

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

New Nuclear at Wesleyville Project

Response required by: May 7, 2026

Please submit the completed form no later than May 7, 2026, via email to wesleyville@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Ministry/Office:	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks		
IA Contact:	May Lyn Trudelle, Senior Program Support Coordinator	Telephone:	
		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.
 - a. In particular, identify any anticipated provincial Comprehensive or Class Environmental Assessments related to the proposed project. Include, where applicable, any proposed harmonization or streamlining between the federal Integrated Assessment and provincial processes. If a provincial Comprehensive or Class Environmental Assessment is not anticipated for the proposed project, please indicate this here.
 - b. Provide any other comments related to the content of the draft Cooperation Plan, including the Approach to Cooperation and Information Sharing Opportunities sections.

Please see the information provided in the Provincial Authority Advice Record (PAAR) form submitted to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) on March 3, 2026 for Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) initial project description, and reattached to this submission. The PAAR includes Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) approvals, authorizations, and regulatory processes that may be potentially applicable to the New Nuclear at Wesleyville project (NNW project). Please note that, following submission of the PAAR form and based on information provided by OPG in May 2026, MECP has determined that the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) processes previously identified in the PAAR form submitted on March 3, 2026, do not apply. In addition, since submission of the PAAR, the *Species Conservation Act, 2025* (SCA) came into force and the *Endangered Species Act, 2007* (ESA) was repealed. Below is the updated information regarding potential MECP authorization requirements for protected species.

Species at Risk

On March 30, 2026, the SCA and several implementing regulations came into force and the ESA was repealed. The SCA introduces new requirements for proceeding with activities that may adversely impact protected species and their habitat.

Depending on the activity and whether it may impact a species that is protected under the SCA or its habitat, a proponent may be required to register, obtain a permit under the SCA, or may be eligible to proceed under an applicable exception. MECP encourages proponents to review the SCA and its regulations and obtain independent professional and legal advice to understand how the requirements of the SCA may apply to their activity.

The following regulations are in effect as of March 30, 2026:

- Protected Species in Ontario List regulation (O. Reg. 60/26): sets out the species that receive protections under the SCA
- Registrable Activities regulation (O. Reg. 75/26): sets out registration requirements and rules for conducting registrable activities
- Permit Activities regulation (O. Reg. 74/26): prescribes activities that require a permit and cannot proceed under a registration
- Excepted Activities – No Permit or Registration regulation (O. Reg. 61/26): prescribes activities impacting protected species or their habitat that can proceed without a registration or permit
- Transitional Matters regulation (O. Reg. 62/26): sets out transition rules that apply to existing authorizations (i.e., permits and agreements) or activities registered to conditional exemptions under the ESA, or certain exemptions under the ESA

Comments are provided for general guidance purposes only. Proponents are responsible for determining how to proceed with any activity that may harm a protected species or damage or destroy its habitat under the SCA. Proponents are expected to make these determinations based on the specific circumstances of the activity and are advised to do so in consultation with qualified scientific and technical experts and, where appropriate, legal counsel, to ensure compliance with the SCA and its regulations.

Draft Cooperation Plan

MECP has reviewed the draft cooperation plan and has proposed suggested edits using track changes. Please see attached.

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)
Please see the PAAR form for the initial project description submitted to IAAC on March 3, 2026, for a list of potential permits and authorizations. Our response to question 1 provides updated information with regards to EAA requirements and potential protected species related authorizations.		

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	Air quality, noise impacts, groundwater and surface water, drinking water sources, protected species, environmental spills (land and surface water), alternatives assessment, and Aboriginal and treaty rights.	Environmental Assessment Branch 40 St Clair Ave. W., Toronto ON, M4V 1M2

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 Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines](#) (the Integrated 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 Integrated 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](#), [Summary of Issues](#), [Response to the Summary of Issues](#), and publicly available information, with a strong reliance on well-understood mitigation measures, existing guidance, and regulatory instruments that will manage effects. In doing so, ministries are encouraged to focus on identifying areas where additional information requirements may be necessary and to avoid duplication with existing provincial regulatory instruments. Where potential effects can be effectively addressed through your existing provincial mechanisms, please identify these and consider opportunities to streamline the draft Integrated Guidelines, including proposing the removal or consolidation of requirements, as appropriate.

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	5.10.2	Now that the Species Conservation Act, 2025 is in force, the reference to the Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA) and authorizations under the ESA needs to be updated.	Remove existing text in Section 5.10.2 about the <i>Endangered Species Act</i> and replace with the following: Proponents should review the <i>Species Conservation Act, 2025</i> (SCA) and its supporting regulations as published on e-laws, and should obtain independent professional scientific, technical, and legal advice to understand how the requirements may apply and describe how and to what extent this process could address adverse effects.
MECP-02	5.6.2	Edit proposed to reduce potential duplication between the impact statement and any applicable <i>Environmental Protection Act</i> approval or registration requirements for noise and vibration emissions.	Add the following text before the last paragraph in section 5.6.2: Where noise and vibration from Project construction or operation are subject to Ontario's Environmental Compliance Approval or Environmental Activity and Sector Registry requirements, the Impact Statement should focus on identifying noise receptors, Indigenous interests, and potential adverse effects relevant to federal decision-making. Detailed noise measurements / modelling, compliance demonstrations, and confirmation of noise mitigation measures should be addressed through applicable provincial approval or registration processes and should not be duplicated in the Integrated Guidelines.

Insert as many rows as applicable