

Appendix C6

Feedback and Response Log - Government Review Team - MECP EA Modernization Branch



Table: Summary of Feedback Received and Response / Action – MECP EA Modernization Branch

Group Name	Comment ID from source	Comment Raised	Response	Addressed in the EA / IS	Internal ID
MECP EA Modernization Branch	1	<p>Overall the Draft EA/IS is very well written – the proponent is commended for using plain and clear language and incorporating Indigenous Knowledge to the extent possible.</p> <p>Proposed Action/Solution: N/A</p> <p>Type of Comment: N/A</p>	We appreciate and acknowledge your feedback.	Comment noted; see response for details.	2006
MECP EA Modernization Branch	2	<p>The first category in Table 4-2 is ‘Marten Falls First Nation community feedback / Indigenous Knowledge’. In Table 4-5, the first category is ‘Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland Community Feedback’. In Tables 4-6 and 4-7 it is ‘Marten Falls First Nation Community Feedback’. It is understood that feedback from all communities/activities listed in Table 4-4 was used to inform route selection.</p> <p>Consider whether it is more accurate to reflect in these tables the breadth of consultation undertaken (Category could be ‘Community feedback’) or it should be made clear which consultation/Indigenous knowledge activities in Table 4-4 were used to inform route selection.</p>	Tables 4-24.3-1, 4-54.4-1, 4-54.4-2, and 4-54.4-3 in the Draft and Final EA/IS were intentionally prepared to present different pieces of information collected at different stages of the route selection process. Each table reflects the context and scope of the activities summarized within. The approach was chosen to maintain transparency about the source, nature and timelines in which input was received.	Comment noted; see response for details. Final EA/IS Table 4-24.3-1, 4-54.4-1, 4-54.4-2, and 4-54.4-3	1183

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Group Name	Comment ID from source	Comment Raised	Response	Addressed in the EA / IS	Internal ID
MECP EA Modernization Branch	3	<p>It is unclear with whom the Webinar on Route Selection was held on November 16, 2023.</p> <p>Identify in the table who the audience for the webinar was (e.g., public or Marten Falls community members).</p>	<p>These webinars are open to the general public. While registration is required to attend, participants are not obligated to disclose their identity. At the beginning of each recorded session, attendees are informed that their names will not be visible or included in the recording. The event entry on Table 4-44.3-3 of the Final EA/IS has been updated as follows: Webinar on Route Selection (webinar was open to the general public)</p>	Final EA/IS Table 4-44.3-3	1184
MECP EA Modernization Branch	4	<p>There is no link or reference in this section to further information about the Indigenous knowledge program, including which communities participated. It is also not clear in this section that Indigenous Knowledge is used as an input for all disciplines/valued components to which it may be applicable.</p> <p>Recommend indicating where further information about the Indigenous knowledge program can be found, including which communities participated. Also recommend indicating that Indigenous Knowledge is used to inform all relevant disciplines/valued components (Section 6.1.3 Inclusion in Reporting seems specific to Indigenous Knowledge and could be moved under or</p>	<p>The following sentence has been added at the end of Section 6.1.1 of the Final EA/IS: Information on the status of neighbouring Indigenous communities' participation in the funding offer for the Indigenous Knowledge Program is included in Table 11-3. Each Technical Support Document includes a section on information shared by Indigenous peoples which informed each report (Section 3 of the Technical Support Documents). Section 6.1.3 has been moved and is now Section 6.1.1.1.</p>	Final EA/IS Section 6.1.1	1186

