

Crawford Nickel Project – Impact Assessment Agency of Canada responses to comments received during the Planning Phase (August 8, 2022 to March 08, 2023)

This summary table of comments includes comments received during the Planning Phase, including the first comment period on the Initial Project Description; and the second comment period on the draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, the draft Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, the draft Public Participation Plan, the draft Permitting Plan and the draft Cooperation Plan. Where comments have been addressed in any of the documents from the second comment period the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) has indicated as such in the Agency Response to Comment column for ease of reference and/or to clarify the Agency’s intent and expectations of Canada Nickel Company (the Proponent).

#	Commenter(s)	Summary of Comment(s)	Agency Response to Comment(s)
Accidents and Malfunctions			
1	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Big Water Campground City of Timmins Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Indigenous Services Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Member of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Natural Resources Canada Northwatch Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Transport Canada	Commented on the need for information regarding accidents and malfunctions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures to prevent and avoid accidents, including release of hazardous materials, spills, transportation and storage of dangerous goods, tailings dam breach, and forest fires (from increased rail traffic); and Details of plans to notify, involve and communicate with local residents, including Indigenous residents and in Indigenous languages. 	Section 13 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide information on potential accidents and malfunction scenarios (including tailings dam breaches); mitigation and prevention measures, and monitoring/adaptive management; and emergency management plans with communication/translation to other languages. Section 13 also requires the Proponent to describe the mitigation in place or discussed with the third-party rail operator to reduce the risk of fires from rail traffic related to the Project or to protect Big Water Campground assets from rail-started fires.
Alternative Means of the Project			
2	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Big Water Campground Environment Canada and Climate Change Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation	Commented on the need for analysis of alternative means of carrying out the Project that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> alternative means to minimize habitat loss and overprinting of tributaries of the North Driftwood and West Buskegau Rivers; 	Section 4.4 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines require the Proponent to conduct an alternative means analysis that considers the technical and economic feasibility of possible alternative means; describes the methodology and environmental criteria that were used to determine the preferred means of carrying out the Project; addresses alternatives to key project components; considers the sustainability principles outlined in section 17 (Appendix 1) in its selection of the preferred means of carrying out the Project.

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	Member of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Natural Resources Canada Northwatch Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - alternative corridors for the new 230 kilovolt transmission line corridor, relocated Highway 655, rail spur, relocated 500 kilovolt transmission line; - alternative means and mitigation for waste rock, effluent discharge, including site selection, tailings management, and ore processing location; and - potential re-use of excavated waste rock to improve nearby ATV trails. 	Currently, the new 230 kilovolt transmission line that would connect the Project to Porcupine substation, would be constructed and operated by a third party as part of an independent transmission expansion project for multiple users. Should the Proponent propose its own transmission line, it would be subject to the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines. Refer to footnote 9 under section 4.4 for more information.
Atmospheric and Acoustic Environment			
3	Big Water Campground Canada Nickel Company Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Natural Resources Canada Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on the methodology for collecting air quality data; monitoring; dispersion modelling, including the need to assess both amphibole and chrysotile forms of asbestos; and mitigating air emissions caused by the Project.	Section 8.5.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide baseline ambient air concentrations for air contaminants, including chrysotile and amphibole asbestos. Section 8.5.2 requires the Proponent to assess potential effects of the Project on air quality using atmospheric dispersion modelling. Section 8.5.3 requires the Proponent to identify mitigation measures for adverse changes to air quality, including measures to manage asbestos in airborne dust, if necessary.
4	Big Water Campground Canada Nickel Company Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation	Commented about baseline requirements for ambient noise levels around key receptors, and potential effects of increased noise from the Project. Commented on the need for vibration and noise emissions mitigation and monitoring measures throughout all phases of the Project, including method to address noise complaints.	Section 8.5.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide current ambient noise levels at key receptor points around the mine site, highway relocation, and new and existing rail spur, including locations that will enable an assessment of noise effects at potentially affected seasonal use cabins. Section 8.5.2 requires the Proponent to describe changes in vibration and sound levels resulting from the Project, including from blasting,

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	Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch		rail operations, and highway relocation at potential receptor locations. 8.5.3 requires the Proponent to provide a noise management plan, including a complaint resolution process as appropriate.
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions			
5	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Environment and Climate Change Canada Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented about the need to ensure that greenhouse gas emissions do not exceed regulatory guidelines, and comments about the potential for the Project to contribute to climate change.	Section 8.12 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines includes requirements greenhouse gas emissions, including a description of sources of emissions, carbon sinks, impacts of the Project on federal and global greenhouse gas emission reduction efforts, and mitigation measures. Requirements are based on the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change , developed by Environment and Climate Change Canada, and are further complemented by the draft Technical Guide Related to the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change: Guidance on quantification of net GHG emissions, impact on carbon sinks, mitigation measures, net-zero plan and upstream GHG assessment .
6	Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented about the use of diesel-fired generation during construction, decommissioning, and emergencies, and the need for nitrogen dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions to not exceed regulatory guidelines.	This comment was addressed by the Proponent in Appendix D, line 20 of the Detailed Project Description, where the Proponent noted diesel will primarily be used during construction and for emergencies during operation and decommissioning. Grid power is expected to be used throughout operations and decommissioning. Nitrogen oxides/greenhouse gas contributions will be modelled as part of Impact Statement.
7	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Environment and Climate Change Canada Mattagami First Nation Members of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch	Commented about the potential for the Project to mitigate the effects of climate change, including through the use of mineral carbonation of tailings as a mitigation measure to store carbon and reduce net greenhouse gas emissions from the Project. In particular, comments about the potential effectiveness of this novel technology in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and the possibility of the Project reaching carbon neutral/net-zero by 2050.	Section 8.12.4 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, based on the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change, includes requirements for a Best Available Technologies/Best Environmental Practices determination. This would assess the effectiveness of all mitigation measures related to greenhouse gas emissions, including mineral carbonation of tailings. Furthermore, the Proponent has been directed to validate the draft Best Available Technologies/Best Environmental Practices determination with the Agency and Federal Authorities prior to submitting an Impact Statement.
Cumulative Effects			
8	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Canada Nickel Company	Commented about considering project activities and other factors in cumulative effects assessment on Indigenous Peoples and their	Section 7.6 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to assess cumulative effects on valued components for which the Proponent anticipates residual effects from project activities; valued components identified

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	Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Transport Canada	traditional territories including on air quality, water quantity, water quality, plants, and wildlife, including caribou and moose.	as being of particular concern in the context of cumulative effects by the public and by Indigenous communities; to identify and justify the spatial and temporal boundaries for the cumulative effect assessment for each valued component selected; and identify the sources of potential cumulative effects.
Decommissioning and Reclamation			
9	Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on need for further information on decommissioning of access roads; waste disposal sites on Crown land following decommissioning; financial reassurance for closure costs; and duration of monitoring, water, soil, and waste management.	Section 3.4 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines require the Proponent to describe all project components, including plans for management of waste during all phases of the Project, and plans for decommissioning and abandonment of all mine components. Section 7.5 and 11.3 require the Proponent to describe any financial liability and compensation in place, as required by regulation or by the Proponent's commitments, in relation to decommissioning or abandonment.
Effects of the Environment on the Project			
10	Environment and Climate Change Canada Northwatch Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on potential effects of climate change on all aspects of the Project, with an emphasis on water management infrastructure and water dependent design components such as waterbodies or waterways that the Project will collect water from. Comments also highlighted the importance of up-to-date climatological information for forecasting.	Section 14 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines includes requirements for information related to how environmental conditions such as natural hazards could affect the Project. This includes describing the Project's climate resilience and how the impacts of climate change have been integrated into the project design and planning, including tailings and water management planning.

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Fish and Fish Habitat			
11	<p>Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Fisheries and Oceans Canada Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Transport Canada</p>	<p>Commented on baseline methodology, mapping, and monitoring, including upstream and downstream. Commented on effects from fish relocation, overprinting of tributaries to the North Driftwood River and West Buskegau River, changes in water levels and flows, effluent discharge, seepage, disposal of mine waste in waterbodies, and blasting in or near fish and fish habitat and spawning sites; and the need for mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Section 8.8.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to conduct baseline studies on fish and fish habitat, describe the data sources used, and provide baseline measurements of contaminants in fish. Section 8.8.2 requires the Proponent to describe the potential project effects on fish and fish habitat for all phases of the Project, including from the release of effluent and the deposit of a deleterious substance to water frequented by fish, for all developmental stages of fish. Section 8.8.3 requires the Proponent to describe the mitigation measures for potential effects on fish and fish habitat.</p> <p>For projects requiring the use of natural waterbodies frequented by fish for the disposal of mine waste and/or for the management of process water, an amendment to the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations will be required</p>
12	<p>Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Fisheries and Oceans Canada Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Member of the Public Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry</p>	<p>Commented on lake sturgeon's current and historical distribution, specifically in the Mattagami River and the North Driftwood River, and spawning locations below the Lower Sturgeon dam. Commented about potential effects to lake sturgeon due to effluent discharge in the Mattagami River and noise and vibrations from blasting.</p>	<p>Section 8.8.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe habitat use or suitability for fish and aquatic species present, including lake sturgeon, and provide current and historical distribution for lake sturgeon in the Mattagami River and North Driftwood River. Section 8.8.1 also requires the Proponent to provide a summary of existing studies and research on potential effects of noise and vibrations resulting from blasting and seismic activity on potentially affected aquatic species, including lake sturgeon.</p>
13	<p>Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Fisheries and Oceans Canada Taykwa Tagamou Nation Wabun Tribal Council</p>	<p>Commented on fish species of importance to Indigenous Peoples, for specific species identified see row 41.</p>	<p>Section 8.8.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide maps of habitat use or suitability for species identifies as important by Indigenous Peoples and describe the use of fish as country foods or for other traditional purposes and species identified as important by Indigenous Peoples.</p>

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Geology, geological hazards, topography and soils			
14	Natural Resources Canada	Commented about the inclusion of satellite imagery with geological maps, and the mapping of all bedrock outcrops in baseline studies.	Section 8.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the geomorphology, topography and geotechnical characteristics of areas proposed for construction of major project components, and describe the effects of the Project on geology, and geological hazards.
15	Natural Resources Canada Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	Commented about impacts due to the movement of overburden, changes in soil quality and fertility, loss and compaction, and the creation of contaminated soil; and mitigation, including the repurposing of overburden.	Section 8.4 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe all effects of the Project on topography, soil and sediment, including the potential and likelihood of problematic erosion from movement or redistribution of soil and overburden, potential and likelihood of changes to soil quality and fertility, loss and compaction, and the suitability of topsoil and overburden for use in the reclamation of disturbed areas.
Geochemistry			
16	Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Natural Resources Canada Northwatch Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented about baseline studies for acid rock drainage, metal(loid) leaching, and chrysotile and amphibole asbestos; potential effects from contaminated run-off, dissolved metals, and the release of unregulated substances; and mitigation measures such as tailings management strategies, mine waste characterization program, a waste rock management plan, and the design of the ore stockpiles and tailings management facility.	Section 8.3.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide a geochemical and mineralogical characterization of expected mined or excavated materials, and quantify the abundance of asbestos, distinguishing the chrysotile and amphibole types, of expected mined or excavated materials and geological waste products. Section 8.3.3 requires the Proponent to describe methods for the prevention, monitoring, management, and control of acid rock drainage, neutral mine drainage, and/or metal(loid) leaching during all project phases (including a mine waste characterization program); describe methods for the prevention, monitoring, management, and control of asbestos in airborne dust; and describe tailings management strategies.
Health conditions			
17	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Big Water Campground Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Indigenous Services Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3)	Commented on baseline conditions, and potential project impacts to human health, including actual and perceived risks at key receptors due to changes to noise levels, air quality, recreational and drinking water quality, proximity to transmission lines, and accessibility and contamination of country foods. Commented on mitigation measures, including to avoid affecting potable water sources and water intake at Smooth Rock Falls to protect human health.	Section 9.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to develop community health profiles that reflect the overall health of each potentially affected Indigenous community and of the urban Indigenous population in general. Section 9.2.1 requires the Proponent to describe the potential effects of the Project on the health of Indigenous Peoples and seasonal use cabins, hunting blinds, and municipal water intake at Smooth Rock Falls, including biophysical determinants of health, such as air quality, noise exposure, and accessibility, availability and quality of country foods and

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	Taykwa Tagamou Nation Town of Smooth Rock Falls		water for drinking, recreational and cultural uses. Section 9.3 requires the Proponent to describe the proposed mitigation and enhancement measures for any potential effects on the health of Indigenous Peoples, including, if necessary, mitigation to avoid human health effects caused by changes to drinking water quality at Smooth Rock Falls.
18	City of Timmins Health Canada Indigenous Services Canada Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	Commented on social determinants of health and mental well-being, access to health and social services, and impacts to community well-being due to the increase in migrant workers, including the associated risk of substance use, and potential impacts to Indigenous women and girls and other underrepresented populations, including Two Spirit and gender diverse peoples.	Section 9.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to apply GBA Plus across all health effects and document how potential effects or changes to human health conditions could be different for diverse subgroups. Section 9.2.2 requires the Proponent to identify anticipated changes to determinants of health that may be related to the Project, such as community cohesion, access to health and social services, factors supporting community well-being, safety of Indigenous women, and to describe any pathway of effect on substance use. Section 9.3 requires the Proponent to identify any measures that would reduce negative effects or enhance positive effects on the state of mental health and, if applicable, substance use by Indigenous Peoples; and if necessary to avoid effects, describe measures to minimize any potential exacerbation of the opioid crisis currently being experienced in northern Ontario, and measures for preventing substance use on and off the worksite.
Assessment methodology and process			
19	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Big Water Campground Canada Nickel Company Flying Post First Nation Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Members of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Mining Association of Canada Northwatch	<p>Commented about the impact assessment process under the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i>, including timelines, scope, and the potential for positive impacts. Recommended the Agency report more details on timelines and logistics of compliance, monitoring and enforcement activities including the involvement of the public and Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Commented about the adequacy of baseline methodology and the importance of data that is statistically significant and meets industry standards. Commented about mitigation measures, including assessing alternatives based on relevant mitigation measures, the likely success of proposed mitigation measures, and residual effects.</p>	<p>Section 1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines introduces the federal impact assessment process, additional information about the process can be found in the Impact Assessment Process Overview.</p> <p>Section 7.1 requires the Proponent to describe the baseline for the environmental, health, social and economic conditions related to the Project, providing detailed descriptions of data sources and data collection methods, and an explanation of why these are the most appropriate sources and methods for the Project. Section 7.5 requires the Proponent to identify measures that are technically and economically feasible and that would mitigate the Project's adverse environmental, health, social and economic effects. For each mitigation measure identified, the Proponent must provide an assessment of the anticipated effectiveness and resulting residual effects.</p>

