

# Bruce C Project

PLAIN-LANGUAGE  
SUMMARY OF THE  
RESPONSE TO  
SUMMARY OF ISSUES

December 2024

**BRUCE C PROJECT – RESPONSE TO SUMMARY OF ISSUES: PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY**

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**ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
APO	Annual Planning Outlook
CKSPFN	Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation
CNSC	Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
HSM	Historic Saugeen Métis
IA	Impact Assessment
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
IESO	Independent Electricity System Operator
IPD	Initial Project Description
MNO	Métis Nation of Ontario
MWe	Megawatts electric
PPE	Plant Parameter Envelope
SOI	Summary of Issues
SON	Saugeen Ojibway Nation
TISG	Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines

**BRUCE C PROJECT – RESPONSE TO SUMMARY OF ISSUES: PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY****1.0 BACKGROUND**

This Plain Language Summary of the Response to the Summary of Issues has been prepared to summarize Bruce Power’s approach to the Response to the Summary of Issues, which has been provided as a separate document. This Plain Language Summary also provides an update on Indigenous and public engagement that has occurred since the submission of the Bruce C Initial Project Description (Bruce C IPD).

**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

Bruce Power is the operator of the largest electric generating facility in Canada, providing clean, reliable nuclear power to Ontario, and cancer-fighting medical isotopes across the globe. Zero-emissions nuclear power is the backbone of Ontario’s clean electricity system and is a crucial part of Ontario’s clean energy future. Bruce Power currently produces 30 per cent of Ontario’s electricity on a site that has been safely generating nuclear power for over 50 years.

The Independent Electricity System Operator’s (IESO) 2023 Pathways to Decarbonization Study [R-1] highlighted the need for maximum planning flexibility to meet forecasted demand if Ontario is to pursue a low-carbon electricity future and meet net zero goals. In the 2024 Annual Planning Outlook (APO) [R-2] the IESO projected quicker demand growth in the near term than its previous APO and the Pathways to Decarbonization Study. This growth is driven by industrial growth, such as investment in electric vehicle manufacturing and related supply chains, electrification of transportation and population growth. In its “high-nuclear case”, the 2024 APO assumed that capacity from Bruce C (the Project) would be available in the 2040s and illustrated that this new baseload nuclear would significantly contribute to addressing Ontario’s electricity supply needs. Furthermore, in a public information session to preview the APO demand forecast for 2025, the IESO projected that electricity demand in Ontario is expected to increase by 75% by 2050, which is higher than the 60% increase previously forecasted in the 2024 APO.

Bruce Power is evaluating the feasibility of expanding its nuclear fleet, to create an option for future electricity planning. It will evaluate the impact of adding up to 4,800 megawatts electric (MWe) of nuclear capacity on the existing Bruce Power site. As proposed, the Project considers several reactor technologies and will be utilizing a plant parameter envelope (PPE) approach. Bruce Power plans to use the federally integrated Impact Assessment (IA) process to assess the impact that new nuclear would have on the environment, Indigenous Nations and Communities, and local municipalities.

Bruce Power recognizes that the Bruce Power site is located within the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) Territory, the shared treaty and traditional Territory of the Chippewas of Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation (Neyaashiinigmiing). Bruce Power is dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and is committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect

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with the Indigenous Nations and Communities we work with. We are committed to strong and respectful relationships with the SON, the Métis Nation of Ontario Region 7 (MNO) and Historic Saugeen Métis (HSM).

**3.0 APPROACH TO RESPONSE TO SUMMARY OF ISSUES**

Following the submission of the Bruce C Initial Project Description (Bruce C IPD) [R-3], the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), in collaboration with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), conducted a public comment period and prepared the Summary of Issues (SOI). The SOI was provided to Bruce Power on November 6, 2024. Bruce Power understands that Table I of the SOI is seeking information that IAAC and CNSC require to support decision-making on whether an IA is required for the Project (more specifically, additional information regarding the scope of the Project as a federal work or undertaking, licensing sought under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA) and information required to determine whether activities could be considered incidental to the Project). Table II of the SOI contains a summary of issues, comments, advice, and recommendations received by IAAC during the public comment period relevant to an IA of the Project. Bruce Power understands that the responses to the SOI may support tailoring of the Project Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (TISG), and the other Planning Phase documents prepared by IAAC. Bruce Power understands that IAAC is not requiring Bruce Power to submit a Detailed Project Description (DPD) for the Project at this time.

Bruce Power has prepared responses to each of the issues raised in IAAC's Table I and Table II, which can be found in its "Bruce Power Response" column in Table 1 and Table 2 of its Response to the Summary of Issues. In preparing the responses, Bruce Power reviewed the summary provided in the SOI table and also reviewed the original submissions posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site (Registry).