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		made part of 6.1.1).			
MECP EA Modernization Branch	5	<p>It is not clear if sub-section 6.1.2 is meant to describe the role of consultation and engagement in the collection of Indigenous Knowledge, or more generally. It seems as if consultation and engagement is part of the Indigenous Knowledge Program.</p> <p>Recommend clarifying the role of consultation and engagement in the collection of Indigenous knowledge or how it differs from IK, if this is the intent of this sub-section. And/or consider creating a stand-alone Consultation and Engagement one under Section 6 to describe the role of consultation and engagement in the EA process more generally, including its relation to IK and inclusion in reporting.</p>	<p>As recommended by MECP EA Modernization Branch (Comment 4), Section 6.1.3 of the Draft EA/IS has been moved to become Section 6.1.1.1 under the Indigenous Knowledge Program section. This has resulted in Section 6.1.2 not being between to IK sections and eliminate the confusion, as such no additional edits have been made to the Final EA/IS.</p>	<p>Comment noted; see response for details</p>	1188
MECP EA Modernization Branch	6	<p>It is not clear if information collected through consultation and engagement may be considered Indigenous Knowledge and/or considered throughout the EA/IS. The references to the e.g., Dillon 2024 report(s) are missing from the reference list and it is unclear if this is/these are the community-specific ATRI reports.</p>	<p>Section 6.1 of the Final EA/IS outlines how Indigenous Knowledge was collected and included in the EA/IS. In addition, each Technical Support Document Section 3 outlines Indigenous Knowledge and/or information provided by Indigenous communities related to the discipline and how it was used to inform the assessment.</p>	<p>Comment noted; see response for details.</p>	1194

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		<p>It is not clear if Indigenous Knowledge incorporated into the EA (e.g., Sections 8.1.1/Table 8-2, 8.2.1/Table 8-13, 8.3.1/Table 8-52) is from Indigenous Knowledge Holders only or from consultation and engagement as well. It should also be made clear if/where Indigenous knowledge, if applicable, and/or other feedback collected through consultation and engagement is incorporated throughout the EA. Please consider adding information gained through consultation and engagement to e.g. Section 8, in addition to Indigenous Knowledge, if not already included. Please include all references in Section 16, and please make sure references are publicly-available.</p>			
MECP EA Modernization Branch	7	<p>It is not clear in Table 9-2 if the disciplines represented by rows potentially affect the ones represented by columns, or vice versa. For example, its is assumed that impacts on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests could impact community well-being and land and resource use, and impacts on air quality, greenhouse gases, fish, groundwater, etc. could impact Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests, but this is not clear. It is also not clear why certain interactions are not identified,</p>	<p>Table 9.1-1 of the Final EA/IS has not been updated as this comment is considered recommended.</p>	<p>Comment noted; see response for details Final EA/IS Table 9.1-1</p>	1196

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		<p>e.g., fish and fish habitat or wildlife (ungulates) and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. Is this because residual effects were not identified on fish or ungulates?</p> <p>Please describe Table 9-2 in more detail, including whether the rows or columns are causing or receiving the potential impacts. Please review and revise or explain if/why e.g., fish and fish habitat, surface water, birds and ungulates do not have an interaction with Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. The process for considering discipline interactions could be explained in Sections 6 (Our Approach) and/or 9.2 (Effects Assessment Approach).</p>			
MECP EA Modernization Branch	8	<p>It is understood that the assessment of effects on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests is incomplete as community-specific ATRI reports are being shared with communities for feedback. It is not clear if a complete technical support document (Appendix O), minus any information deemed confidential etc., will be made available to the public and government review team before or as part of the final EA/IS.</p> <p>Please confirm if the Aboriginal and</p>	<p>The Final EA/IS includes a description of the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights assessment in Appendix O Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests (ATRI) Technical Support Document. Results of the ATRI assessment are confidential and are limited to the community-specific ATRI reports and are not included in Appendix O.</p>	<p>Comment noted; see response for details.</p>	1197

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		<p>Treaty Rights and Interests technical support document will be made available to the public and government review team prior to or as part of the final EA/IS. It is recommended that the summary in the EA/IS at least contain as much detail as possible for the Crown, communities, etc. to understand potential impacts on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests.</p> <p>EA requires an assessment of effects as per Terms of Reference</p>			
MECP EA Modernization Branch	9	<p>It is understood that the assessment of effects on Community Well-being is incomplete and that the technical support document will be made available to Indigenous communities and regulators in spring 2025.</p> <p>This reader looks forward to the final EA and/or updated Technical Support Documents to understand how interactions among disciplines and indirect effects are assessed.</p> <p>EA requires an assessment of effects as per Terms of Reference</p>	The Community Well-Being Technical Support Document has been included as Appendix T, and a summary has been provided in the Final EA/IS.	Comment noted; see response for details.	1199
MECP EA Modernization	10	The list of communities identified by MECP in 2018 is referenced; however,	A reference to the consultation MOU and the updated list of communities provided	Final EA/IS Section 11	1200