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			<p>Information related to compliance, monitoring and enforcement activities would be set out in the potential conditions of a Decision Statement, if issued and determined on a project-by-project basis.</p> <p>In terms of mitigation measures for alternative means, the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to consult Agency guidance documents including <i>Guidance: "Need for", "Purpose of", "Alternatives to" and "Alternative means"</i>. Impact Assessment Agency of Canada. 2020. Available at https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/practitioners-guide-impact-assessment-act/guidance-need-for-purpose-of-alternatives-to-and-alternative-means.html. In this guidance, proponents are expected to consider the anticipated positive and adverse effects associated with the potential alternative means, taking into account the potential for mitigation.</p>
20	<p>Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Canada Nickel Company Employment and Social Development Canada Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation Natural Resources Canada Taykwa Tagamou Nation Town of Smooth Rock Falls</p>	<p>Commented about the selection of valued components, appropriate terminology to be comprehensive, valued components recommended by Indigenous communities, and associated thresholds and analysis identified for each valued component.</p>	<p>Section 7.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to identify the valued components that will serve as the focal points for the impact assessment, and lists the valued components raised by participants during the Planning Phase. Proponents are encouraged to work with Indigenous communities to identify holistic valued components, which may increase the efficiency of the assessment and clarity of presentation. In the event that a valued component is suggested by an Indigenous community but is excluded from the Impact Statement, the Proponent must provide a justification for its exclusion.</p>
21	<p>Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Natural Resources Canada</p>	<p>Commented about defining spatial and temporal boundaries, including the spatial extent of project effects on the aquatic environment, and a temporal scope that is inclusive of historical activities and legacy effects.</p>	<p>Section 7.3 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to establish appropriate spatial and temporal boundaries to describe baseline conditions for, and to guide the assessment of, each valued component. Temporal boundaries must be defined by taking into account past conditions and historical context.</p>
22	<p>Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Member of the Public</p>	<p>Commented on how substances not listed as a toxic substance pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Protection Act or a deleterious substance under the Fisheries Act, and by extension the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations are regulated,</p>	<p>In addition to these federal legislative frameworks, the Province of Ontario has Provincial Water Quality Objectives that identify acceptable concentrations for an exhaustive list of substances. The Province of Ontario also maintains general air standards pursuant to the Ontario's <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>.</p>

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		and the potential for external experts and technical reviews in the process.	There are also guidelines and standards maintained by the Canadian Council of the Ministers of the Environment. In the unlikely scenario a substance is identified during the assessment of the Project with no established standards in any jurisdiction of Canada, the Proponent may conduct its assessment, with appropriate rationale and justification, using standards established elsewhere, such as by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or the European Union.
23	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Canada Nickel Company City of Timmins Flying Post First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation Town of Cochrane Town of Smooth Rock Falls	Expressed views on whether the Project should be referred to a Joint Review Panel. Considerations cited included the large scale of the Project and the potential impacts on the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights, as well as support for a timely assessment led by the Agency, noting confidence in the opportunities for meaningful participation.	On May 15, 2023, taking into consideration the information available to date, including potential adverse impacts that the Project might have on the rights of Indigenous peoples, the Minister communicated his confidence that an impact assessment process led by the Agency was an effective approach where many options exist for impacted Indigenous communities to lead aspects of the process that pertain to impacts on Indigenous peoples.
Other			
24	Transport Canada	Commented that the Project is on the Visual Flight Rules route, and the mine rock stockpile is anticipated to be over 90 meters tall making it an obstacle to air navigation; therefore, it will require daytime and/or nighttime protection.	Transport Canada will require a submission of an Aeronautical Assessment Form for any building, structure or object over 90 meters.
25	Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation	Expressed the desire to have a ceremony to acknowledge the proposal of the Project on traditional lands.	The Agency will forward this comment to the Proponent.
Public participation			
26	City of Timmins Keepers of the Circle Members of the Public Northwatch Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Town of Smooth Rock Falls Township of Black River-Matheson Northwatch	Commented on public participation regarding the Project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Positive commentary on the engagement led by the Proponent and Agency; - Need for frequent public notices, engagement sessions, and Project and engagement documentation; - Recommendations on other public groups, townships, and communities that should be engaged on the Project; and - Desire for involvement of local townships in Project's job and training opportunities. 	Section 5 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to summarize their public engagement activities, including methods, efforts to engage subgroups (including two spirit and gender diverse peoples), and opportunities for public engagement and participation). The Project's Public Participation Plan outlines the public participation objectives and engagement opportunities anticipated to take place throughout the impact assessment in which the public can participate and provide input to the Agency including tools, methods, and timelines. Appendix I of the Public Participation Plan outlines the distribution list of public groups to be contacted

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	Women and Gender Equality Canada		by the Agency, in response to interest and comments received. The Agency will expand the Project's distribution list throughout the impact assessment process based on future expressed interest.
27	City of Timmins Keepers of the Circle Northwatch	<p>Commented on public participation regarding the impact assessment process broadly, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns about limited funds, time (including timing of funding windows), and limited opportunities (including frequency of information sessions) to provide meaningful comments during comment periods; - Recommend the Agency should develop and provide rationale for its public distribution including organizations involved in nearby projects; - Recommend the Agency document and post to the Registry how comments received inform the impact assessment; - Suggestions to improve the Registry, including accessibility, ease of use, and information session information. 	<p>The Agency appreciates and notes all feedback on public participation throughout the impact assessment process to improve meaningful public engagement opportunities. The Public Participation Plan outlines the Agency-led engagement opportunities in each phase of the impact assessment, including four distinct comment periods. Public views heard throughout the process are tracked, made publicly available on the Registry, and inform decision-making. Further, the Agency directs the Proponent to comments received to inform the Proponent's engagement and the development of the Proponent's Impact Statement.</p> <p>Section 4 of the Public Participation Plan outlines how the Project's public distribution list was developed which includes organizations that have expressed interest and comments on relevant or proximal projects.</p>
28	Canada Nickel Company	Commented that they are committed to pursue and continue transparent engagement with the public and Indigenous communities beyond the Agency's requirements.	The Agency notes the Proponent's commitments to public and Indigenous engagement.
Indigenous Engagement and Consultation			
29	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Canada Nickel Company Cree Nation Government Employment and Social Development Canada Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation	<p>Commented on the Agency's and the Proponent's approach to Indigenous consultation and engagement, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communities' engagement and consultation preferences; - The need for information on future Agency-led consultation and engagement efforts during the remainder of the impact assessment process; - That the length of the Agency's formal comment periods do not allow Indigenous communities enough time to provide adequate comments on Agency documents; - The need for more regular, substantive, and transparent communication and engagement from the Proponent; 	<p>The Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan outlines opportunities and methods for meaningful engagement and consultation with potentially affected Indigenous communities throughout the impact assessment process for the Project. The Agency finalized this Plan based on input from potentially impacted Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Section 3 of the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan sets out "Objectives of Indigenous engagement and partnership," including the Agency's objectives, and objectives raised by Indigenous communities during the Planning Phase. Section 5 of the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan set out a list of tools and methods identified by the Agency and Indigenous communities to ensure meaningful consultation throughout the impact</p>

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	Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need for more information about the Proponent's engagement efforts, including information on engagement methods, and on how issues raised by Indigenous communities will inform the Project; - Consultation and engagement activities must be respectful of Indigenous protocols, including any existing Consultation and/or Engagement Protocols that Indigenous communities have shared with the Agency or the Proponent; - The need for the Agency and the Proponent to respect the schedule and capacity of Indigenous communities to enable meaningful participation in consultation and engagement opportunities; - The need for the Agency to be as flexible as possible in engaging Indigenous communities to accommodate unforeseen circumstances (e.g., pandemics, community emergencies); - The need for multiple forms of consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities, including increased in-person meetings, the use of different forms of communication, and offering consultation and engagement opportunities at various times of the day; - The presence of an Indigenous liaison at all meetings with Indigenous communities; - The importance of engaging with all Indigenous communities equitably; and - The need to respect Indigenous languages throughout the impact assessment process. 	<p>assessment process. Section 6 of the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan provides a description of the main phases in the impact assessment process and an explanation as to how the Agency, on behalf of the federal Crown, proposes to engage and consult with Indigenous communities during each phase.</p> <p>The Agency welcomes continues dialogue throughout the impact assessment process with each Indigenous community.</p> <p>The Agency will forward comments related to the Proponent's approach to engagement to the Proponent. Section 6 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines provides instructions to the Proponent regarding Indigenous engagement. The Proponent is required to engage with the Indigenous communities identified in section 4 of the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan in completing its Impact Statement at the earliest reasonable opportunity.</p>
30	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on the need for the Agency and the Proponent to obtain the consent of Indigenous communities throughout the impact assessment process.	Section 3 of the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan sets out the Agency's intention to ensure that engagement is consistent with the Government of Canada's commitment to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the Declaration). The Declaration emphasizes the need to work together in partnership and respect, as articulated through the principle of free, prior and informed consent. This principle reflects working together in good faith on decisions that impact Indigenous Peoples, with the intention to achieve consensus.

