



# How to Participate

## During the Impact Assessment Process

### *Webequie Supply Road Project*

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Webequie First Nation is proposing the construction and operation, including maintenance, of a 107-kilometre all-season road connecting the Webequie Airport and the McFaulds Lake area in northern Ontario. The corridor would be approximately 35 metres in width in order to accommodate a two-lane gravel surface industrial supply road and could enable future infrastructure development such as transmission lines and broadband. As proposed, the Webequie Supply Road Project would connect Webequie First Nation to existing mineral exploration activities and potential future mineral development in the Ring of Fire area. The project could also become part of a future all-season road network connecting Webequie First Nation and the Ring of Fire area to the provincial highway system in Nakina and/or Pickle Lake.

#### **IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA**

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) is a federal body accountable to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Agency delivers high-quality impact assessments that contribute to informed decision-making on major projects in support of sustainable development.

**The Agency is conducting an impact assessment process for this project and would like to hear from you.**

## How can you participate?

You can **share your views** on:

- the Project, including but not limited to project design, location, timelines, plans for construction and operation, baseline conditions, potential project effects, mitigation measures and cumulative effects;
- how the Project may affect your community's:
  - health, social, and economic conditions;
  - physical and cultural heritage, including any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance;
  - current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes; and
- potential impacts of the Project on your community's exercise of rights that are protected under section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982.

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In order to help your community to engage and share your views on the above, the proponent will provide your community with an opportunity to:

- provide **Indigenous knowledge** during baseline data collection;
- comment on the list of **valued components and indicators**;
- inform the development of the **effects assessment**;
- inform the development of **mitigation and follow-up program measures**; and
- review the **effects assessment conclusions** and validate the **selected mitigation follow-up program measures**.

By sharing your views on the matters listed above, the proponent will be able to integrate Indigenous knowledge into the Impact Statement for the Project. Your views can also help us understand how the Project may impact your community and what measures the proponent needs to propose to reduce or avoid the identified impact.

To help you think about what information to share, please see the specific types of information under the key themes outlined below:

- **health, social, and economic conditions,**
- **physical and cultural heritage,**
- **current use of lands and resources, and**
- **impacts on the exercise of rights.**

For more information on these themes, please see the Agency's **Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines** (Guidelines), which set out the requirements for the proponent in preparing an Impact Statement, on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry at: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80183>.

The proponent will be contacting your community to gather information under these four key themes in order to understand how the Project may impact your community and what measures the proponent needs to propose to reduce or avoid the identified impacts.

The proponent will participate meaningfully in meetings organized by the Agency, as per the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, to discuss technical matters as it progresses through its baseline data collection, effects assessment, impacts on the exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and mitigation and follow-up development.

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### Health, Social, and Economic Conditions

Sections 12.3 and 19.1 of the Guidelines indicate that the Agency requires the proponent to engage with your community regarding potential positive and adverse effects the Project may have on your community's health, social, and economic conditions. Specific types of information that you may consider sharing can include, but are not limited to:

- general information about your community's populations and sub-populations (e.g., women, youth, elders, families), such as physical, mental and spiritual health, economic profiles, and social conditions;
- general information about existing infrastructure (e.g., education, healthcare, safety, housing);
- sites or areas that are used by your community either for permanent residences or on a seasonal/temporary basis and the number of people that use each site or area identified;
- drinking water sources (permanent, seasonal, periodic, or temporary);
- which country foods are consumed by your community including food that is trapped, fished, hunted, harvested or grown for subsistence or medicinal purposes, outside of the commercial food chain; how frequently they are consumed (e.g., daily, weekly, monthly);
- commercial activities (e.g., fishing, trapping, hunting, forestry, outfitting);
- sites or areas that are used by your community for recreational uses potentially impacted by the Project (e.g., trails, canoeing, swimming);
- historical impacts of development (e.g., resource extraction, infrastructure development); and
- potential changes to health, social, and economic conditions resulting from the Project, and the positive and negative consequences of these changes.

If there is any other information not listed above that would support the analysis of predicted effects on your community's health, social or economic conditions, please inform the Agency and the proponent.

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### Physical and Cultural Heritage

Sections 12.1 and 19.1 of the Guidelines indicate that the Agency requires the proponent to engage with your community regarding potential effects the Project may have on your community's physical and cultural heritage. Specific types of information that you may consider sharing can include, but are not limited to:

- burial sites;
- cultural landscapes;
- oral histories;
- cultural values and experiences of being on the land, including harvesting specific resources;
- Indigenous governance systems and Indigenous laws tied to the landscape;
- sites or areas that are used by your community for spiritual purposes potentially impacted by the Project (approximate location in relation to the project site and time of the year used);
- sacred, ceremonial or culturally important places, plants, animals, objects, beings, or things; and
- archaeological potential and/or artefact places.

