

Dear Chief Alex (Sonny) Batisse:

On December 12, 2022, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) received a Detailed Project Description and Response to Summary of Issues from Canada Nickel Company (the Proponent) for the Crawford Nickel Project (the Project). The Agency will review these documents and decide within approximately 10 days whether these items sufficiently meet the information prescribed by the Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations, or whether the Proponent must revise and re-submit these documents.

Next Steps:

On October 17, 2022, the Proponent requested a time limit suspension for the Planning Phase. If the Detailed Project Description and Response to the Summary of Issues meet the information requirements, then the 180-day time limit for the planning phase would resume as of December 12, 2022, the date that the documents were submitted. The Agency will post a notice that the 180-day time limit has resumed and share these documents on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Project 83857). Then the Agency will proceed with determining whether a federal impact assessment is required for the Project, pursuant to the Impact Assessment Act.

As mentioned in our correspondence on November 23, the Agency would like to meet virtually with Matachewan First Nation prior to the next official comment period to discuss the draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines and Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan. In order to plan for a future meeting, could you please provide the Agency dates that you may not be available in early January (e.g., dates that your office will be closed, etc.)?

The Agency will continue to contact you about the outcome and next steps in the impact assessment process. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me by email at Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or by phone at 902-399-8838.

Thank you,

Erin Norton

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Agence d'évaluation d'impact du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada