

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Impact Assessment Act Overview

Moraine Power Generation Project

May 2023



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

Canada 

Housekeeping

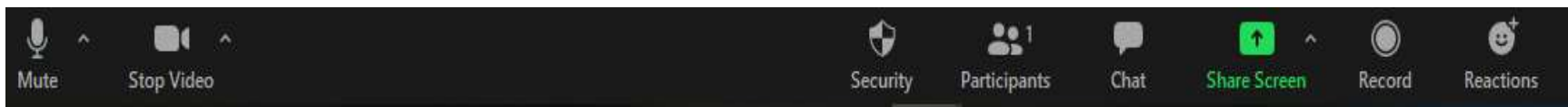
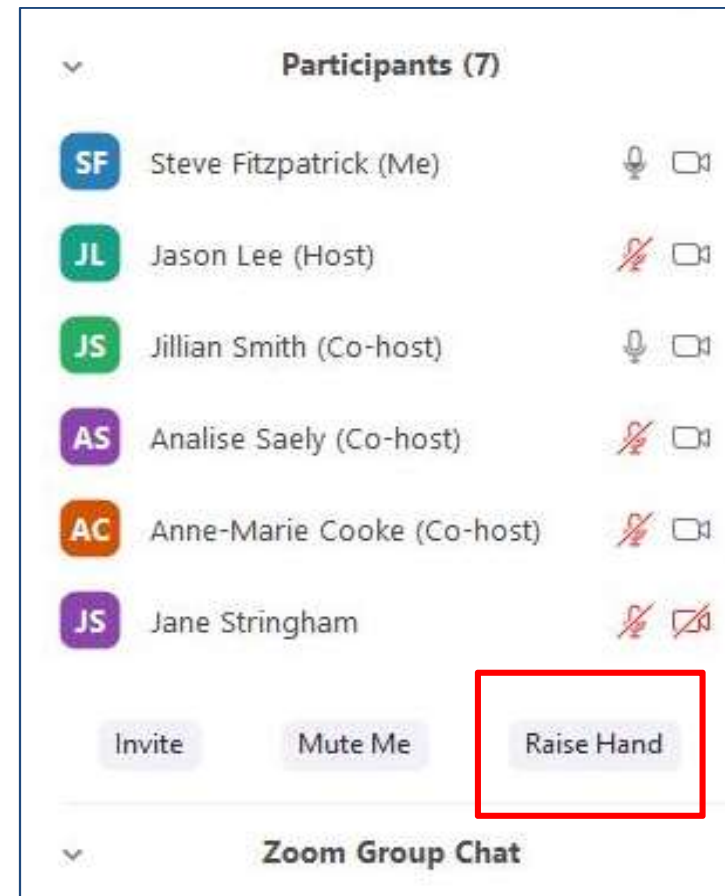
- Please mute your microphone unless speaking
- When speaking, please identify yourself by name and organization (if applicable)
- If you are from the media, please contact our media relations team at media@iaac-aeic.gc.ca
- Please use respectful language

Using Zoom

Click the “raise hand” function, or type the question into the chat

If you are on the phone, press *9 to ask a question

Please mute your microphone unless speaking



Format and Objectives

- Agency Presentation
 - Learn about:
 - Impact assessments and the *Impact Assessment Act*
 - Impact Assessment process
 - How you can participate
 - The Planning phase for the Moraine Power Generation Project
 - Discussion / Q&A
-

What is an Impact Assessment

Impact Assessment is a planning and decision-making tool used to assess:

- potential positive and negative environmental, economic, health, and social effects of proposed projects; and
- impacts to Indigenous groups and the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The *Impact Assessment Act* outlines a process for assessing the impacts of major projects, and projects carried out on federal lands or outside of Canada.

The **Impact Assessment Agency of Canada** is responsible for conducting impact assessments under the *Impact Assessment Act*.



Principles of the *Impact Assessment Act*

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada is committed to the following principles:

- Fostering sustainability
- Integrating scientific information and Indigenous knowledge
- Meaningful public engagement
- Reconciliation and partnership with Indigenous Peoples
- One-project, one-assessment
- Predictability, transparency and timeliness



Projects Subject to the *Impact Assessment Act*

- The *Physical Activities Regulations* describes projects that may require an impact assessment.
- The Minister of Environment and Climate Change may require an impact assessment for any project not described in regulations, based on factors set out in the IAA.
- Non-designated projects on federal lands and outside Canada are assessed by other federal authorities before their decisions are made.

