

ATTACHMENT

Federal Authority Advice Record: Designation Request under the IAA

Response due by **October 1, 2024**

Vista Coal Mine Phase II Expansion Project (the Project)

Department/Agency	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Lead Contact	Marcus Edino
Full Address	9250 49 St., Edmonton, AB, T6B 1K5
Email	Marcus.edino@ec.gc.ca and EASouthPNR@ec.gc.ca
Telephone	587-338-7051
Alternate Departmental Contact	Leah Dirk Leah.Dirk@ec.gc.ca

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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.

ECCC has not exercised a power or performed a duty or function under any Act of Parliament in relation to the Vista Coal Mine Expansion (the Project), nor has ECCC taken any course of action that would allow the Project to proceed in whole or in part.

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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.

ECCC does not expect that it will be required to exercise a power or perform a duty or function related to the Project to enable it to proceed. Once the scope of the Project and of the assessment are established by the Agency, this may change as additional activities or Project components could come into scope.

Please note the following requirements that may apply to this Project:

Species at Risk Act permits

For species listed in Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened, a permit may be required from ECCC (section 73 of SARA) for activities that affect a listed terrestrial wildlife species, the residences of its individuals, or any part of its critical habitat, where those prohibitions are in place. Such permits may only be issued if: all reasonable alternatives to the activity that would reduce the impact on the species have been considered and the best solution has been adopted; all feasible measures will be taken to minimize the impact of the activity on the species, the residences of its individuals or its critical habitat; and the activity will not jeopardize the survival or recovery of the species. Permits are also required by those persons conducting activities that contravene the critical habitat destruction prohibitions (subsection 58(1)).

Prohibitions are in place for individuals and residences of an extirpated, endangered, or threatened species on federal lands in a province, reserve or any other lands under the *Indian Act*, or lands under the authority of the Minister of the Environment.

On land other than federal lands, the prohibitions apply only to migratory birds protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and aquatic species protected under the *Fisheries Act*, unless an order is put in place. It is possible that further prohibitions may come into force in the future through Orders in Council for individuals, residences and critical habitat on non-federal lands and/or through Ministerial Order for critical habitat on federal lands. It is also possible that over the course of the assessment or after the assessment, additional species could be listed under SARA; permits may be required for Project activities that affect these additional species. Proponents are advised to monitor for such developments on the SARA Registry: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html>.

ECCC will require detailed information on the potential effects of the Project, including locations and/or occurrences of species at risk, their use of habitat and critical habitat within the Project area, and specific effects on federal land, before ECCC can determine whether a SARA permit is required.

Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994 permits

The *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* (MBCA) protects migratory birds wherever they occur, regardless of land tenure. The *Migratory Birds Regulations, 2022* (MBR 2022) protect migratory birds, their eggs and their nests, by prohibiting activities that may harm them.

Unless a person has a permit or the regulations authorize it, it is prohibited to engage in the following activities:

- Capturing, killing, taking, injuring or harassing a migratory bird or attempting to do so;
- Destroying, taking or disturbing an egg; and
- Damaging, destroying, removing or disturbing a nest, nest shelter, eider duck shelter or duck nesting box, unless the following exceptions apply:
 - The nest does not contain a live migratory bird or a viable egg; and,
 - The nest was not built by a species listed in Schedule 1.

Permits cannot be issued for the incidental take of migratory birds. Permits may be considered in instances of human health and safety, damage, and injury to the use of the land.

Modernization of the MBCA in 2022 has additionally identified 18 species of birds whose nests are protected year-round (Schedule 1 of MBR 2022). The nests of species listed in Schedule 1 are protected at all times, unless the following conditions are met:

- Notification of the unoccupied nest has been submitted/received through the Registry for Abandoned Nests; and,
- The waiting time designated in the regulations has passed, during which time the nest has not been occupied by a migratory bird.

In some situations, it may be possible to obtain a permit to move or destroy an unoccupied nest of a Schedule 1 species. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds.html>

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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.

ECCC does not expect to exercise any power or perform a duty or function under any Act of Parliament in relation to the Project that will involve public and Indigenous Consultation.