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			Section 6 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines states that the Proponent's engagement efforts should be consistent with the Government of Canada's commitment to implement the Declaration, including the principle of free, prior and informed consent.
31	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Indigenous Services Canada Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on the need for opportunities to verify the Agency's and the Proponent's records of Indigenous consultation and engagement.	<p>Section 6.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide a record of engagement that describes all efforts, successful and unsuccessful, taken to seek the views of each potentially affected Indigenous community with respect to the Project. The Proponent should share engagement records with Indigenous communities on a routine basis prior to submitting the Impact Statement to the Agency. Indigenous communities will have the opportunity to verify the Proponent's record of Indigenous engagement during the comment period on the Proponent's Impact Statement in the Impact Statement Phase.</p> <p>During the Impact Assessment Phase, from time to time, the Agency will prepare and share a summary of its Indigenous consultation including a summary of the consultation process, how it was integrated into the assessment process, and the outcomes for review by Indigenous communities.</p>
32	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation	<p>Commented expressing an interest in collaborating with the Agency in the impact assessment process, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing a community-specific consultation plan to supplement the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan for the Project; - Conducting a collaborative assessment of the impacts of the Project on the exercise of rights, including the cumulative impacts on rights through time; - Co-drafting the portions of the Agency's Impact Assessment Report regarding the potential impacts of the Project on the exercise of rights, including the cumulative impacts on rights through time; - Co-drafting the Agency's consultation summary in its Impact Assessment Report. 	<p>To complement the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, interested Indigenous communities may develop community-specific consultation plans, in collaboration with the Agency, to describe the community's specific objectives for consultation, or any unique features of the impact assessment and consultation process pertaining to that community for the Project.</p> <p>The Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan is intended to be implemented bilaterally with each Indigenous community identified in section 4. The Agency welcomes continued dialogue throughout the assessment process with each Indigenous community regarding the specific collaborative interests of each community.</p>

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		Commented requesting additional information about timelines related to opportunities to collaborate with the Agency in the impact assessment process.	
33	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation	<p>Expressed an interest in specific engagement opportunities with the Proponent, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leading studies to support the development of the Impact Statement, such as: Traditional Knowledge and Land Use studies; and, the Indigenous-led evaluation of effects on health and socio-economic conditions, Indigenous Knowledge and land uses, cultural and physical heritage; and, Aboriginal and treaty rights. - Co-drafting portions of the Impact Statement, such as an assessment of the potential impacts of the Project, including cumulative impacts, on the exercise of Aboriginal and/or treaty rights. <p>Commented on the need for a commitment from the Proponent to support and fund the desired studies, and for the Proponent to provide adequate time to include the results of studies in the Impact Statement.</p> <p>Requested additional information about timelines related to opportunities to collaborate with the Proponent in the development of the Impact Statement.</p>	<p>The Agency will forward these comments to the Proponent.</p> <p>Section 6 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to engage with Indigenous communities in completing its Impact Statement in order to identify and understand the potential impacts of the Project on Indigenous Peoples and their rights, including the use of their lands, territories and resources, and to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into the impact assessment.</p> <p>For the Indigenous communities identified in section 4.1 of the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, the Proponent must support the participation of Indigenous communities in the completion of the Impact Statement, which could include funding studies conducted by potentially affected Indigenous communities who have demonstrated an interest in doing so.</p>
34	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Keepers of the Circle	<p>Commented on the approach to incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into the impact assessment process, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need for the Proponent to work collaboratively with Indigenous communities to integrate Indigenous Knowledge into the Impact Statement; - The importance of considering Indigenous Knowledge on equitable footing with scientific or technical information to inform the impact assessment; and - The need to respect the processes and protocols established by Indigenous communities related to the 	<p>Section 6 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to engage with Indigenous communities to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into decisions regarding the Project and the impact assessment, which will be considered on equitable footing with western science information. Where findings differ between Indigenous Knowledge and scientific or technical studies, the Proponent should clearly present how both were considered in the Impact Statement.</p> <p>Section 6.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines also states that community-specific engagement protocols and procedures around Indigenous Knowledge in assessment processes should be understood, respected, and</p>

#	Commenter(s)	Summary of Comment(s)	Agency Response to Comment(s)
		ownership, management, and control of Indigenous Knowledge.	<p>implemented. The Proponent is required to refer to the Agency's guidance on Protecting Confidential Indigenous Knowledge under the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i>.</p> <p>The Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan outlines the Agency's approach to the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge, including ensuring Indigenous Knowledge is considered on equitable footing with western scientific knowledge in decision-making, and ensuring there is respect for, and adherence to, established processes and protocols developed by Indigenous communities that govern the sharing and use of Indigenous Knowledge. The Agency will meaningfully engage with Indigenous communities regarding the Indigenous Knowledge they may wish to apply when considering potential effects and impacts of the Project and impacts on the exercise of Aboriginal or treaty rights by adhering to the Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework for Project Reviews and Regulatory Decisions.</p>
35	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Keepers of the Circle Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3)	Commented on the need for further information on how confidential Indigenous Knowledge and traditional land use information will be protected.	<p>Section 6.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines sets out the Proponent's obligations regarding the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge in the Impact Statement. Indigenous Knowledge, whether publicly available or directly shared with the Proponent, should not be included in the Impact Statement without written consent and validation from the Indigenous community. The Proponent is required to refer to the Agency's guidance on Protecting Confidential Indigenous Knowledge under the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i>.</p> <p>Indigenous Knowledge shared with the Agency in confidence is protected from disclosure under section 119 of the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i>, except if written consent is provided, or if the information is publicly available. In addition, Indigenous Knowledge shared in confidence could be shared with certain parties if disclosure is necessary for procedural fairness and natural justice or for use in legal proceedings. This ensures that interested persons have a fair opportunity to participate in decision-making processes that may affect their interests, and that they have access to all necessary information and evidence relied on by the decision-maker.</p>

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			Indigenous communities who wish to provide any comments or documents that contain confidential or sensitive information that should be protected from release to the public, are encouraged to contact the Agency at Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca before submitting the information. This will ensure that the submission is handled appropriately. Note, that the Agency will consult with the Indigenous community prior to disclosing Indigenous Knowledge shared in confidence under an exception.
36	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on the need for adequate capacity funding from the Agency to enable meaningful participation in the impact assessment process, and on the need for the Agency to re-evaluate the amount of funding provided to Indigenous communities throughout the impact assessment process and adjust funding levels where necessary.	<p>The Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan outlines the Agency's tools and methods to ensure meaningful consultation in the impact assessment process, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing funding under the Agency's Participant Funding Program to support Indigenous communities in participating in the impact assessment process; and - providing clear and timely information on available funding, impact assessment process timelines, and the workload expected of Indigenous communities to ensure meaningful participation and consultation. <p>The Agency's Participant Funding Program aims to support Indigenous communities prepare for and participate in key stages of the impact assessment. Eligible expenses include review of correspondence, participation in meetings and associated travel and related work, review and comment on key documents, professional fees, reporting costs, and honoraria and ceremonial costs.</p>
37	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3)	Commented on the need for the Proponent to provide adequate funding to Indigenous communities to support their participation in the development of the Proponent's Impact Statement, and during the post-approval phases of the impact assessment process.	<p>The Agency will forward this comment to the Proponent.</p> <p>Section 6 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to work with each Indigenous community named in section 4 of the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan to establish a mutually agreed approach to their participation, should they wish to participate.</p>
Indigenous Participation Opportunities			
38	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada	Expressed an interest in being engaged by the Proponent on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - assessment of alternatives; 	Section 6 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to engage with Indigenous communities to inform the impact assessment, and