Project Examples:

- Renewable energy
- Oil and gas
- Linear and transportation-related
- Marine and freshwater
- Mining
- Nuclear
- Hazardous waste
- Federal lands and protected areas



Types of Impact Assessments

Designated Projects

Impact Assessment

Agency

- leads the assessment and engagement process
- conducts comment periods to allow the public, the proponent, Indigenous groups, federal authorities and all other interested participants to provide their views and ask questions
- works collaboratively with other jurisdictions and federal expert departments to carry out the impact assessment

Review Panel

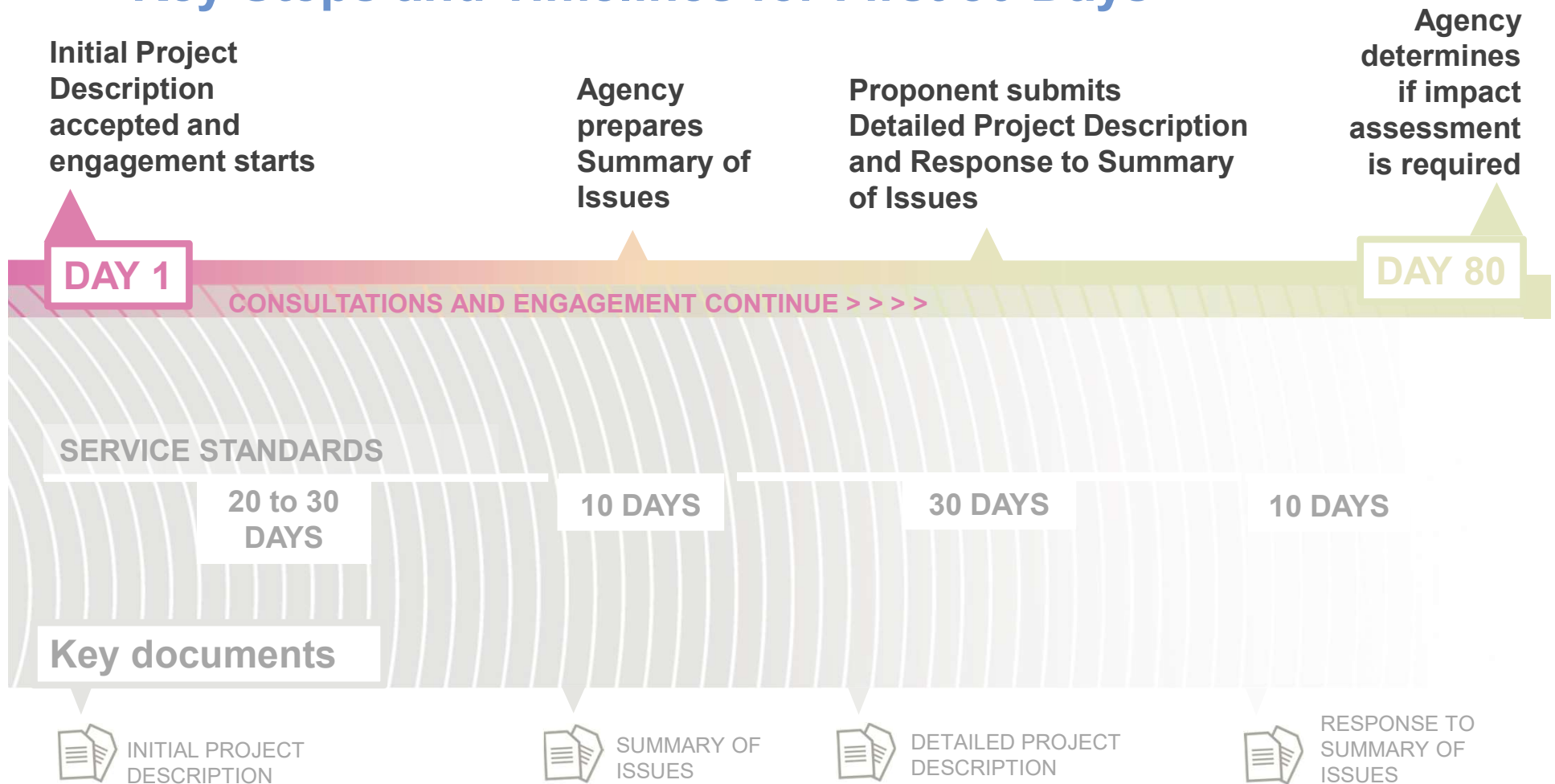
- leads the assessment and engagement process during the Impact Statement Phase
- holds public hearings to allow the public, the proponent, Indigenous groups, federal authorities and all other interested participants to provide their views and ask questions about the information on the record
- may work collaboratively with other jurisdictions to carry out the impact assessment

