
Public Hearing Information Session Questions and Answers - Marathon Palladium Project

On January 11, 2022, the Joint Review Panel Secretariat for the proposed Marathon Palladium Project (the Project) held a virtual information session to help Participants prepare for the public hearing. The presentation is available on the public Registry (CIAR #982) and a video of the session is available here (CIAR #1003). The Public Hearing Procedures were finalized by the Joint Review Panel (Panel) on December 7, 2021 (CIAR #956). On December 22, 2021, the Panel shared a supplemental Public Hearing Procedures Questions and Answers document (CIAR #966). Based on the information session, some additional questions and answers are provided below to help participants prepare for the public hearing.

1. When will the schedule be released, and how will I know what day I will be expected to present.

The Joint Review Panel expects to publish a preliminary hearing schedule in the near future. The schedule will identify what topics will be discussed during the topic-specific sessions. Please note that the preliminary schedule is subject to change. The order of registered Participants and the link to the live streaming on YouTube will be posted to the public registry in advance of the start of the public hearing.

2. Why was the start date changed?

On December 7, 2021, the Panel announced that the public hearing would begin on February 15, 2022. Since the hearing was announced, Canadians are now faced with surging cases of the Omicron variant. Accordingly, the Province of Ontario has implemented additional public health measures that include new restrictions associated with meetings and indoor gatherings. It has also created unprecedented cases of Covid-19 in our communities resulting in staffing shortages within private and public organizations. The Panel needs participants to be prepared for the hearing in order to receive meaningful evidence that will inform the Panel's conclusions. At the time the decision to postpone was made, the Panel was concerned that the current public health situation in Ontario may have notable implications for participants to effectively prepare for the public hearing. As a result the Panel decided to [change the start date](#) of the public hearing to March 14, 2022.

3. How will presentations with visual aids, such as powerpoint presentations be shared on screen?

Presenters will submit any visual aid(s) at least 7 days in advance of their scheduled session. The documents and slides will be managed by staff during the public hearing.

A Participant may also ask for a document from the registry to be presented during their presentation or during questioning. The request for a document to be displayed needs to include the CIAR number, document title and the PDF page number. The Zoom host will display the document on the Zoom screen for the Panel, GenPGM, Participants and the public to view. Participants should not begin referring to the document until it is displayed.

4. How do participants ask questions?

People who have registered will be permitted to ask questions of anyone who makes an oral presentation at the public hearing. Participants must be courteous and respectful when asking questions, and questioning is not intended to be adversarial in nature or to resemble cross-examination.

Registered participants that want to ask a question should be available in the Zoom meeting, and the Panel Chair will determine the order in which Participants may question presenters.

5. Can questions be asked in writing?

Questions can only be asked during the public hearing to allow for quick responses and opportunities for follow-up questions, if necessary. If participants are unable to ask their question during the public hearing, they may have someone ask questions on their behalf.

6. Should presenters assume that everyone has read the materials or has not read the materials, and should I resubmit material that I have already submitted?

Any material that has already been submitted and posted to the public registry does not need to be resubmitted. Presenters should however, summarize what information is most important to them. As noted above, presenters may ask to have a document already on the public registry displayed on the screen during the hearing.

7. What should be included in a written submission?

Written submissions provide participants with the opportunity to share their views on the potential environmental and socio-economic effects of the Project.

Subject matter experts with specialized knowledge can inform the Panel of the results of their technical review of the potential environmental and socio-economic effects of the Project.

Written submissions may be on any aspect of the Project within the scope of the environmental assessment. This includes, but is not limited to:

- The purpose of and need for the Project;
- Alternatives to the Project and the environmental effects of such alternatives;
- Alternative means of carrying out the Project that are technically and economically feasible;
- The significance of the environmental effects of the Project including from accidents or malfunctions;
- Any cumulative environmental effects that are likely to result from the Project in combination with other projects or activities;
- Mitigation measures that could reduce the significance of environmental effects;
- Follow-up and monitoring programs for the Project;
- Community knowledge, including Indigenous community and traditional knowledge;
- Indigenous traditional and community knowledge;

- Information related to the nature and scope of potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights in the area of the Project;
- Information on the potential adverse environmental effects that the Project may have on these rights.

For a complete list of factors that are considered in the environmental assessment, consult Section 2 of the *Joint Review Panel's Terms of Reference* (CIAR #[730](#))

8. Is there a consolidated list of the information requests?

Information requests and other important documents can be found on the public registry at: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/54755>. To assist in participants' review of the Project, a compilation of relevant documents, including the EIS Addendum (2021), Information Requests, proponent responses and the Environmental Impact Statement (2012) can be found on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Document # [728](#)).

9. Why is the Panel using the 2012 legislation instead of the *Impact Assessment Act* from 2019?

The Panel has been mandated to conduct a review of the potential environmental effects of the Project in accordance with its Terms of Reference (CIAR #[730](#)) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012). The Terms of Reference state that “the federal Minister of the Environment determined that a Joint Review Panel should be re-established pursuant to paragraph 40(1) of the CEAA 2012 to consider the Project... pursuant to subsection 181(1) of the *Impact Assessment Act*, the assessment by the Joint Review Panel commenced under CEAA 2012 is continued under CEAA 2012 as if the Act has not been repealed.”

10. When would a company be able to view and participate in all upcoming tenders in the Project.

The Joint Review Panel and Secretariat do not deal with any of the proponent's contracting, but Generation PGM may be able to provide more information regarding their process.