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	Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - assessment methodology; - biophysical components, including for the atmospheric, acoustic, and visual environments; water quality and quantity; vegetation; fish and fish habitat; wildlife; GHG emissions; and species at risk; - health conditions; - archaeological studies; - decommissioning plans; and - follow-up and monitoring. 	<p>to identify measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from the Project on Indigenous Peoples and their rights.</p> <p>Section 6.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires that Indigenous Knowledge, where available to the Proponent, should be included to inform the impact assessment, including the assessment of potential impacts on the biophysical environment, on health, social, and economic conditions, on Indigenous Peoples, and best practices and mitigation, and not only to look at potential impacts of the Project on Indigenous communities and their exercise of rights.</p> <p>Section 6.3 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to indicate where and how Indigenous communities' Indigenous Knowledge, perspectives, participation, and input were integrated into or contributed to decisions regarding the Project or its impact assessment.</p> <p>Additional requirements for Indigenous participation and the inclusion of Traditional Knowledge that are specific to alternatives, assessment methodology, biophysical components, archaeological studies, health, decommissioning, and follow up and monitoring were addressed in the respective sections of the Guidelines.</p>
Indigenous Peoples' Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes			
39	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Health Canada Indigenous Services Canada Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on baseline conditions, including the current and historical use of lands and resources and their connection to spiritual, cultural and economic well-being, noting that use of lands commonly refers to an entire landscape as opposed to a specific location. Commented on the need for more information on plant species found on site, specifically plants used as medicines or country foods.	Section 12.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide information and studies related to the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Indigenous Peoples. Section 12.2.1 requires the Proponent to identify and describe resources important for traditional and cultural purposes, access to resources, the traditional and cultural significance of identified resources, the types of traditional practices, as well as the location of resources and traditional practices.
40	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation	Commented on potential impacts to current and future use of lands and resources, including from construction of the rail line, transmission line, and highway relocation; an increase in temporary workers; and perceived and real changes to the visual landscape, air quality, noise and vibrations, and contamination. Commented that these project activities could impact:	Section 12.2.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to assess the potential effects on the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes due to the Project, within the historic context of the Indigenous communities. This includes current and future availability and quality of country foods, quality, quantity and distribution of resources available

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	Northwatch Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to harvesting, ceremonial and/or cultural areas including rivers; - Ecological knowledge, generational knowledge transfer, and culture (community feasts, family traditions); - Future generation's traditional use; - The experience of being on the land/water; - Water quality and/or quantity; - Fish and fishing, specifically in the Mattagami River and Abitibi Rivers; - Traplines and hunting camps; - Harvesting and gathering of medicines, plants, and mushrooms; and - Wildlife corridors, breeding grounds, and overwintering sites. 	for harvesting, access to culturally important harvesting areas or resources, access to the territory, experience of being on the land, sites of interest to communities, and impacts of changes in the sensory experience of being on the land.
41	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation	<p>Commented on resources important for traditional and cultural purposes, and potential impacts to these resources, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water and waterways, including the Mattagami River and Abitibi River; - Moss, fungi, reindeer lichen, blueberries, raspberries, gooseberries, Labrador tea, tamarack; - Furbearers, including: marten, beaver, fisher, mink, fox, grey fox, muskrat, squirrel, otter, weasel, rabbit, wolf, coyote, lynx, wolverine, black bear, and cougar; - Moose, boreal caribou, deer, and white-tailed deer; - Bait fish, sauger, sea trout, bass (large and smallmouth), mooneye, sheepshead, goldeye, splake, pike, northern pike/jackfish, sucker (white and redhorse), brook trout, burbot, perch, catfish (channel and brown bullhead), lake sturgeon, pickerel/walleye, lake trout, and lake whitefish; and - Geese, eagle (bald eagle), duck, grouse/partridge, crane, and osprey. 	Section 12.2.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to identify and describe resources important for traditional and cultural purposes. For a complete list of resources identified to date as important for traditional and cultural purposes please refer to the original comment submissions shared by Indigenous communities available on the Project's Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website. The Proponent should continue to integrate any additional Indigenous Knowledge that is shared by Indigenous communities throughout the development of the Impact Statement

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Indigenous Peoples' Exercise of Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights			
42	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Cree Nation Government Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation Taykwa Tagamou Nation	<p>Commented on the assertion of Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights for all Indigenous Peoples (First Nation, Métis, Inuit) in the project area¹.</p> <p>Commented on the protection of rights, tolerance thresholds, severity, and mitigation of impacts on the exercise of Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. Potential project impacts to rights include impacts to the Abitibi River and Mattagami River, loss of caribou and caribou habitat, changes to or loss of access to the land, loss of knowledge transfer and traditional, spiritual, and cultural practices, and loss of the right to harvest.</p>	Section 12.4.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to identify and describe the Treaty and Aboriginal rights of Indigenous Peoples potentially affected by the Project, including historic, regional, and community context, the geographic extent of traditional territory, the purpose and importance of the rights to the rights-bearing communities, and information on how rights have already been affected. Section 12.4.2 requires the Proponent to document the Project's potential impacts on the exercise or practice of the rights of Indigenous Peoples or the rights arising from treaties in the project area and describe the level of engagement with Indigenous communities regarding potential impacts on the exercise of rights. Section 12.5 requires the Proponent to describe the proposed mitigation and enhancement measures for all potential effects to Indigenous Peoples, including potential impacts on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
Social Conditions			
43	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation City of Timmins Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch	Commented about baseline social conditions and potential project effects on social well-being from in and out migrations, including crime rates, addiction, mental health, impacts to women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ ² , and discrimination and violence towards Indigenous Peoples.	Section 10.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the existing social conditions for Indigenous communities, including Indigenous Peoples living in urban areas, by preparing community profile(s) and describing existing local and regional services and infrastructure. Section 10.2.1 requires the Proponent to describe effects to community well-being for Indigenous Peoples, including through the prevalence of criminal activity, in- and out-migration effects and any differential and particular impacts on women and girls, and consider the potential for stresses on community, family and household cohesion.

¹ Based on available information, the “project area” includes: a large mine site footprint of > 5000 hectares, including open pits, waste rock piles and a tailings management facility, predominantly within the North Driftwood River and West Buskegau River watersheds (the “mine site”); relocation of Highway 655 and existing 500 kilovolt transmission line to the west of the mine, including approximately 20 kilometres of new right of way; effluent discharge pipe(s) to locations that may include the Mattagami River downstream of Lower Sturgeon Dam, the North Driftwood River, and the West Buskegau River; a new rail spur from the proposed mine south to Kidd Mine, following Highway 655; and transport of ore along an existing rail line between Kidd Mine and Kidd metallurgical site.

² 2SLGBTQI+ stands for two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex, the plus (+) sign is inclusive of people who identify as part of sexual and gender diverse communities, who use additional terminologies.

