

Federal Authority Advice Record (FAAR)**FAAR Response must be submitted by August 22, 2025**

Yellowhead Copper Project – Taseko Mines Limited (proponent)

Registry File: 89694

Please complete the following:

Department/Agency	Health Canada (HC)
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1. Will your department or agency exercise a **power, perform a duty or function**, or provide **financial assistance**, related to the project to enable it to be carried out in whole or in part?

As relevant,

- a) Specify the power, duty or function, or financial assistance, and the likelihood that it will be required to construct the project, based on the Initial Project Description, as either Required, Potential, Likely, Unlikely or Not Required
 - **Not applicable.** HC will not exercise a power, perform a duty or function, or provide financial assistance related to the Project.
- b) Describe any associated Indigenous or public consultation, including timelines
 - **Not applicable.**
- c) Describe any associated information requirements (e.g., alternative means assessment, habitat offsetting), and specify those that may be coordinated with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required
 - **Not applicable.**
- d) Identify any associated project-specific guidance or issues of which the proponent should be aware, or information the proponent should provide.
 - **Not applicable.**

2. **Using Table 1**, identify project- and context- specific **key issues**, based on the expertise within your mandate¹ and the information in your possession, including the Initial Project Description, any exchanges with the proponent or others related to the project and known means to address the effects of the project. For each key issue:
- a) Specify the key issue (e.g., specific species and location)
 - b) Specify the project component or activity linked to the key issue
 - c) Explain why it's a key issue based on:
 - i. biophysical effect pathway(s) from the specific project component or activity
 - ii. concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandate
 - iii. the issue being material² to decision making under the *Impact Assessment Act*
 - d) Identify how the issue could be resolved, including through means other than an impact assessment
 - e) Identify additional information the proponent could provide including to give confidence on how the issue can be addressed through other means.

Herbert Antill

Name and title of Departmental /
Agency Responder

July 31, 2025

Date

¹ Refer to the [Memoranda of Understanding with IAAC](#).

² An issue is material to decision making if its analysis is anticipated to affect the conclusions on (1) whether adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or direct and incidental adverse effects (collectively adverse federal effects) are likely not significant, or of low, medium or high significance; (2) appropriate mitigation measures for significant adverse federal effects; or (3) justification in the public interest.

Table 1: Key Issues to inform the impact assessment process

This table should outline key issues to inform the impact assessment process, including whether an impact assessment is required and, if so, the scope of the assessment and tailoring of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines/Application Information Requirements in a substituted assessment.

Key issues are the major concerns directly related to a project component or activity, the analysis of which is anticipated to be material to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*.

Federal authorities' advice should be guided by the identification and resolution of key issues. If an impact assessment is required, it will be focused on key issues.

Comment ID	a) Key issue	b) Project component or activity	c)(i) Biophysical effect pathway(s)	c)(ii) Concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandate	c)(iii) Material to federal decision-making	d) Means for issue resolution	e) Additional information from the proponent
<p>Identify comments by organization and comment number.</p> <p>e.g.: IAAC-01</p>	<p>Specify the key issue (e.g., specific species and location).</p>	<p>Identify the project component or activity linked to the key issue.</p> <p>Be specific about the nature, scale, novelty and complexity or the component or activity.</p>	<p>Identify the specific biophysical effect pathway between the project component or activity and the affected environmental or human receptor (including Indigenous Peoples).</p>	<p>Describe why it's a key issue within the mandate of your department or agency, including in terms of priorities of the federal government and in terms of anticipated likelihood, severity or uncertainty of effects.</p> <p>Identify if the key issue is common for projects of this nature or in this sector, or whether it's unique to this project due to its complexity, size or novelty; a sensitive or rare receiving environment; and/or proximity of sensitive environmental or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples).</p>	<p>Describe why the key issue is material to decision-making as either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ federal experts' knowledge and experience with past project assessments; ○ presence of sensitive species, habitats or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples); ○ novel or complex project activities, components or technologies; ○ high uncertainties in effects or in the effectiveness of mitigation measures; ○ unknown or unproven mitigation; or • a factor for the justification in the public interest anticipated to be material to decision-making such as a likely positive effect contributing to sustainability, to Canada's environmental obligations or climate change commitments or in supporting governmental priorities, such as reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. 	<p>Describe how the key issue could be resolved or addressed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance that your department or agency has; • Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance from another jurisdiction, including the province; • Common, proven, well-understood or standard mitigation measures to mitigate the effect or effect pathway(s); or • Commitments made by the proponent (e.g., in the Initial Project Description). 	<p>Describe information the proponent can provide, or commitments the proponent can make, in their Response to the Summary of Issues that would provide confidence that the issue can be resolved by existing means.</p> <p>Consider whether information, studies, analyses or collaborative work with other authorities would be required to address the issue beyond existing means.</p>
<p>HC-01</p>	<p>Potential exposure of Indigenous peoples to</p>	<p>Activities throughout the life of the Project (e.g.,</p>	<p>Project emissions could result in Indigenous peoples being exposed to COPCs through contact with</p>	<p>Under the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i> HC provides expert information and</p>	<p>As per <i>Impact Assessment Act</i> Sections 2(e) and 2(f), adverse effects on the health of Indigenous peoples</p>	<p>To minimize Project related discharges and emissions of contaminants, the iPD</p>	<p>To address the issue of contaminant exposure, HC recommends that an</p>

