

Hello,

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) has reviewed the Detailed Project Description submitted by Canada Nickel Company (the Proponent) for the Crawford Nickel Project (the Project), which includes the Proponent's Response to the Summary of Issues provided by the Agency. Based on the Agency's review of the Detailed Project Description and in consideration of comments received to date from Indigenous communities, federal and provincial government experts, and the public, the Agency has decided that a federal impact assessment is required for the Project.

The Summary of Issues, Detailed Project Description including a Response to the Summary of Issues, and the Agency's notice that an impact assessment is required are available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (the Registry) internet site: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/83857>. The 180-day time limit for the Planning Phase has resumed as of December 12, 2022.

Next Steps and Invitation to a Pre-meeting

Pursuant to the Impact Assessment Act, once a decision is made to require a federal impact assessment, the Agency develops a series of plans to define the scope, content, and conduct of the assessment.

In February 2023, the Agency will hold a 30-day comment period on the following planning documents:

- draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines
- draft Public Participation Plan
- draft Permitting Plan
- draft Cooperation Plan
- draft Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan.

The Agency will then finalize and post the final planning documents with the Notice of Commencement for the impact assessment by Day 180 of the Planning Phase. For a description of each of these required documents, please see the Agency's Practitioner's Guide to Federal Impact Assessments under the Impact Assessment Act.

In August 2022, the Agency wrote to your municipality and invited you to provide comments on the Proponent's Initial Project Description; thank you if you were able to provide comments or attend an information session during that period. We would like to continue engaging with you in order to ensure

that the planning documents listed above reflect your municipality's concerns and consider any relevant community plans or written objectives. This will support an effective and focused impact assessment of the Project.

To prepare for the upcoming comment period in February, I would like to invite you to a virtual meeting in January to provide more context about the Project, the Agency, and the scope of a federal impact assessment process – which can include positive and negative effects on health, social and economic conditions in relation to sustainability for future generations. This would support your community's participation and preparation of comments on the draft guidelines and plans. Please indicate your availability for the following dates/times:

- Monday, Jan. 16, 1:00-2:00pm EST
- Tuesday, Jan. 17, 11:00am-12:00pm EST
- Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1:00-2:00pm EST

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me by email at Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Thank you,

Harry Keess

(he/him | il)

Project Manager, Ontario Region

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada / Government of Canada