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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 direct or incidental adverse effects stemming from the Project?

Specify as appropriate.

ECCC has specialist or expert information that may be relevant to the impact assessment in the areas listed below. In each of these subject areas we have expertise related to: establishing an adequate baseline, assessing potential effects to biophysical valued components, effectiveness of mitigation measures, methods for monitoring and follow-up, and information regarding federal policies, standards, and regulations that may be relevant to the assessment (Note: ECCC does not assess proposed projects for regulatory compliance, but instead provides technical input to the Agency to inform the assessment). Once the scope of the Project and of the assessment are established by the Agency, this list may change if additional Project activities or components should come into scope.

Air quality: ambient air quality; sources of emissions; emissions estimation and measurement; atmospheric transport, transformation and dispersion modelling; cumulative effects; effectiveness of mitigation measures; and follow-up monitoring.

Greenhouse gas emissions and climate change: estimations of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (net and upstream); carbon sinks; GHG mitigation measures and determination of Best Available Technologies/Best Environmental practices (BAT/BEP); credible plans to achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2050; climate change science to inform evaluation of potential changes to the environment and Project resilience to effects of climate change; climate change policies; and national GHG projections.

Water quality and quantity: surface water quality; contamination sources for surface water and groundwater, including effluent; wastewater; water quality predictions and modelling; seepage and runoff effects; management of contaminated soils or sediments; hydrology (streamflow rates data and modelling, flooding and extreme events management, drainage control, water levels, water balances); geochemistry; cumulative effects and follow-up and monitoring.

Wildlife, species at risk, and habitat: migratory birds, their nests, and eggs under authority of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*; species assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC); species at risk, individuals, their residences, habitat and critical habitat including recovery strategies, action plans and management plans under ECCC's mandate; and ecotoxicology.

Environmental emergencies: Provide environmental emergency management planning advice and guidance related to potential accidents and malfunctions involving unplanned or uncontrolled releases or spills of hazardous substances into the environment. This includes scenarios where such releases could result in adverse environmental effects within ECCC's mandate, such as impacts on species at risk and migratory birds. Additionally, consider the need for atmospheric transport and dispersion modeling of airborne contaminants, the fate and behavior of contaminants, and hydrologic trajectory modeling of contaminants in water.

Climate and meteorology: long-term climate patterns and norms.

Open Science Data Platform (OSDP):

The Open Science Data Platform (OSDP) provides information relevant to cumulative effects and development activities across Canada and is publicly available at the following website: <https://osdp-psdo.canada.ca/dp/en>. More specifically, the platform provides a single window to access data and scientific knowledge relevant to understanding cumulative effects from existing federal, provincial, and territorial on-line databases and registries, including publications from the federal government and its scientists. It provides an interactive geospatial mapping tool to enable mapping of multiple datasets from multiple sources. It offers various features, including keyword-based searching, interactive data visualization on maps, and educational resources covering key topics such as cumulative effects, water, air, climate, biodiversity, land, economy and industry, health, and society and culture.

OSDP information may be of value to persons preparing and reviewing project assessments, including cumulative effects assessments. The following are some examples of ECCC information available on the OSDP.

Water – quality and quantity

- [National long-term water quality monitoring data](#)
- [Real-time hydrometric data](#)
- [Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network \(CABIN\)](#)
- National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI)
 - [Facilities that reported releases to water](#)
- Find [additional water-related resources \(including publications, datasets and monitoring stations\) from ECCC on the OSDP here](#).

Biodiversity (e.g., birds, species at risk, wetlands)

- [Critical habitat for species at risk \(terrestrial\)](#)
- [Range map extents – Species at risk](#)

- [Canadian wetlands](#)
- [Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database \(CPCAD\)](#)
- [Canadian Breeding Bird Census plots](#)
- [Priority places for species at risk](#)
- Find [additional biodiversity-related resources \(including publications, datasets and monitoring stations\)](#) from ECCC on the OSDP [here](#).

