



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Ontario Region
600-55 York Street
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

Région de l'Ontario
600-55 rue York
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

January 5, 2023

Sent by email

Chief Michael Sugarhead
Nibinamik First Nation
General Delivery
Summer Beaver ON P0T 3B0
michaelsugarhead@summerbeaver.com

Dear Chief Michael Sugarhead:

Subject: Notification of the Agency's Decision on Webequie First Nation's Time Limit Extension Request for the Federal Impact Assessment Process of the Webequie Supply Road Project

As indicated in its correspondence of October 25, 2022, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) received a request for a time limit extension from Webequie First Nation for the Webequie Supply Road Project (the Project). This letter is to inform you that on January 5, 2023, the Agency granted the requested extension to the three-year time limit for Webequie First Nation to provide the required information and studies for the Project's impact assessment.

The new deadline for the Proponent to provide the required information and studies set out in the notice of commencement of the impact assessment is January 6, 2027.

Thank you for the comments provided on Webequie First Nation's extension request and the assessment for the Project.

The Agency granted Webequie First Nation's requested extension of three years and ten and a half months. In coming to this decision, the Agency considered the information submitted by the Proponent and input from assessment participants (Attachment 1).

The reasons for the Agency's decision include:

- the Proponent has demonstrated progress in the development of the required information and studies, and has a realistic work plan to complete all work;
- the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting response measures affected the Proponent's ability to meet the time limit; and
- the extended time limit would allow for continued coordination with the province and help manage consultation fatigue among Indigenous communities.

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Expectations remain for the Proponent, in order to meet the requirements of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, to engage the Indigenous communities listed in the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan for the Project. Engagement by the Proponent is required on various topics, including baseline studies; alternatives assessment; effects assessment and methodology; cumulative effects assessment and methodology; impacts on the exercise of rights; and mitigation, following-up and accommodation measures.

The Agency would appreciate ongoing participation by Nibinamik First Nation during the remainder of the impact assessment for the Project.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Caitlin Cafaro, Crown Consultation Coordinator, by email at webequie@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Caitlin Cafaro
Crown Consultation Coordinator

Attachment 1: Webequie First Nation's Extension Request – Table of Summarized
Comments from Assessment Participants (Eight pages)

c.c.: Walter Oskineegish, Band Manager, Nibinamik First Nation
Alex Monem, PST Law
Alexandria Winterburn, PST Law