#	Commenter(s)	Summary of Comment(s)	Agency Response to Comment(s)
	Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group		
44	Big Water Campground City of Timmins Member of the Public Northwatch Taykwa Tagamou Nation Town of Smooth Rock Falls	Commented on potential impacts from increased traffic and potential impacts on the recreational use of a local snowmobile trail. Commented on considerations for transportation services for employees living in nearby communities, traffic safety at Big Water Campground and a transportation strategy for dangerous goods.	Section 3.5 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the anticipated transportation options for employees to commute to and from the mine site. Section 10.2.2 requires the Proponent to assess effects to road infrastructure and traffic safety, including traffic safety at Big Water Campground and impacts to recreational use of the local snowmobile trail and outcomes of any proponent engagement with local snowmobile clubs.
45	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation City of Timmins Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Town of Smooth Rock Falls	Commented about baseline conditions and potential impacts to local community services and infrastructure, including women's shelters, health facilities, mental health and addiction facilities, emergency services, childcare, and housing availability and pricing.	Section 10.1.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the existing local and regional services and infrastructure in the study areas as they relate to the social conditions of Indigenous Peoples. Section 10.2.2 requires the Proponent to describe the predicted effects to the local and regional infrastructure facilities and services as they relate to the social conditions of Indigenous Peoples, including adverse and positive effects to housing, childcare, and health care services and to describe any need for government and/or proponent expenditures for new or expanded services, facilities or infrastructure, arising out of project-related effects.
Economic Conditions			
46	Big Water Campground City of Timmins Employment and Social Development Canada Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Natural Resources Canada Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport Taykwa Tagamou Nation Township of Black River-Matheson	Commented about labour baseline data, including current employment and unemployment rates, local socio-economic conditions, labour market characteristics and demographic information, employment barriers for underrepresented groups, and local economic activities. Commented on potential economic effects, both adverse and positive, including to the local workforce, existing labour recruitment efforts, training, tourism, and tax revenue.	Section 3.5 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the anticipated labour requirements, employee programs and policies, and workforce development opportunities. Section 11.1 requires the Proponent to provide an overview of the main economic activities in the study areas, including existing employment rates, workforce, and conditions that influence workforce availability. Section 11.2.1 requires the Proponent to describe potential changes in employment, training, and Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) aspects of employment, including any actions that will be taken to increase the employment of subgroups that may face barriers to employment in the Project. Section 11.2.2 requires the Proponent to describe the potential effects of changes to the economic conditions for specific sectors in affected Indigenous communities related to traditional use of lands and resources, including tourism.

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47	City of Timmins Employment and Social Development Canada Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Natural Resources Canada Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Women and Gender Equality	Commented about ensuring an inclusive workforce, including through hiring strategies and retention of underrepresented groups, training to address gender-based violence and harassment, culture training on community lifestyles and cultural respect, preservation of Indigenous family traditions, and the importance of land acknowledgements and traditional practices in the workplace.	Section 3.5 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe workplace policies and programs for Indigenous employment, employment of other underrepresented groups, training to address gender-based violence and harassment, and cultural training programs. Section 11.3 requires the Proponent to identify and describe opportunities for enhancing positive effects, such as creation of employment for Indigenous Peoples and local youth, including actions to provide flexibility in work schedules to enable the continued participation of Indigenous employees in traditional and cultural activities; cultural competency training plans for non-Indigenous employees to ensure a respectful working relationship with Indigenous contractors; and all cultural awareness training plans for non-Indigenous employees to promote a safe work environment that fosters the well-being of Indigenous employees.
48	Employment and Social Development Canada City of Timmins Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Natural Resources Canada Northwatch Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented about the economic viability and budget for all phases of the Project, particularly during decommissioning. Commented about local and international nickel and electric vehicle supply chains, as well as information on how employee compensation compares to local, national and industry averages.	Section 11.2.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the potential changes in employment, including an estimate of the direct, indirect and induced income or wages and benefits, including a comparison to the industry average, and provincial average. Section 11.2.2 requires the Proponent to set out the investment in the Project for each phase and provide information on the economic viability of the Project. This section also requires the Proponent to conduct sensitivity analysis of how changes in global competitiveness of the project, commodity prices, capital and operating costs or other relevant sources of uncertainty may affect the estimated economic benefits. The Proponent must also situate the Project within the international and North American nickel supply chain context, and describe whether and how the Project would strengthen domestic supply chains, increase economic security, and support the objectives of the Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy and Ontario's Critical Mineral Strategy.
49	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Employment and Social Development Canada Indigenous Services Canada	Commented about the economic conditions of Indigenous Peoples, including the direct or indirect impacts the Project may have on local Indigenous businesses, including potential business opportunities and partnerships.	Section 11.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the main economic activities of Indigenous Peoples and provide an overview of the Indigenous businesses that may provide supplies and services required for the Project. Section 11.3 requires the Proponent to describe supplier network development initiatives, including the identification of potential Indigenous suppliers, any procurement policies that facilitate the opportunities for Indigenous-owned companies.

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Indigenous Physical and Cultural Heritage, and Structures, Sites or Things of Importance			
50	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Taykwa Tagamou Nation	<p>Commented on the need for further information on baseline conditions, including information on planned, ongoing, or completed archaeological assessments, and on whether the Project could impact underwater archaeological resources.</p> <p>Commented on the potential presence of physical and cultural heritage resources and structures, sites, or things of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance in or near the Project area, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sacred, ceremonial, or culturally important places (e.g., waterbodies including the Mattagami River and Abitibi River), plants (e.g., cedar, sage, spruce, sweetgrass), animals (e.g., bald eagles, moose, spirit moose), objects, beings or things; - Places with archaeological potential or artifacts (e.g., the shoreline of the Mattagami River and its tributaries); - Teaching areas used to transfer knowledge between generations; and - Sites occupied historically. 	Section 12.1.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the baseline conditions associated with physical and cultural heritage and structures, sites, or things of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance for Indigenous Peoples. This description should give consideration to an understanding of the historical baseline conditions associated with the ability to transmit culture (e.g., through language, ceremonies, harvesting, teaching of sacred laws, traditional laws, stewardship laws, and Traditional Knowledge). The Proponent must describe opportunities provided to participate in or lead historic resources studies and archaeological studies.
51	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on potential impacts to physical and cultural heritage resources, and structures, sites, or things of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance in or near the project area, including a potential burial ground in the north end of the project area.	Section 12.1.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to assess potential effects to physical and cultural heritage, and structures, sites, or things of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance for Indigenous Peoples.
Project purpose and need			
52	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Member of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch	<p>Commented on the purpose of and need for the Project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How the Project would support the objectives of the Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy; and - Consideration of the perspectives of participants, including on the social needs of the public, Indigenous Peoples, and others. 	Section 4.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to outline what is achieved by carrying out the Project, including any objectives the Proponent has in carrying out the Project. The Proponent is encouraged to consider the perspectives of participants in establishing objectives that relate to the intended effect of the Project on society. Section 4.2 requires the Proponent to describe the underlying opportunity or issue that the Project intends to seize

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	Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group		or solve, and whether and how the Project would support the objectives of the Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy and Ontario's Critical Mineral Strategy.
Project activities and design			
53	<p>Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Abitibi River Forest Management Inc. Canada Nickel Company Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport Women and Gender Equality Canada</p>	<p>Commented about the geographical context of the Project and project activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential effects based on geographic context; - The scope of the assessment in terms of the new rail line and interactions with the aquatic environment; and - The level of detail required on project components and activities, ancillary physical works and activities, decommissioning plans, and water, terrestrial, and air quality management systems. 	<p>Section 3.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the Project's location, including project footprint, focusing on aspects of the Project and its setting that are important in order to understand the potential environmental, health, social and economic effects and impacts of the Project. Section 3.4 requires the Proponent to describe the project components, associated and ancillary works, and other characteristics, including a description of project activities to be carried out at each project phase.</p>
Cooperation with the province of Ontario			
54	<p>Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Hydro One Networks Incorporate Member of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Ontario Ministry of Mines</p>	<p>Commented on the Project's provincial regulatory requirements, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information provided on provincial regulatory mechanisms; - Proponent's intentions for Class Environmental Assessments (Class EAs); and - Plan for coordination of the federal and provincial assessments. 	<p>The Project's Cooperation Plan describes how the Agency will cooperate with other jurisdictions including the province of Ontario to reduce duplication, increase efficiency and certainty, and draw on the best available expertise. The Cooperation Plan outlines the coordinated impact assessment in which the Agency, provincial ministries, and relevant organizations will share information, coordinate technical reports, government review, and align comment periods to the extent possible based on the Proponent's timeline of regulatory submissions. Refer to the Cooperation Plan for the provincial regulatory</p>