Air Quality

- National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI), including:
 - [Facilities that reported release of criteria air contaminants](#)
- Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators (CESI), including
 - [Average ambient fine particulate matter concentrations](#)
 - [Peak ambient ozone concentrations](#)
 - [Ambient volatile organic compound concentrations](#)
 - [Average ambient sulphur dioxide concentrations](#)
 - [Peak ambient nitrogen dioxide concentrations](#)
- Find [additional air-related resources \(including publications, datasets and monitoring stations\)](#) from ECCC on the OSDP [here](#).

Climate, including climate change

- [Hourly](#) and [daily climate observations](#)
- [Monthly climate observation summaries](#)
- [Climate normals, averages and extremes 1981-2020](#)
- [Homogenized surface air temperature](#)
- [Homogenized precipitation](#)
- Find [additional climate-related resources \(including publications, datasets and monitoring stations\)](#) from ECCC on the OSDP [here](#).

Beyond ECCC's mandate, the OSDP also contains resources on topics led by departments and other levels of government (e.g. human health, economy and industry). The OSDP also provides access to regulatory registries that list government authorizations of other developments (e.g. *Fisheries Act* Registry), which can be useful in understanding the cumulative pressures on an area.

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.

Based on information readily available, ECCC has not had any direct involvement with the Proponent or other parties that would be relevant to the assessment of this Project. ECCC Prairie and Northern Region (PNR) has not been in contact with the Proponent regarding permitting or authorizations for the Project. ECCC provided FAAR Responses to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada in relation to Designation Requests received in 2019, 2020, and 2021.

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 direct or incidental adverse effects as described in section 2 of the 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.

Air Quality

The construction, operation, and decommissioning of mines can result in adverse effects on air quality. Mining operations, processing (crushing and milling), and activities associated with combustion (including transportation) can result in the emission of contaminants such as sulfur oxides (SO_x), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and particulate matter (PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀ and total particulate matter (TPM)). Activities which cause a physical disturbance to land and ore material, such as earth moving, land clearing, blasting, crushing, and transportation, can also introduce particulate matter (e.g. dust and soot) to the surrounding region. The emission of these air contaminants can result in local or regional degradation of ambient air quality, with potential impacts on sensitive ecosystem receptors. Furthermore, emissions of air contaminants as a result of this Project may add cumulatively to the emissions from other activities, contributing to degradation of air quality in the region.

When contaminants settle out of the air in the surrounding environment, their deposition may result in adverse impacts to terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. For example, metals and polycyclic aromatic compound (PAC) emissions from mining activities may result in elevated concentrations of these contaminants in water, soil, flora, and fauna. Emissions of NO_x and SO₂ may also lead to acidification and potential exceedance of ecosystems' critical loads. Air contaminant emissions can result in contamination of nearby land and waterbodies and may affect sensitive ecosystem receptors.

Projects which will result in an increase in demand for rail traffic as a direct result of the Project (e.g. mining projects where product will be transported by rail) have the potential to adversely affect air quality. More specifically, the combustion of fossil fuels to power the rail engines can result in the emission of air contaminants such as SO_x, NO_x, VOCs, and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). When some contaminants settle out of the air in the surrounding environment, their deposition may result in acidification and potential exceedance of ecosystems' critical loads. The emission of these air contaminants can result in local or regional degradation of ambient air quality, with potential impacts on sensitive ecosystem receptors.

Projects which involve on-road vehicles and mobile off-road machines for construction, operation and decommissioning, or that lead to an increase in road traffic (e.g. hauling of material by truck from mine to shipping terminal), have the potential to adversely affect air quality. More specifically, the combustion of fossil fuels can result in the emission of air contaminants such as SO_x, NO_x, VOCs, and PM_{2.5}. Additional deposition may occur due to fugitive emissions of products from rail cars during transport.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change

The construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed Project may result in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, or impact to carbon sinks, and may hinder or contribute to the Government of Canada's ability to meet its commitments in respect of climate change. Furthermore, the Project has the potential to be affected by future climate change, possibly resulting in impacts to the environment. Climate change may alter the likelihood or magnitude of sudden weather events such as extreme precipitation that can contribute to flooding, as well as contribute to longer-term changes such as sea level rise, permafrost

thaw and changes to migration patterns. Changes related to warming are already evident in many parts of Canada and are projected to continue in the future with further warming. If not properly considered, such changes may cause issues such as equipment failures that can threaten the environment, human health and safety, interrupt essential services, disrupt economic activity, and incur high costs for recovery and replacement.