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Branch		<p>the list was later identified in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Shared Consultation Responsibilities in 2020 and then updated to include Long Lake #58 First Nation on a rights basis (4/15/2020 letter from MECP).</p> <p>Please include reference to the consultation MOU and updated list provided by MECP on 4/15/2020.</p>	<p>by MECP will be reflected in Section 11 of the Final EA/IS (Neighbouring Indigenous Communities).</p>		
MECP EA Modernization Branch	11	<p>It is not clear that the province, Canada and the proponent are separately offering capacity/participant funding for Indigenous communities. For example, interest in capacity funding from Ontario is first identified as a criterion by which a community would be considered interested in the project (page 855). Funding to participate in the Indigenous Knowledge Program and the Community Coordinator Program is referenced through section 11, but it is not clear if this is the same as the capacity funding offered by the province or separate. Again it is not clear on page 898 what the different sources of funding are.</p> <p>Please clearly describe the various programs to provide capacity or participant funding to Indigenous communities. Consider updating Section</p>	<p>The suggested edits to Section 11 of the Final EA/IS have not been made as this comment is considered recommended.</p>	<p>Comment noted; see response for details</p>	1201

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		11.7.6. and moving up (e.g., to Section 11.2.2 before Table 11-3) in the document to clearly explain.			
MECP EA Modernization Branch	12	<p>There are references, in sections about consultation that has occurred, to meetings with Marten Falls and Nibinamik First Nations that were cancelled and tentatively postponed.</p> <p>Please consider referencing potential future consultation and engagement in a separate/clear sub-section in the final EA/IS to avoid confusion.</p>	<p>Section 11 of the Final EA/IS is intended to outline meetings and planned meetings related to the Community Access Road, therefore meetings that were cancelled and/or not attended were also included.</p> <p>Section 11.10 of the Final EA/IS has been updated to include ongoing and future activities that occurred on and shortly after submission of the Final EA/IS.</p> <p>In addition, should the Community Access Road EA / IS be approved to proceed, a consultation and engagement program will be established to guide discussions through detail design.</p>	Final EA/IS Section 11.7.1.1	1202
MECP EA Modernization Branch	13	<p>It is not clear if/why Kingfisher Lake, Wapekeka, Wawakepewin, Wunnumin Lake etc. First Nations were not offered capacity support by the proponent.</p> <p>Please add a general statement that e.g., the communities (listed on page 857) were not offered capacity funding due to lack of interest and/or potential impacts</p>	The suggested edits has not been made to the Final EA/IS as this comment is considered recommended.	Comment noted; see response for details	1203

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		identified on Aboriginal or treaty rights.			
MECP EA Modernization Branch	14	This reader looks forward to the updated, consolidated record of consultation to be submitted with the final EA/IS, along with updated summary (e.g., Table 11-6) and commitments tables reflecting any further input.	A consolidated record of consultation and engagement for Indigenous communities is available in Appendix X Record of consultation.	Appendix X	1204
MECP EA Modernization Branch	15	<p>The consultation summary references consultation with Eabametoong and Aroland First Nations only.</p> <p>Consider removing reference to specific communities in this high-level summary to avoid confusion.</p>	The suggested edits has not been made to the Final EA/IS as this comment is considered recommended.	Comment noted; see response for details	1205
MECP EA Modernization Branch	16	<p>Some provincial ministry names (e.g., Energy, Northern Development and Mines) are out-of-date.</p> <p>Please update ministry names throughout.</p>	The reference to the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines has been changed to Ministry of Energy and Mines where appropriate throughout the Final EA / IS.	Final EA/IS Sections 11.2.2 and 11.6.5; and Table 11-9	1206