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	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Ontario Ministry of Transportation Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport Ontario Northland Transportation Commission		requirements the Project is subject to including class environmental assessments, permits, and approvals. Provincial regulatory mechanisms required for the 230 kilovolt transmission line constructed and operated by a third party and to service multiple users is not currently subject to coordination. Refer to Alternative Means of the Project section of this table for more information.
Navigation and Navigable Waters			
55	Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Taykwa Tagamou Nation Transport Canada	Commented about potential effects to navigable waters and navigation by Indigenous peoples, and the need for information about navigability of waterways, traditional use of waterways for navigation, and proposed mitigation measures.	Section 12.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide baseline information on, and describe potential effects to, all historic, current, and potential future uses of waters navigable by Indigenous peoples. Section 12.4 includes requirements to describe any mitigation and enhancement measures for all potential effects to Indigenous peoples, including potential effects to the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes.
Birds, Migratory Birds and their Habitat			
56	Canada Nickel Company Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	Commented on baseline studies, including conditions for avian species at risk and their critical habitat, biodiversity, and data collection, analysis, and monitoring. Commented on effects from disturbance activities, such as noise and blasting, and the timing of these activities. Commented on effects to birds, migratory birds and their habitat, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes to food sources, habitat, and movement corridors (e.g., flyways); - Effects to biodiversity, abundance, and density; and - Changes to mortality risk from direct and indirect effects; and - Relocation of displaced species. 	Section 8.9 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide baseline information on migratory birds that is representative of current conditions, with justification if additional studies are not necessary, and to describe the potential effects of the Project and associated mitigation measures on migratory and non-migratory birds, their nests and eggs, including short- and long-term changes to habitat, changes to biodiversity, and changes to mortality risk.

#	Commenter(s)	Summary of Comment(s)	Agency Response to Comment(s)
		Commented on the need for mitigation measures for effects to birds, migratory birds, and their habitat from accidents, ambient light, interactions with tailings, and disturbance activities.	
57	Environment and Climate Change Canada Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	Requested certain species of conservation concern be included in the Impact Statement due to the likelihood they will be present, such as barn swallow, bobolink, eastern whip-poor-will, rusty blackbird, evening grosbeak, Canada warbler, common nighthawk, olive-sided flycatcher, yellow rail, bank swallow, eastern meadowlark, short-eared owl, and lesser yellowlegs.	Section 8.9 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to consider these species of conservation concern as unique valued components in the Impact Statement.
58	Environment and Climate Change Canada Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	Recommended the removal of the peregrine falcon from the list of species, as well as advice on the inclusion of the red-headed woodpecker as a valued component species in the Guidelines.	The Agency revised the list of species of conservation concern based on evidence provided that certain species are unlikely to be present in the project area. The Agency encourages the Proponent to consult with the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks on any permitting requirements under the Ontario <i>Endangered Species Act</i> for these species, particularly for the red-headed woodpecker.
59	Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on bird species of importance to Indigenous Peoples, for specific species identified see rows 41 and 50.	Section 8.9.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to consider any bird species of importance to Indigenous Peoples, and important habitats associated with species of importance to Indigenous Peoples as unique valued components.
Terrestrial wildlife and wildlife habitat			
60	Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Northwatch Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	Commented on the adequacy of baseline studies for terrestrial wildlife species and their habitat. Commented about effects to terrestrial wildlife species from project activities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utility corridors (e.g., road, rail, and transmission lines); - Aggregate pit/extraction; - Collisions (railway and road accidents); - Noise and vibrations; - Contamination from metals, dust and dry stack tailings; and - Increased hunting. 	Section 8.10 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide baseline studies on terrestrial wildlife that are representative of current conditions, with justification if additional studies are not necessary, and to describe the potential effects from all phases of the Project on wildlife and wildlife habitat. The Proponent must also describe the proposed mitigation measures for potential adverse effects on terrestrial wildlife, including wildlife friendly road and railway design, and technologies and approaches to minimize the impacts of tailings ponds on wildlife.

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		Commented about mitigation and monitoring measures to manage effects to wildlife and wildlife habitat from contamination, collisions, and effects on wildlife corridors and migration.	
61	Apitibi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on terrestrial wildlife species of importance to Indigenous Peoples, for specific species identified see rows 41 and 50.	Section 8.10.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to identify wildlife species, other than avian species, of importance to Indigenous People within the study area, that are likely to be directly or indirectly affected.
62	Apitibi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented about baseline studies on moose habitat, including calving sites, aquatic feeding areas, and wintering grounds. Commented about potential effects on moose habitat and individuals due to changes in predator and prey relationships, and sensory disturbances related to rail line collisions, noise, and project emissions.	Section 8.10.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide a map showing the highest concentrations of areas of use by species, and important habitat, including aquatic feeding areas, late winter habitat and known calving sites for moose. Section 8.10.2 requires the Proponent to describe potential adverse effects of the Project on moose and moose habitat, including aquatic feeding areas and calving sites, and the potential effects of noise, light and sensory disturbances including effects of rail operations on moose.
Species at Risk and their habitat			
63	Apitibi Anicinapek Nation Canada Nickel Company Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Members of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Mining Association of Canada Natural Resources Canada Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Commented on the need for additional baseline studies on species at risk, including recovery strategies or plans; the potential effects to species at risk and their habitat from project activities, such as increased rail and road traffic, increased sensory disturbances, fragmentation of habitat due to new linear corridors and accidents and malfunctions; and the need for associated mitigation measures.	Section 8.11.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide current baseline studies on species at risk, including specific species likely to be present in the project area or study areas, and any other species that are listed under Schedule 1 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> , or assessed by Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada as extirpated, endangered, threatened or of special concern. Section 8.11.2 requires the Proponent to describe the potential effects of the Project on species at risk and their critical habitat, with effects being analyzed separately for each species, as well as other permits and authorizations that may be required in relation to species at risk. Section 8.11.3 requires the Proponent to describe mitigation measures for potential adverse effects to species at risk, including those to prevent release of harmful substances into waters or areas frequented by species at risk, and to

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	Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Town of Smooth Rock Falls		reduce risk of harmful or disruptive activities to species at risk and their habitat. The Proponent must also describe how mitigation measures are consistent with recovery strategies or other plans for each species. Additional baseline studies, effects, and mitigation measure requirements for fish and bird species at risk can be found in sections 8.8 and 8.9 respectively.
64	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Environment and Climate Change Canada Natural Resources Canada Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented about the need for additional baseline studies, and potential effects to boreal caribou, its critical habitat, and recovery goals for the Kesagami caribou range. Note: In the Kesagami range, all habitat (disturbed or not) is critical habitat.	Section 8.11 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide baseline information that is representative of current conditions, describe effects, and identify mitigation measures with respect to boreal caribou and its habitat, including defining the Kesagami Caribou Range as the Regional Study Area.
65	Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	Commented about the need for additional baseline studies including the identification of potential hibernacula for bats, potential effects to bats and bat habitat, including methodologies for assessing effects, and associated mitigation measures and their effectiveness.	Section 8.11 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide baseline information that is representative of current conditions, describe effects, and identify mitigation measures for little brown myotis, northern myotis, and tri-colored bat, including a description and assessment of effects on any habitat features, including hibernacula and roosting habitat, and regional migration corridors.
66	Environment and Climate Change Canada Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	Commented on the need for additional baseline information on black ash; the potential effects on black ash from project activities such as vegetation clearing, dewatering, and the introduction of emerald ash borer to the project area; and associated mitigation measures.	Section 8.11 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide baseline information that is representative of current conditions, describe effects, and identify mitigation measures for black ash. Baseline conditions must include abundance, distribution, and species sighting records; potential effects from vegetation clearing and introduction of emerald

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	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group		ash borer; and mitigation measures, including measures to control the spread of emerald ash borer.
67	Environment and Climate Change Canada Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	Commented concerning two species at risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blanding's turtle; and - Red-headed woodpecker. 	The Agency did not include the Blanding's turtle or the red-headed woodpecker as valued components in section 8.11 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, based on comments received that indicated their unlikely presence in the project area. The Proponent has been instructed to consult with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding any potential Ontario <i>Endangered Species Act</i> permits that may still be required for these species, as well as other species at risk which were included in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines.
Sustainability			
68	Member of the public	Commented about the Project's contributions to sustainability, including whether the ore concentrate would be further processed in Canada, and products manufactured in Canada, and if not, whether global transportation costs might counter the benefits.	Section 11.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe current nickel production internationally and domestically, including export patterns, end uses, and contributions to global and domestic value chains for the green and digital economy. Section 11.2.2 requires the Proponent to situate the Project within the international and North American nickel supply chain context, predict export outcomes and contributions to domestic and global value chains, and describe whether the Project would strengthen domestic supply chains and support the objectives of the Canadian and Ontario Critical Mineral strategies.
69	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation	Commented that the community intends to prepare its own definition of sustainability and use it to assess impacts to the community. Requested a requirement to describe how any description of sustainability provided by an Indigenous community differs from the general analysis of sustainability, noting that an Indigenous community's description of sustainability may be confidential.	Section 16 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide an analysis of the extent to which the project contributes to sustainability, following the methodology outlined in Guidance: Considering the Extent to which a Project Contributes to Sustainability . The analysis must describe engagement with potentially affected Indigenous communities, and must include any description of sustainability as defined by Indigenous communities.