The [Strategic Assessment of Climate Change \(SACC\)](#) (revised in October 2020) provides guidance related to climate change throughout the impact assessment process. The SACC outlines information that the Proponent should provide during the impact assessment process on GHG emissions, impact of the Project on carbon sinks, impact of the Project on federal emissions reduction efforts and on global GHG emissions, GHG mitigation measures and climate change resilience, the circumstances in which an upstream GHG assessment would be required, and the circumstances in which a credible plan to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 will be required.

More details are provided in the [draft Technical Guide Related to the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change: Guidance on quantification of net GHG emissions, impact on carbon sinks, mitigation measures, net-zero plan and upstream GHG assessment](#) published in August 2021.

On June 11, 2021, the Government of Canada issued a public policy [statement](#) on new thermal coal mining or expansion projects. The statement indicates that the Government considers that these projects are likely to cause unacceptable environmental effects within federal jurisdiction and are not aligned with Canada's domestic and international climate change commitments. Accordingly, this position will inform federal decision making on thermal coal mining projects.

Climate Change Resilience

Given projected changes in future climate for the Project area, climate change considerations are relevant to the Project review. There is potential for climate change to affect the Project which, in turn, may have impacts on the surrounding environment (e.g. through accidents or malfunctions). Climate changes in the Project area, such as possible changes in mean and extreme precipitation and temperature and related environmental conditions, may alter baseline conditions, with implications for climate sensitive aspects of Project design and associated effects on the environment.

For example, Project components and activities for which climate change resilience could be important for this Project include those related to water management infrastructure (e.g. capacity of collection ponds, water treatment facilities, tailings water management facilities, ditches, etc).

Water Quality and Quantity

The activities linked to the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Vista Coal Mine Phase II Expansion may have adverse effects on the quality of groundwater and surface water, as well as on the hydrological regimes of watercourses and water bodies.

Coal mining projects often include the following activities: blasting, operating heavy equipment, ore processing, and land clearing etc. These activities could result in adverse effects to water quality through the release of suspended solids, ammonia, nitrate, hydrocarbons, and other contaminants to surrounding waters through erosion, sedimentation or runoff processes. Project activities may also produce airborne particulate matter which could also be a source of surface water contamination upon deposition.

Contact water from coal mining (including but not limited to: wastewater, effluents, runoff, seepage, discharges and spills) contains contaminants (e.g. selenium) that could potentially affect water quality on site and in the receiving environment at all mining stages, including post-closure. Water quality could also be impacted by other mine-related releases, including sewage, chemicals, and other wastes.

Furthermore, the construction, operation, and decommissioning of mines can result in adverse effects on water quality from the potential exposure of acid-generating rock to air and water. Through the natural process of sulphide oxidation, water draining from areas of this exposed rock could acidify the aquatic receiving environment. Interaction between water, air and the exposed acid-generating rock could increase the leaching of metals into the aquatic receiving environment and water body, resulting in adverse effects to water quality.

Mining operations can expose rock that contain soluble minerals. When water passes over or through them, these minerals can dissolve in water and result in mineral depositions (e.g. calcium carbonate) and highly saline runoff; this runoff could be released to the aquatic receiving environment thereby altering streambed composition and/or salinity levels, which may result in adverse effects to water quality.

Surface water quality may also be degraded by interactions between groundwater and surface waters in the Project area. The use of water in mine production has the potential for contaminants to enter groundwater through seepage from the tailings disposal areas or other water impoundments. These contaminants could then be transported to aquatic receiving environments, resulting in possible adverse effects to water quality.