Impact Assessment Process Overview



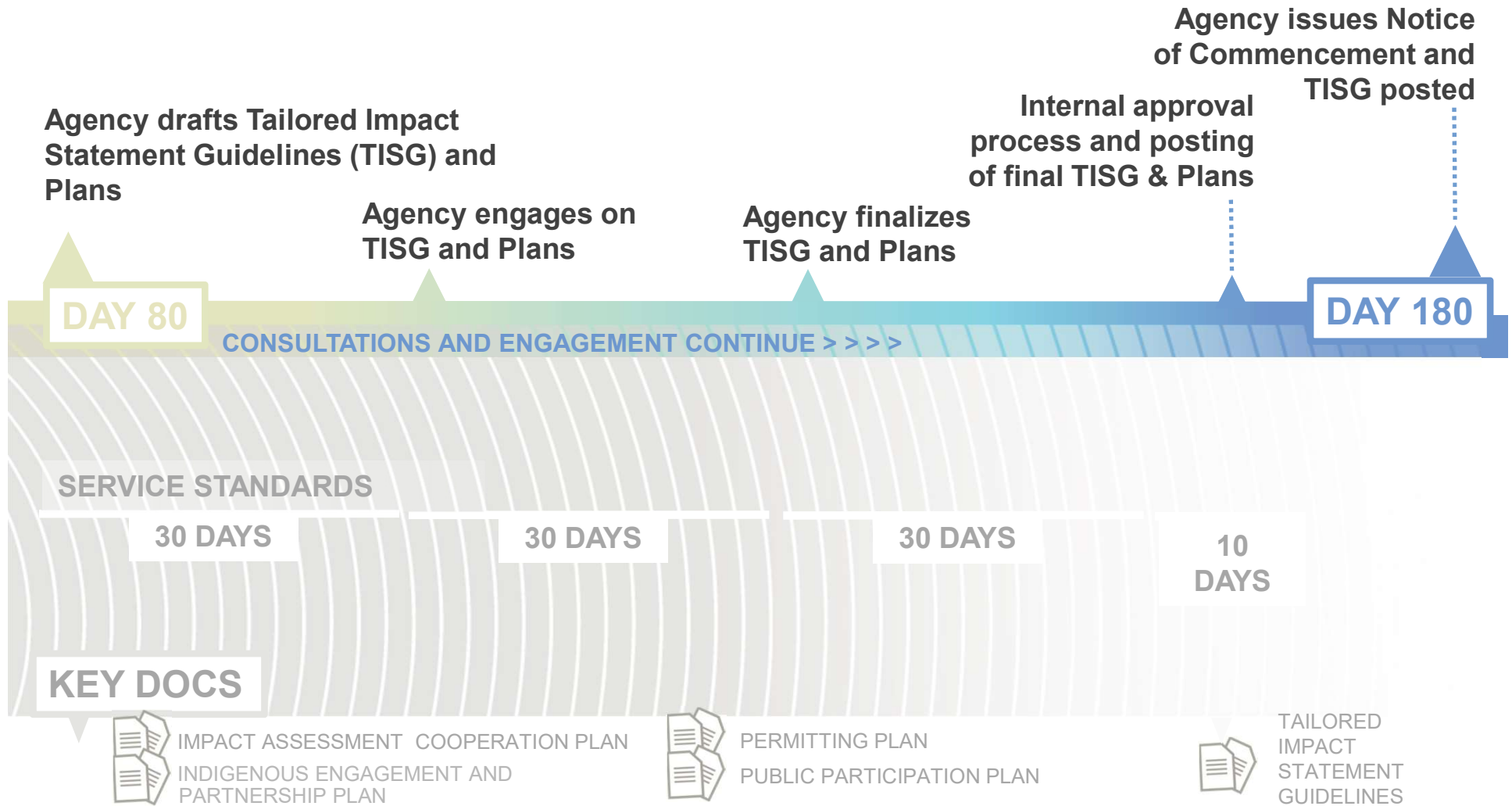
Phase 1: Planning

Key Steps and Timelines for First 80 Days



Phase 1: Planning

Key Steps and Timelines for the remaining 100 Days



Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines and Scope of Factors to be considered

The **Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines** outline all information and studies the Agency determines necessary to conduct the impact assessment

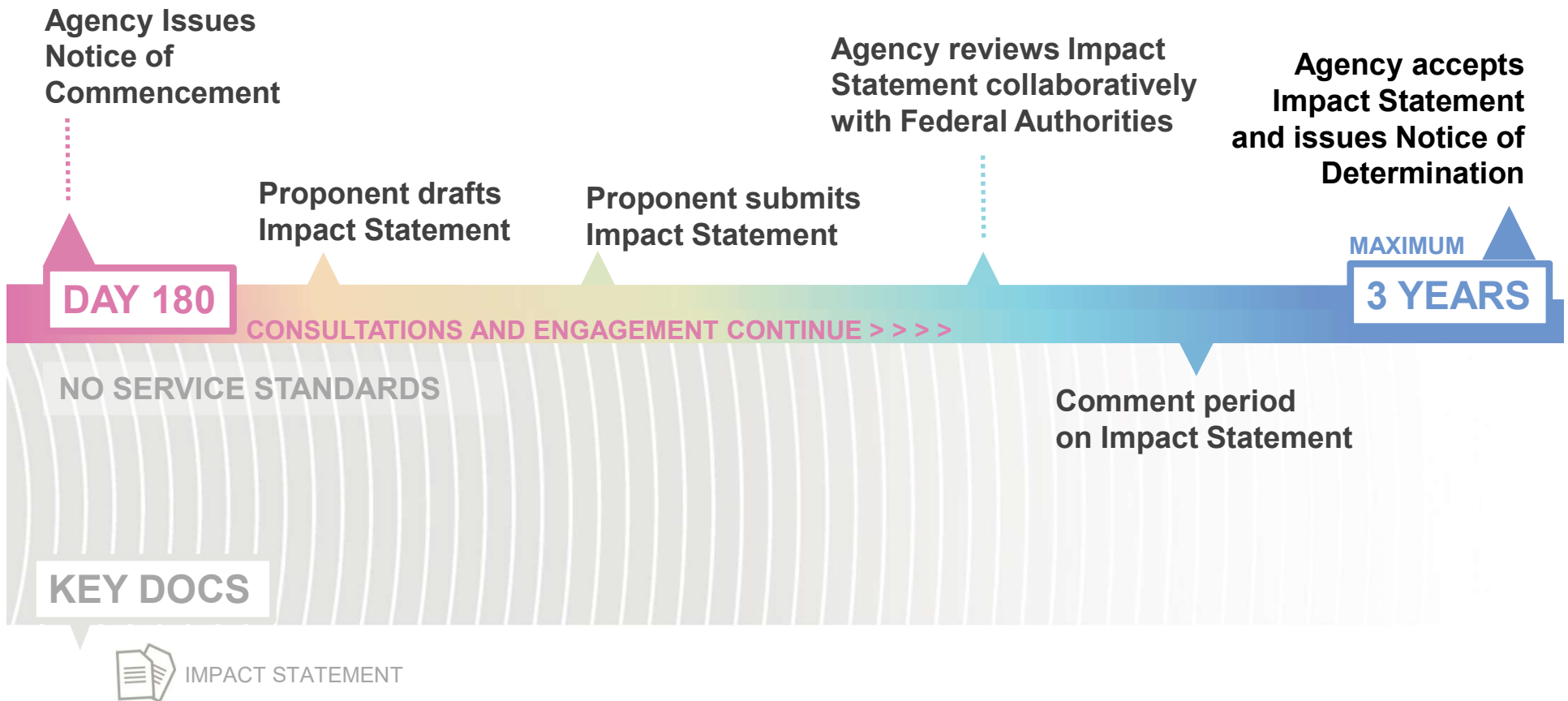
- The Agency will consult with Federal Authorities, Indigenous groups, and other participants.
- The Guidelines form the basis of the proponent's Impact Statement preparation.
- The Impact Statement must meet the requirements identified in the Guidelines.

