



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

November 9, 2022

Sent by email

Chief Cornelius Wabasse
Webequie First Nation
P.O. Box 268
Webequie ON P0T 3A0
corneliusw@webequie.ca

Dear Chief Cornelius Wabasse:

Subject: Notification of Time Limit Extension Request for the Federal Impact Assessment Process of the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) received a request for a time limit extension, for the federal impact assessment process of the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project (the Project). A copy of the request is enclosed with this letter and is available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry internet site: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80184>

Marten Falls First Nation has requested an extension to the time limit of the impact statement phase until July 24, 2026, in order to provide the required information or studies described in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines issued for the Project.

The request (Enclosure 1) describes Marten Falls First Nation's progress in developing their Impact Statement, and includes a work plan that illustrates when outstanding work would be completed. Enclosure 2 provides useful links to Marten Falls First Nation's project website pages, where plain-language resources, such as videos describing their approach to baseline data collection, are available.

Participation

The Agency invites Webequie First Nation to provide input to inform the Agency's consideration by December 9, 2022. The Agency in its preliminary review of the extension request notes Marten Falls First Nation's information related to:

- timelines to engage with Indigenous communities;
- future engagement activities with Indigenous communities to share information and hear community views on key topics, such as

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- how comments and Indigenous knowledge were incorporated;
- baseline conditions and data collection, including selection of valued components and indicators, and approach to fieldwork;
- the effects assessment, including mitigation measures, follow-up programs and cumulative effects assessment; and
- potential impacts on the exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

Context

In accordance with subsection 19(1) of the *Impact Assessment Act*, Marten Falls First Nation must provide the Agency the information or studies that are set out in the Notice of the Commencement for the Project by February 24, 2023.

Under subsection 19(2) of the *Impact Assessment Act*, upon request from Marten Falls First Nation, the Agency may extend the time limit by any period that is necessary for Marten Falls First Nation to provide the Agency with the information or studies. Further, subsection 20(1) indicates that the federal impact assessment for the Project would be terminated, if Marten Falls First Nation does not provide the information or studies by February 24, 2023, or within any granted time limit extension.

Next Steps

Once the Agency decides whether to grant the request to extend the time limit of the impact statement phase, the Agency will post a notice on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry internet site for the Project and will notify your community in writing.

Input or questions can be sent by email to me, Caitlin Cafaro, Crown Consultation Coordinator, at martenfalls@iaac-aeic.gc.ca. The Agency appreciates the time and effort dedicated by Webequie First Nation to participate in the federal impact assessment for the Project.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Caitlin Cafaro
Crown Consultation Coordinator

Enclosures: Enclosure 1 – Request to Extend the Time Limit for the Federal Impact Assessment Process – Marten Falls Community Access Road Project

Enclosure 2 – Additional Information from Marten Falls First Nation's Project Website

c.c.: Gordon Wabasse, Resource Department Director, Webequie First Nation
James Suganaqueb, Economic Development Officer, Webequie First Nation
Glen Wabasse, Economic Development Officer, Webequie First Nation
Samson Jacob, CBLUP Coordinator, Webequie First Nation