Mining projects may result in adverse effects to surface water quantity and quality by reducing the volume of inflows into nearby lakes and rivers. Surface flows can be altered through mining, site re-contouring, surface water management (e.g. diversions of clean water around project areas), changes in land cover, removal of existing water features within the affected footprint, water demand to support operations, or other means.

The “drawdown” of the water table – that is, lowering the elevation of subsurface water – can result from the construction and dewatering of open pits. Drawdown can also result from the withdrawal of water from constructed wells for water-intensive operational processes at the mine. Reducing the quantity of surface and groundwater available to recharge surface water bodies could reduce the total volume of water in nearby lakes or rivers, and seasonal low-flows and baseflow in affected watercourses. These reductions could increase the concentration of contaminants and natural elements in those watercourses and water bodies, and alter the temperature regime at all mining stages, including post-closure.

Mining projects may result in adverse effects to surface water quantity by modifying the amount of water or altering the natural hydrograph (e.g. range of seasonal and/or inter-annual flow variation) of watercourses. These adverse effects have the potential to affect the hydraulic conditions within affected watercourses and the channel morphology because of erosion and changes in sediment transport patterns.

Constructing watercourse crossings, conducting hydrostatic tests, constructing and maintaining access roads, excavating or reworking of soils, sediments or rocks, and drilling and blasting may result in the deposit of contaminants to watercourses and water bodies and result in adverse effects on water quality

These adverse effects to water quantity and quality could, in turn, result in adverse effects to fish and fish habitat, including sensitive ecosystem receptors and aquatic species at risk.

Cumulative effects of the Project in combination with other developments (past and present) and foreseeable developments must be identified and assessed for all aspects of the proposed development. There may be cumulative effects of loadings of coal mining-associated contaminants and substances in the watershed and downstream environment

Some coal deposits contain iron sulphides (FeS) and when exposed to air and water will oxidize generating acid rock drainage and metal leaching (ARD/ML). Therefore, it might be necessary to determine the amount of sulphides in the coal deposit, then characterize the coal bed or seam that contains sulphides for their ARD/ML potential. This will help to design appropriate waste rock and tailings management facilities as well as determine proper mitigation measures if necessary.

There are also other metals associated with coal deposits, selenium (Se) for example, and when leached from the coal pile or the processing of the coal, will have adverse effects on water frequented by fish.

Due to the proximity of McPherson Creek and its tributaries to the Project area, it can be inferred that contaminants are likely to end up in the Creek and its tributaries, which drain the entire Project area. Therefore, the creek could be potentially impacted from discharges or seepage from waste rock and tailings facilities if not mitigated or properly managed.

Wildlife, species at risk, and habitat

The activities linked to the construction, operation, and decommissioning of a mine and associated infrastructure could have negative effects on migratory birds and species at risk (e.g. amphibians, arthropods, birds, lichens, terrestrial mammals, mosses, reptiles, and vascular plants) listed on the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA), and their habitat and critical habitat.

The nature of effects can vary based on a number of factors, including project location, duration, scale, and configuration; ancillary project activities (e.g. land clearing, dredging, and flaring); existing cumulative effects; the type of habitat that may be disturbed; and sensitivity of species found in the project area. The pathway through which potential effects are conveyed will depend on the land, air, and water constituents associated with the site along with the behavioural adaptability, presence and interaction with the species limiting factor (e.g. habitat supporting staging, nesting, roosting or foraging) and population resilience.

Migratory birds and species at risk and their habitat

Individual mortality and the destruction of nests and eggs or any other structure necessary for the reproduction and survival of species at risk could occur during all Project phases, including, exploration, construction, operation and decommissioning of the mine and associated infrastructure. Project related activities typically result in large-scale land clearing activities, which leads to destruction, disturbance and fragmentation of habitat (e.g. for foraging, nesting, hibernating), habitat avoidance, sensory disturbance, and the inadvertent disturbance and destruction of individuals, nests and eggs of migratory birds and species at risk. New roads (or rail) or increased use of existing roads can result in collisions with vehicles and result in direct mortality of wildlife and interrupt wildlife movement.