The Agency determines the **scope** of the **impact assessment factors** to be taken into account in the Impact Statement and outlines the scope in the Guidelines.



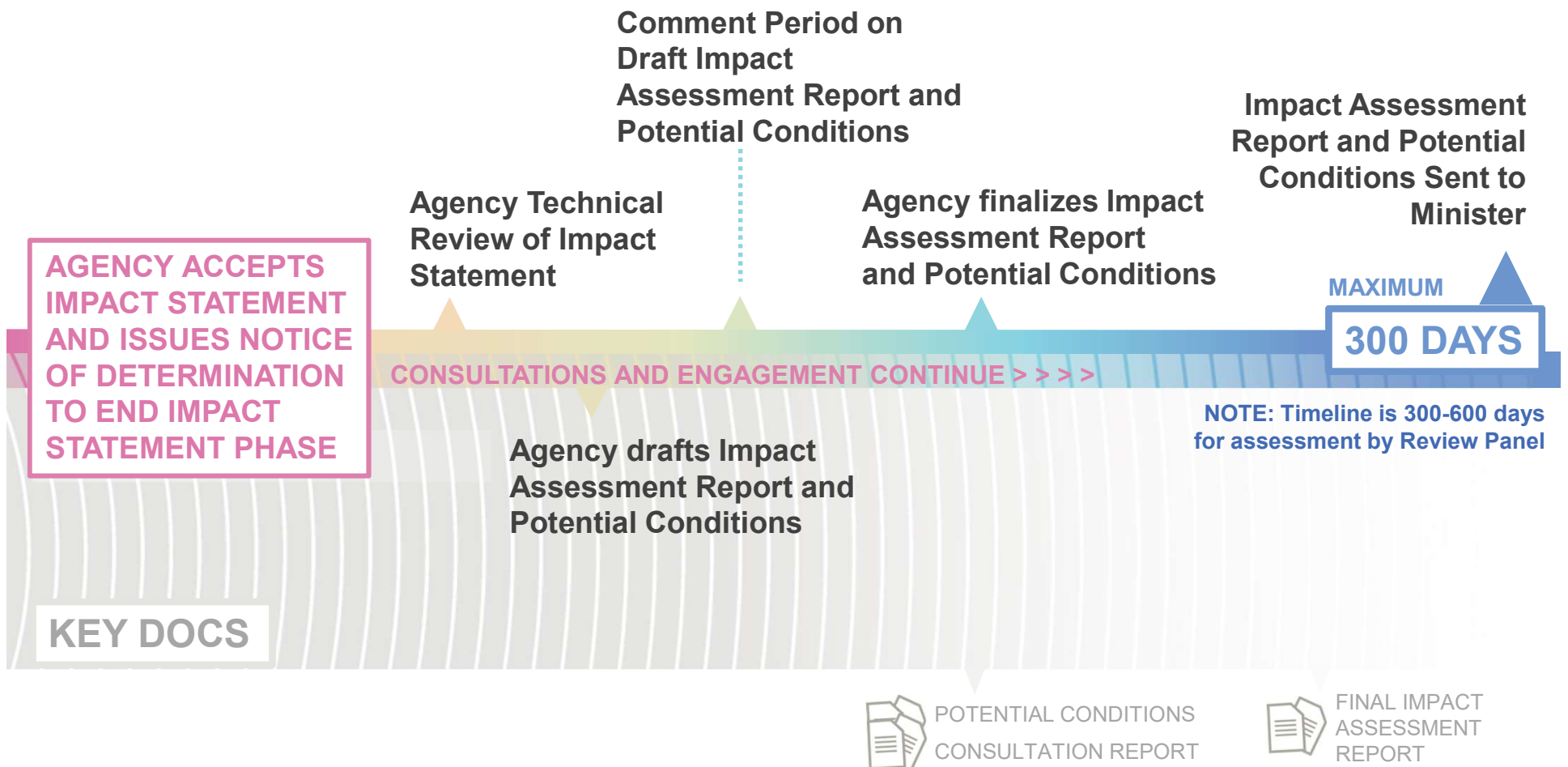
Phase 2: Impact Statement

Key Steps and Timelines



Phase 3: Impact Assessment

Key Steps and Timelines



Phase 4: Decision-Making

Key Steps and Timelines (Impact Assessment by Agency)