Should there be any other aspects in relation to physical and cultural heritage important to your community, please inform the Agency and the proponent.

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### Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes

Sections 12.2 and 19.1 of the Guidelines indicate that the Agency requires the proponent to engage with your community regarding potential effects the Project may have on your community's current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes. Specific types of information that you may consider sharing can include, but are not limited to:

- traditional uses currently practiced or practiced in living memory, including practices that your community wants to engage in the future or recently did but cannot given the particular context;
- sites or areas used for traditional activities including, hunting, trapping, and fishing, camps, cabins and traditional gathering or teaching grounds (e.g., approximate location in relation to the project site, and frequency, duration or timing of traditional practices);
- efforts within your community to bring back traditional practices;
- fish, wildlife, birds, plants or other natural resources and their habitats of importance for traditional use (e.g., what species have a cultural connection to your community?);
- places where fish, wildlife, birds, plants or other natural resources are harvested, including places that are preferred (including perception of quality and quantity of harvested species);
- access and travel routes for carrying out traditional practices and location in relation to the project site including waterways used by your community for navigation (e.g., approximate location in relation to the project study area, the local study area, and the regional study area as proposed by the proponent, and time of the year used);
- overall quality of the experience of the practice (e.g., how will changes in air quality, noise levels, landscape, and the presence of others affect your enjoyment and experience of the land and traditional practices?).

Your views on the matters listed above will help the proponent identify impacts the Project may have on the quality and availability of resources, access to resources, and the overall quality of the experience of the traditional practices. If there is any other information not listed above that would support the analysis of predicted effects on your community, please inform the Agency and the proponent.

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### Potential Impacts of the Project to the Exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights

Sections 12.4 and 19.2 of the Guidelines indicate that the Agency expects the proponent to engage with your community regarding impacts to the exercise of your rights. Specific types of information that you may consider sharing can include, but are not limited to:

- a general description of your community's section 35 rights exercised in the project study area, the local study area, and the regional study area as proposed by the proponent;
- the quality and quantity of resources required to support exercise of rights (e.g., preferred species, health of preferred species, population of preferred species);
- access to the resources required to exercise rights (e.g., physical access to culturally important places, timing, seasonality, distance from community);
- the experience associated with the exercise of rights (e.g., noise and sensory disturbances, air quality, visual landscape);
- specific areas of cultural importance where rights are exercised;
- landscape conditions that support the Indigenous group's exercise of rights (e.g., large, intact and diverse landscapes, areas of solitude; connection to landscape);
- information about members within your community, and their role in the exercise of rights (e.g., women, men, elders, youth, people with disabilities);
- how cultural traditions, laws and governance systems inform the manner in which you exercise your rights (the who, what, when, how, where and why);
- maps and data sets (e.g., overlaying the project footprint, places of cultural and spiritual significance, traditional territories, fish catch numbers);
- suggestions for measures to accommodate potential adverse impacts of the Project on your community's ability to exercise rights;
- views on potential adverse impacts on the exercise of rights that have not been fully mitigated or accommodated as part of the impact assessment; and
- views on potential adverse impacts that may result from the residual and cumulative effects identified by the proponent.

If there is any other information not listed above that would support the analysis of predicted effects on your community, please inform the Agency and the proponent.

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Please share your views by using the **Submit a Comment** feature on the Registry page  
[Reference Number: 80183]

<https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80183>

**Contact Information:**

Laure DeCoste, Crown Consultation Coordinator

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Tel: 637-391-8426

Email: [IAAC.Webequie.AEIC@canada.ca](mailto:IAAC.Webequie.AEIC@canada.ca)

Attention: Webequie Supply Road Project

## Important Note

Please note that any information submitted to the Agency to inform this project assessment will be made publicly available as part of the project file, and may be posted online via the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Reference #80183) subject to certain exceptions related to privacy, security or confidentiality. The Agency's Submission Policy (<https://iaacaeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/participation/conditions>) determines which submitted information can be shared publicly, and what should remain private. For further information on how we protect your privacy, please refer to the Privacy Notice (<https://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/evaluations/protection?culture=en-CA>).

Should you wish to provide any comments or documents that contain confidential or sensitive information that you believe should be protected from release to the public, please contact the Agency using the contact information provided above.