Sensory disturbance includes noise from various Project activities, lights, vibrations from excavation work and the operation of machinery, as well as the presence of workers. Sensory disturbance may make adjacent habitats unsuitable for use by wildlife and cause

avoidance effects in many species. Birds that land on and/or frequent wastewater (e.g. submerged tailings in tailings ponds, pit water) have the potential to come into contact with toxic substances, which can result in on and off-site mortality. Attraction to lights at night or in poor visibility conditions during the day may cause birds to collide with lit structures or their vertical support structures, resulting in injury or death. In other instances, birds can get disoriented while circling a light source and may deplete their energy reserves and either die of exhaustion or drop to the ground where they are at risk from predation.

Environmental Emergencies

The Project would expand the Phase I mine pits westward, using existing infrastructure like transportation and processing facilities. The Project would include new roads, additional plant modules, tailing storage facilities and an end pit lake. As such, there is potential for adverse environmental effects from accidents and malfunctions, such as a failure of the tailings storage facility, accidents or malfunctions caused by construction activities, or leaks resulting from the storage of hazardous materials. Adverse effects to air quality, water quality, wildlife and wildlife habitat could result from the accidental release of high concentrations of ammonia, hydrocarbons, and other contaminants to surrounding waters. Optimized spill prevention, preparedness and response measures and systems will be important given the risk of spills of hazardous substances to the environment, especially to nearby waterways and environmentally sensitive areas.

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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:
- a. potential impacts on species at risk and their habitats;
 - b. potential impacts on migratory birds;
 - c. potential impacts on fish and fish habitat;
 - d. potential impacts on the health, social and economic conditions of Indigenous Peoples;
 - e. potential impacts on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights;
 - f. potential impacts on Indigenous lands and resources used for traditional purposes;
 - g. potential impacts on surface water quality and quantity;
 - h. potential impacts to groundwater quality and quantity; and
 - i. potential impacts on air quality.

If yes, please specify the program or authority.

Program or authority:

- Species at risk and their habitats - *Species at Risk Act, 2002*
 - Migratory birds - *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations, 2022*
 - Fish and fish habitat - *Fisheries Act, Section 36 (3)*
 - Surface water and groundwater quality and quantity - *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*
 - GHG emissions and climate change - Strategic Assessment of Climate Change
 - Draft Technical Guide Related to the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change: Guidance on quantification of net GHG emissions, impact on carbon sinks, mitigation measures, net-zero plan and upstream GHG assessment
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8. Does your department or agency have a program or mechanism that would address or mitigate impacts resulting from ammonia, nitrates, nitrites, sulphates, mercury and selenium contamination of water systems? If yes, please provide a brief explanation on the program, mechanism, including whether Indigenous consultation takes place.

ECCC does not have any programs or mechanisms that would address or mitigate impacts resulting from ammonia, nitrates, nitrites, sulphates, mercury or selenium contamination of water systems.

9. 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.

ECCC has received information from Indigenous communities in the area around the Vista Mine through Coal Mining Effluent Regulations (CMER) consultations.

10. If your department has guidance material that would be helpful to the Proponent or to IAAC, please include these as attachments or hyperlinks in your response.

SARA Registry

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html>

Species at Risk Act Permits and Agreements

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/permits-agreements-exceptions/permits-agreements-information.html>

ECCC's Guidelines to reduce Risk to Migratory Birds

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/reduce-risk-migratory-birds.html>

Federal Sustainable Development Strategy

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/conservation/sustainability/federal-sustainable-development-strategy.html>

Strategic Assessment of Climate Change

- <https://www.strategicassessmentclimatechange.ca/>
- Draft technical guide related to the strategic assessment of climate change
<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/corporate/transparency/consultations/draft-technical-guide-strategic-assessment-climate-change.html>
- Draft technical guide related to the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change: Assessing climate change resilience
<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/conservation/assessments/strategic-assessments/draft-second-technical-guide-strategic-assessment-climate-change.html>

Jody Small

Name of departmental / agency
responder

Regional Director

Title of responder

2nd October, 2024

Date