A

DECISION BY MINISTER MINISTERIAL DECISION

30 DAYS

**MINISTER'S
DECISION
STATEMENT**

ss. 60 (1)
s. 62
ss. 65 (3)

IA Report posted
on Registry site

Minister's Public
Interest Determination

B

DECISION REFERRED TO GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL (GIC) for CONSIDERATION

90 DAYS

**MINISTER'S
DECISION
STATEMENT**

IA Report posted
on Registry site

Notice of referral to the
GIC + reasons for referral
posted on Registry

GIC's Public Interest
Determination

Phase 5: Post-decision

Key Steps and Timelines

Proponent

- Seeks regulatory approvals, as required
- Begins project within time limits identified in the Decision Statement
- Implements follow-up program
- Complies with conditions associated with Decision Statement

MINISTER ISSUES
DECISION STATEMENT

VARIABLE TIMELINE



NO SERVICE STANDARDS

Agency

- Posts follow-up documentation on Registry
- May establish monitoring committees
- Promotes, educates, monitors, and facilitates compliance



Is there funding available to support my participation?

- Agency funding programs support meaningful public participation and Indigenous consultation in the impact assessment process.
- Eligible costs could include: travel, childcare, professional services, report preparation, research, and information analysis.

For more information on the Participant Funding Program, visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/public-participation/funding-programs/participant-funding-program.html>

PARTICIPANT FUNDING PROGRAMS

- **Indigenous Funding (IF):** to assist with participation and consultation activities, including potential impacts on Aboriginal rights and title.
- **Regular Funding (RF):** to assist in preparation for participation and engagement activities in assessments.

How do I get information about public participation opportunities?

- The Agency offers news and updates. To subscribe, go to: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/002/admission-eng.aspx>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/iaac_aeic
- The Agency advertises on the radio, online, and through print media in community papers.
- Each project has its own project-specific email address which can be found on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry.

To access the Registry, visit: www.canada.ca/ciar

Moraine Power Generation Project

Moraine Initiatives Ltd.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Moraine Power Generation Project

Proponent: Moraine Initiatives Ltd.

