approvals for air and noise emissions and effluent discharges of the Project.
- *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA). Water takings under section 34, Ontario Regulation 387/04 (Water Taking and Transfer) and the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement (may apply).
- *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA). Provincial environmental assessment requirements may apply to incidental activities (e.g. transmission lines, transportation infrastructure) related to the Project.

The Species at Risk Branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has the authority to issue permits under the ESA and has engaged with IAAC regarding potential impacts to species at risk, and provincial requirements, during the pre-consultation stage of the EA.

2. In the table below, please provide all applicable provincial EA requirements, permitting and/or approval requirements that may apply to the Project and/or incidental activities related to the Project, under the authority of your Ministry or office.

Provincial Ministry or Office (e.g., Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks)	Regulatory Mechanism (Identify applicable provincial EA, permitting or approval requirements)	Reference (Provide link with additional information on provincial regulatory mechanism identified)
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – Species at Risk Branch	ESA permit	Only one permit type is available under the ESA. Guidance to reflect the June 2025 amendments to the ESA are under development.
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – Environmental Permissions Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental compliance approvals (air, noise, sewage works) under the EPA and OWRA</li> <li>Permit to take water under the OWRA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Environmental Compliance Approval</a></li> <li><a href="#">Permits to take water</a></li> <li><a href="#">Great Lakes St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement</a> (water takings more than 19 million litres per day)</li> </ul>
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – Environmental Assessment Branch	Types of projects subject to the EAA are listed in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ontario Regulation 50/24 Projects – Designations and Exemptions</li> <li>Class environmental assessments approved by the provincial Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">O. Reg. 50/24 PART II.3 PROJECTS - DESIGNATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS</a></li> <li><a href="#">List of approved class environmental assessments</a></li> </ul>

*Insert as many rows as applicable*

3. Using the table below, please provide areas of expertise related to the Project and appropriate contact information for the final Cooperation Plan and further cooperation on the integrated assessment of the Project.

Provincial Ministry or Office (e.g., Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks)	Areas of Expertise (Provide a list of areas of expertise that your ministry/office holds)	Contact Information (Department name, address, telephone number, contact email address)
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	species at risk	Species at Risk Branch 300 Water St. Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7  Jackson Bellamy 705-772-8341 <a href="mailto:jackson.bellamy2@ontario.ca">jackson.bellamy2@ontario.ca</a>
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	provincial environmental assessment	Environmental Assessment Branch 135 St. Clair Ave. W., Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

Provincial Ministry or Office (e.g., Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks)	Areas of Expertise (Provide a list of areas of expertise that your ministry/office holds)	Contact Information (Department name, address, telephone number, contact email address)
		May Lyn Trudelle 437-855-6117 <a href="mailto:MayLyn.Trudelle@ontario.ca">MayLyn.Trudelle@ontario.ca</a>  Nick Colella 416-358-9934 <a href="mailto:Nick.Colella@ontario.ca">Nick.Colella@ontario.ca</a>

**Section 2 – Draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines:**

If any legislative and regulatory oversight that may apply to the Project and/or incidental activities related to the Project, under the authority of your Ministry or office, was identified in Section 1:

1. Please review the draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (the Guidelines) sections that are applicable to your Ministry’s or office’s mandate.
2. Using the table below, given the context of the Project, please provide any comments and include your recommendation for how the final Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines should be adapted to address information requirements of your Ministry’s or office’s regulatory mechanisms in order to reduce duplicative provincial and federal requirements.
  - Please indicate any corrections, additions or deletions that should be made to the text including considerations of submissions from Indigenous Nations and communities that are relevant to your Ministry’s or office’s expertise. Please provide a clear context and rationale for your recommendations, including how their implementation would help focus the assessment on key issues relevant to federal decision-making.
  - Provincial expert advice should be solution oriented and commensurate to the context of the Project. Advice should be informed by risk-based prudence and evidence in the proponent’s Initial Project Description<sup>1</sup> Response to the Summary of Issues<sup>2</sup>, and publicly available information, with a strong reliance on well-understood mitigation measures, existing guidance, and regulatory instruments that will manage effects.

Ministry – Comment ID (e.g., MECP-01)	Draft Guidelines Section	Context and Rationale (provide an explanation of your comments)	Recommendation: provide text to be inserted or deleted. Be specific on the location within the draft Guidelines that the text would be added/deleted.
MECP-01	8.10.2	On June 5, 2025, the Province of Ontario passed Bill 5: <i>Protecting Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025</i> which included amendments to the <i>Endangered Species Act, 2007</i> that are now in force, and the creation of the	MECP recommends that the proponent continue to take steps to ensure compliance under the amended <i>Endangered Species Act, 2007</i> (ESA) until such time that the ESA is repealed, and the <i>Species Conservation Act, 2025</i> comes into force. The proponent should

<sup>1</sup> <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/158463>

<sup>2</sup> <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/160157>

Ministry – Comment ID (e.g., MECP-01)	Draft Guidelines Section	Context and Rationale (provide an explanation of your comments)	Recommendation: provide text to be inserted or deleted. Be specific on the location within the draft Guidelines that the text would be added/deleted.
		<p><i>Species Conservation Act, 2025 (SCA)</i> which is not yet in effect. These changes are intended to streamline permit applications and approvals and help projects proceed faster while continuing to provide important protections for species at risk and their habitats.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the SCA will be proclaimed in early 2026. Some changes when the SCA comes into force include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The establishment of a Species Conservation Registry, as part of a registration first based approach to authorizations, to allow for faster, online registration of eligible activities impacting protected species.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, provincial authorization for migratory birds and aquatic species (fish and mussels) listed on Schedule 1 of the federal Species at Risk Act would not be required.</p>	<p>be aware of potential impacts to permitting requirements, and associated timelines, if this occurs. We recommend continuing to engage with MECP Species at Risk Branch, regarding requirements under the amended ESA and the status of future changes.</p> <p>Changes to Ontario’s species at risk legislation occurring concurrently with this EA appear to be compatible with the “approach to cooperation” described in the <b>cooperation plan</b> which describes a flexible approach that is able to accommodate changes that occur during the assessment process in order to facilitate engagement in the process.</p>

*Insert as many rows as applicable*