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			Agency Guidance on Protecting Confidential Indigenous Knowledge under the Impact Assessment Act notes that Indigenous communities may share confidential Indigenous Knowledge directly with proponents, and may enter into separate confidentiality arrangements with proponents.
Follow-up programs			
70	Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Natural Resources Canada Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	Commented on the need for additional information on follow-up programs and remediation plans, including monitoring for seepage from stockpiles and the tailings facilities over time, and clarifications on monitoring methodology.	Section 17.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines describes requirements for follow-up programs and monitoring, including a requirement to identify valued components that warrant a follow-up program and include opportunities for the involvement of Indigenous communities, stakeholders, local and regional Indigenous organizations in follow-up program design.
Vulnerable Population Groups (GBA Plus)			
71	Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Women and Gender Equality Canada	Commented on the need for information regarding vulnerable population groups, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion of women, youth, Elders, and 2SLGBTQI+, among others in the assessment (and engagement) through studies and inclusive language; and - Labour market conditions of vulnerable population groups including employment access barriers (e.g., sexual harassment, income disparities). 	Section 1.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide information sufficiently disaggregated to support the analysis of disproportionate effects as per the principles of GBA Plus. Data must be disaggregated (e.g., by sex, gender, age, ethnicity, Indigeneity, ability, among other factors), presented distinctly for each specific subgroup, and integrated into information provided throughout the Impact Statement. Where appropriate, the Agency specified and added inclusive language throughout the Guidelines to refer to distinct subgroups. In other instances, broad principles regarding GBA Plus established in Section 1.2 were deemed sufficient.
Water			
72	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Environment and Climate Change Canada Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Commented on baseline studies, including groundwater-surface water interactions, arsenic concentrations, and monitoring for drinking water.	Section 8.6.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the surface water, groundwater, and sediment quality baseline characterization program, and provide baseline data for relevant

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	<p>Flying Post First Nation Health Canada Indigenous Services Canada Keepers of the Circle Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Member of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Moose Cree First Nation Natural Resources Canada Northwatch Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group</p>	<p>Commented on effects to water quality and quantity, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contamination from discharge, runoff, or seepage from water-crossings, waste rock stockpiles, ore stockpiles, overburden stockpiles, and the tailings management facility; - Changes to arsenic, heavy metals, and sedimentation, specifically in the Mattagami River; - Effects to water quantity and associated risks of mercury mobilization; - Loss of natural waterbodies; - Effects from changes to waste management as a result of mineral carbonization techniques; - Changes to groundwater-surface water interactions. <p>Comments on mitigation measure for water quality and quantity including water management plans, tailings management, stormwater management, and groundwater and surface water monitoring.</p>	<p>physicochemical parameters and chemical constituents for surface water, groundwater, and sediment quality.</p> <p>Section 8.6.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the effects of the Project on surface and groundwater, including changes to water flow or watercourse diversions, and discharge of water, effluent, wastewaters, or other substances to the environment. Section 8.6.2 also requires the Proponent to use a three-dimensional numerical groundwater flow model to describe the direction, quantity, timing, and receptors for any groundwater seepage associated with project facilities. The Proponent must also describe the contaminants associated with the Project and present a comprehensive site water management plan for the Project's life cycle including for stormwater management.</p> <p>Section 8.6.3 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the mitigation measures for the possible effects on the quantity and quality of surface water, groundwater, and sediment, including water supply wells, and to describe groundwater and surface water monitoring programs during, as applicable, the construction, operation, decommissioning, and abandonment phases.</p>
73	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada Flying Post First Nation Indigenous Services Canada Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Member of the Public Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group Town of Smooth Rock Falls</p>	<p>Commented on changes to water quality and quantity from effluent discharge. Commented on considerations from effluent discharge to the surrounding environment, including parameters of the mixing zone, effects to municipal water intake at Smooth Rock Falls, relevant guidelines and provincial requirements, and mitigation and monitoring.</p>	<p>Section 8.6.2 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the potential changes to surface water and groundwater quality due to all discharges and effluents from the Project, and to describe the quantity and quality of all effluent streams released from the site to the receiving environment, including effluent from treatment facilities, dewatering activities, seepage, and surface runoff from project components and site. The Proponent must compare the quality of all effluent streams to applicable guidelines, objectives, or standards, and present the predicted mixing zone extent from each final effluent discharge point into the receiver(s) consistent with Ontario guideline B-1-5: Deriving Receiving Water Based Point Source Effluent Requirements for Ontario Waters, taking into account predicted changes to water quantity in receiving watercourses.</p>

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74	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Northwatch Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Commented on changes to water quality and quantity due to the overprinting of tributaries to the North Driftwood River, West Buskegau River, and Jocko Creek, which feed into the Abitibi River, and the location of the tailings management facility in close proximity to the headwaters of the North Driftwood River and West Buskegau River, which feed into the Abitibi River.	Section 8.6.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to provide flow hydrographs and corresponding water levels and describe additional context from the Mattagami River Water Management Plan, including any upper and lower water level limits, minimum flow requirements and unnatural daily and seasonal variation. Section 8.6.2 requires the Proponent to discuss physical changes to the West Buskegau River, North Driftwood River, and Jocko Creek watersheds, including alignment and condition of waterbodies and watercourses. Section 8.6.3 requires the Proponent to describe water monitoring programs to assess changes to surface water quantity, including the North Driftwood Creek, West Buskegau Creek, and Jocko Creek.
Vegetation, Riparian and Wetland Environments			
75	Abitibi River Forest Management Inc. Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Canada Nickel Company Environment and Climate Change Canada Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3) Natural Resources Canada Northwatch Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Taykwa Tagamou Nation Temiskaming Native Women's Support Group	Commented about baseline studies, including muskeg and unevaluated wetlands in the area, habitat function, and hydrological interactions; potential effects of the Project, including to natural carbon sequestration, and from forest fragmentation and contamination of vegetation from fugitive dust, metals, and nitrogen from explosives. Commented on mitigation measures, including invasive plant management and revegetation methodology, and residual effects.	Section 8.7 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the baseline conditions and describe the effects of the Project on vegetation and the riparian and wetland environments, including changes related to landscape disturbance, effects from project emissions, and any changes to or loss of wetland function, including carbon sequestration. The Proponent must also describe the mitigation measures, including measures to control invasive species, and any reclamation and rehabilitation procedures, including revegetation techniques.
76	Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Flying Post First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Métis Nation of Ontario (Region 3)	Commented on vegetation species of importance to Indigenous Peoples, for specific species identified see rows 41 and 50.	Section 8.7.1 of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines requires the Proponent to describe the biodiversity, relative abundance, and distribution of boreal caribou habitat, moose habitat, fur-bearing mammal habitat, trees supporting bald eagle nests, and other vegetation species of importance to Indigenous Peoples.

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	Taykwa Tagamou Nation		