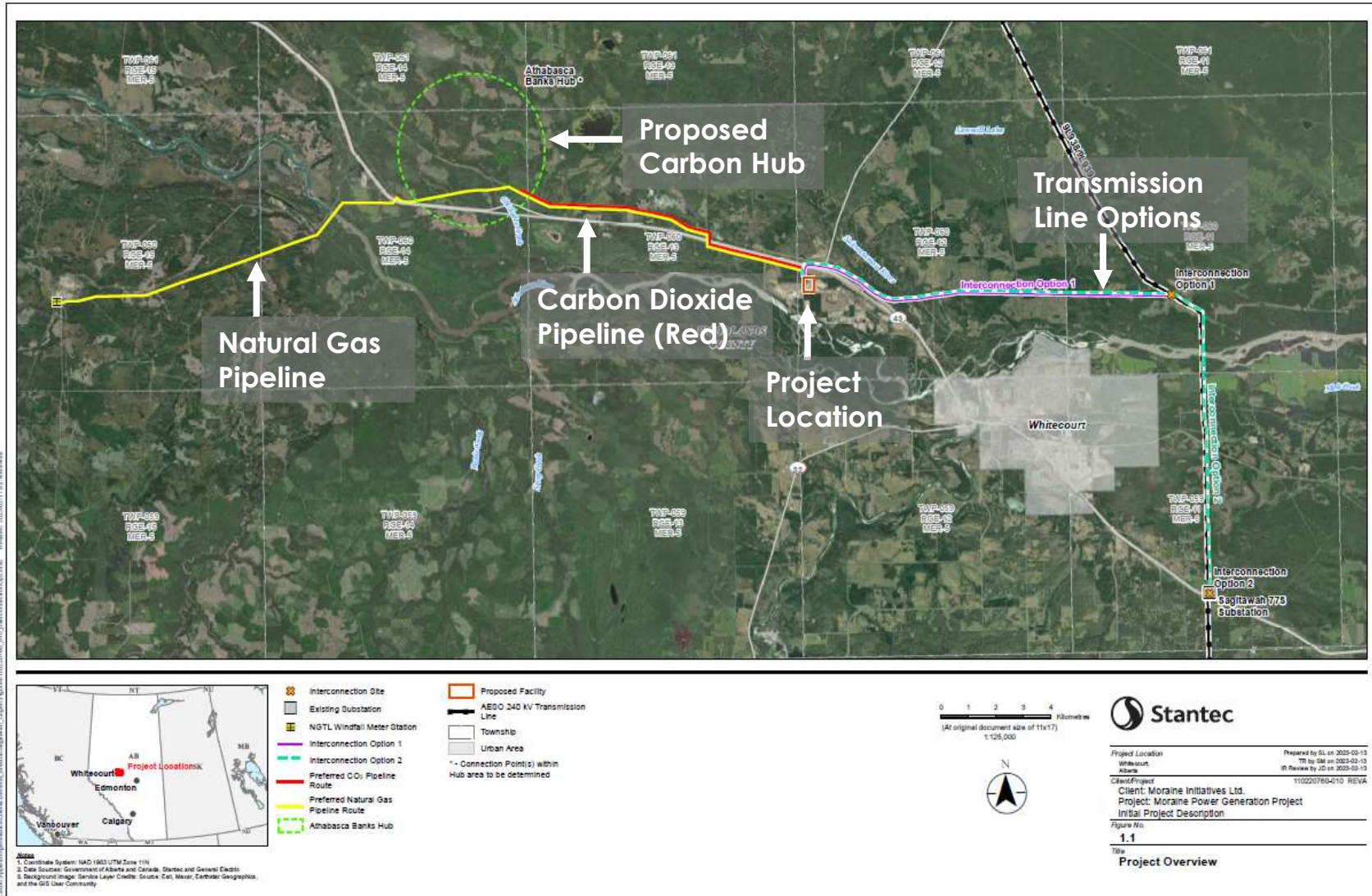
Location: near Whitecourt, Alberta

Project: natural gas-fired power plant

About the Project:

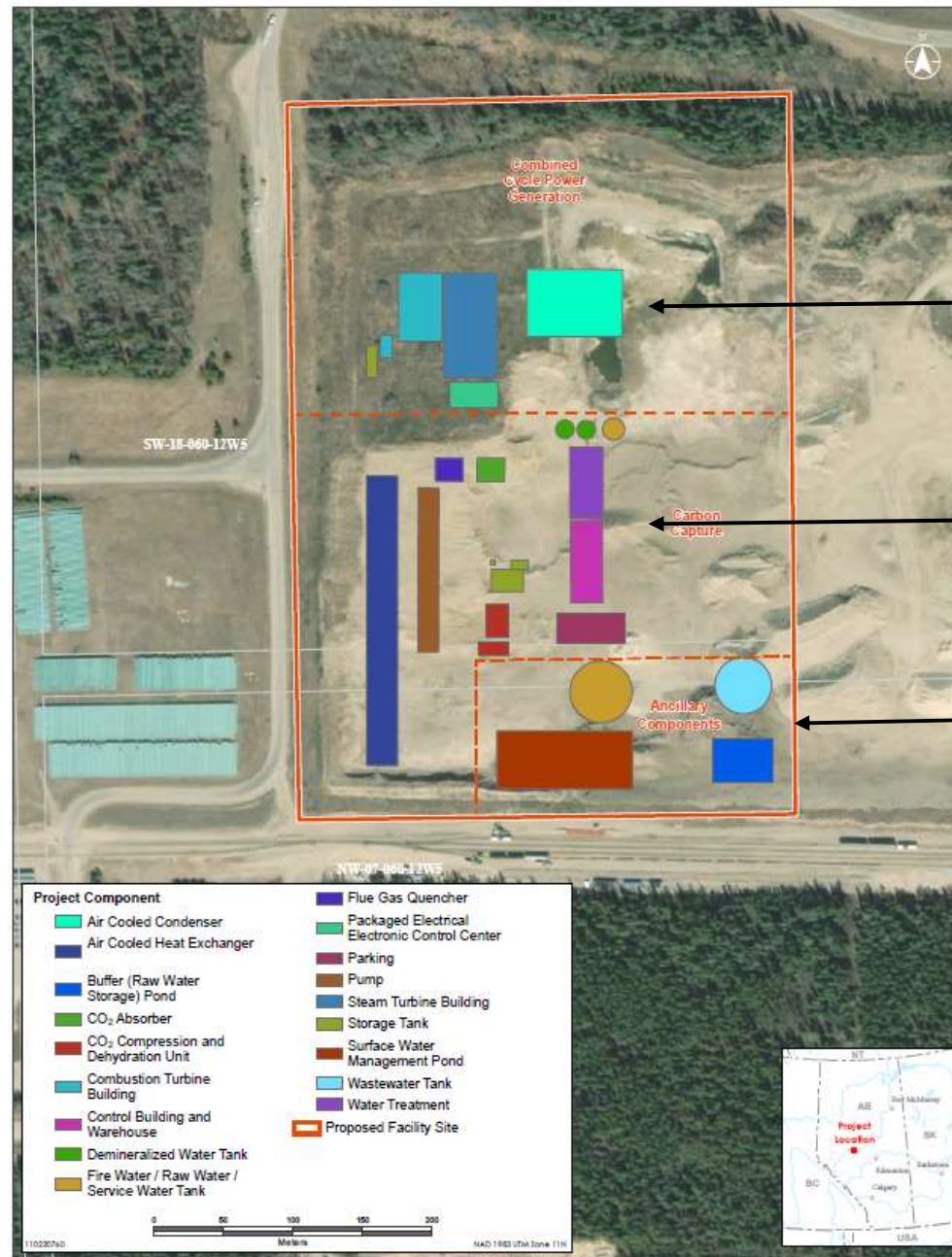
- The construction, operation, and decommissioning of a new natural gas-fired power generation facility that would generate about 465 megawatts of electricity. The Project would include integrated carbon capture technology to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the plant's exhaust gas by 4,000 tonnes per day (up to 95%). Captured carbon dioxide would be transported and stored off-site in a carbon storage hub.
 - Components:
 - natural gas fired power plant with integrated carbon capture technology
 - natural gas pipeline
 - carbon dioxide pipeline
 - high-voltage electrical transmission line
-

Project Location



Disclaimer: This document has been prepared based on information provided by others as cited in the Notes section. Stantec has not verified the accuracy and/or completeness of this information and shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions which may be incorporated herein as a result. Stantec assumes no responsibility for data supplied in electronic format, and the recipient accepts full responsibility for verifying the accuracy and completeness of the data.

Project Site Layout



Combined Cycle Power Generation Facility

Carbon Capture Components

Ancillary Components

Moraine Power Generation Project

Comments received during the comment period will be used to:

- identify issues of concern and potential benefits of the Project;
- inform the Agency's decision as to whether an impact assessment is required for the Project; and
- determine how Indigenous groups and the public would like to be engaged, should an impact assessment be required.

Comments can be submitted

- by **June 16, 2023**
 - on the Project's Registry page: Reference #84591
 - by email: Moraine@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

This is the first federal comment period for the Project. If the Agency determines that a federal impact assessment is required, the public and Indigenous groups will have additional opportunities to participate over the course of the impact assessment process.

Moraine Power Generation Project

Next steps in the Planning phase:

- Comment period closes on **June 16, 2023**.
 - The Agency will prepare the Summary of Issues, provide it to the proponent, and post the document on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry.
 - The proponent will prepare and submit a Detailed Project Description for the Project, including information on how it intends to address the issues outlined in the Summary of Issues, to the Agency.
 - The Agency will then determine if an impact assessment is required for the Project. A notice of the decision, including the reasons for the decision will be posted on the Registry.
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For more information:

- Please visit: <https://www.Canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency.html>
- Email: Moraine@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Guiding Questions in the Planning Phase

1. What is your interest in the Project?
 2. How do you think the Project could affect your community and/or you as an individual, either positively or adversely?
 3. Is there any specific knowledge (history, environment, social, economic, etc.) you would like to share about your community that may be relevant to the assessment of the Project?
 4. Are there any positive or adverse effects on the natural environment or on health, social or economic conditions that you think may occur as a result of the Project?
 5. Are there any other issues related to the assessment of this Project that are important to you or your community?
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Thank you!