	<p>contaminants of potential concern (COPCs)</p>	<p>construction and operations) will potentially emit and discharge contaminants into the environment where Indigenous peoples may be exposed.</p> <p>Sources of Project related emissions and discharges include, but are not limited to: tailings, waste rock and ore storage areas, roads, diesel and gasoline engines, and Project related activities such as blasting, digging and ore processing.</p>	<p>environmental media (e.g., traditional foods, air, water, soil, sediment).</p> <p>Examples of potential exposure routes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Inhalation of COPCs in air contaminated via combustion, ore processing and/or dust. •Ingestion of COPCs in water (surface or groundwater) contaminated via deposition, direct discharge, and/or leaching. •Direct contact with COPCs in water, soil and/or sediment contaminated via deposition, direct discharge or leaching. •Ingestion of COPCs in traditional foods contaminated via uptake of COPCs from Project impacted water, soil and/or sediment. 	<p>knowledge to support the assessment of impacts on Indigenous health.</p> <p>The Project is projected to be one of the largest open-pit copper mines in Canada. It is situated in the unceded territory of the Secwépemc Nation, and primarily within the territory of Simpcw First Nation. The Project will be located 3 km SE of Vavenby, where there are Indigenous residents.</p> <p>Potential exposure of Indigenous peoples to COPCs is commonly observed with mining projects, and will be applicable to this Project.</p>	<p>related to the Project falls within federal jurisdiction.</p> <p>The initial Project Description (iPD) indicates the Simpcw First Nation and several other First Nations are potentially impacted by the Project. The closest Simpcw community is Chu Chua which is approximately 27 km to the southwest of the Project. The closest town is Vavenby (approximately 3 km to the northwest of the Project), and the closest park is the Dunn Peak park (approximately 2 km to the west of the Project). The iPD also describes various land use sites and activities surrounding the Project (e.g., cultural and spiritual sites, hunting, fishing, boating, berry and plant gathering, hiking and other recreational activities).</p> <p>Given this information, Indigenous peoples may be exposed to contaminants as a result of the Project which could potentially result in non-negligible effects on health.</p> <p>In addition, the iPD indicates that during initial engagement, Indigenous peoples have raised concerns related to cumulative impacts from Project activities, and impacts on: traditional foods, vegetation and plant gathering sites, access to cultural land use sites, air quality, and water quality.</p>	<p>proposes management and mitigation measures (e.g., implementation of Best Available Technologies and standard operating procedures, electrification of equipment where possible).</p> <p>However, in order to understand the overall Project related impacts on the health of Indigenous peoples, HC recommends that a Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA)* of potential Project impacts is undertaken as part of the Application to be submitted by the Proponent. The results of the HHRA can inform necessary project-specific monitoring and mitigation measures.</p> <p>HC is aware that BC's Interior Health Authority provides health services within the Project area and could be consulted to better understand the existing human health environment and any anticipated changes from future project development.</p> <p>* HC. 2023. Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Effects in Impact Assessment: Human Health Risk Assessment. Available online at: https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2024/sc-hc/H129-54-6-2023-eng.pdf</p>	<p>HHRA be undertaken. An HHRA can be used to identify relevant COPCs and exposure pathways and estimate the likelihood and severity of adverse health effects.</p>
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