Bruce Power is currently in the Planning Phase of the IA process and has provided responses based on information that is currently known about the Project, recognizing that assessment of potential positive and negative effects of the Project will be completed during the Impact Statement phase of the IA process.

**4.0****UPDATE ON STUDIES**

To provide additional information to support the Response to the SOI, Bruce Power has provided additional information in Appendix A in the Response to SOI regarding studies that commenced during the Pre-Planning and Planning Phases of the IA process. This information provides an overview and status of each of the studies. Within the Response to SOI table, Bruce Power has provided cross-reference to this information to supplement the response provided.

**BRUCE C PROJECT – RESPONSE TO SUMMARY OF ISSUES: PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY****5.0 UPDATE ON ENGAGEMENT****5.1 Indigenous Engagement Update**

Bruce Power is committed to early, frequent, community driven engagement to support collaboration with Indigenous Nations and Communities. Bruce Power has a history of engagement with SON, HSM, and MNO related to the Bruce Power site and will continue to engage with these Indigenous Nations and Communities for the Project. Bruce Power will also be reviewing previous submissions as part of other regulatory processes to take into account all input related to nuclear development. Bruce Power is progressing with the IA process in a transparent manner. If additional Indigenous Nations and Communities are added to IAAC's Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, Bruce Power will engage them as outlined in the Bruce C IPD [R-3].

The following provides an update on Indigenous engagement activities since Bruce Power has submitted the Bruce C IPD. Bruce Power is committed to engagement throughout the IA process.

**5.1.1 Saugeen Ojibway Nation**

SON and Bruce Power have continued to meet regularly to share information and develop approaches to support collaboration throughout the IA process. SON provided a submission to the Registry, which will be addressed through Bruce Power's Response to the SOI and through ongoing engagement directly between Bruce Power and SON throughout the assessment process. Bruce Power acknowledges that SON's comments are preliminary. Bruce Power will continue to work with SON on an ongoing basis through the IA process to develop strategies and implement methodologies that can address issues and concerns identified in SON's submission to the Registry and additional issues and concerns that may arise through SON's ongoing review of the Project.

**5.1.2 Historic Saugeen Métis**

HSM and Bruce Power have continued to meet regularly following the submission of the Bruce C IPD. HSM provided Bruce Power concerns and interests related to the Bruce C IPD prior to the submission, and Bruce Power was able to provide direct responses to those concerns and interests. HSM and Bruce Power continue to meet routinely and have recently discussed the Summary of Issues. Bruce Power will continue to work with HSM throughout the IA process including with respect to any issues and concerns identified.

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MNO and Bruce Power have continued to meet regularly following the submission of the Bruce C IPD. MNO provided Bruce Power concerns and interests related to the Bruce C IPD prior to the submission, and Bruce Power was able to provide direct responses to those concerns and interests. MNO and Bruce Power continue to meet routinely and have recently discussed the Summary of Issues. Bruce Power will continue to work with MNO throughout the IA process including with respect to any issues and concerns identified.

**5.1.4 Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation**

Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation (CKSPFN) expressed their interest in additional information and engagement with Bruce Power on the IA and also submitted comments to the Registry. CKSPFN and Bruce Power have met to review CKSPFN's submission related to the Bruce C IPD and to provide specific responses to CKSPFN's questions, comments and concerns. CKSPFN and Bruce Power will continue to meet on a regular basis throughout the IA process to share information and identify areas for CKSPFN participation in the IA.

**5.2 Public Engagement Update**

Bruce Power is committed to proactive, open, and transparent engagement and will provide multiple opportunities for input, both in-person and virtually. Bruce Power will keep the public informed and engaged throughout the IA process and will provide regular updates about the Project through a variety of channels to increase access to information. To ensure overall awareness of Project developments, company representatives include the Project in presentations about business activities at numerous speaking opportunities across the region and province.

A summary of engagement during the Pre-Planning Phase of the Project's IA prior to the submission of the Bruce C IPD was provided in Section 3 of the Bruce C IPD. Since submission of the Bruce C IPD, Bruce Power has reached audiences from Bruce, Grey, and Huron counties via the following communications methods:

- Hosted a Bruce C Community Information Virtual Livestream on July 29, 2024 with James Scongack, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice-President, presenting to over 360 participants.
- Posted one **news release** on Bruce Power's website that received over 2,000 views and sent to media contacts to generate earned media coverage.
- Published one article in *The Point*, Bruce Power's **employee newsletter** available in print and digital formats.
- Collected an **newsletter** subscriber list of over 770 users and distributed one mass email that saw an open rate of 77%.

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- Printed and distributed a **direct mail** informational flyer to over 66,000 homes, businesses and farms across Bruce, Grey and Huron counties.
- Published an **informational booklet** to make available online and in print form to interested parties at events and the Bruce Power Visitors' Centre.
- Posted 19 **social media** posts across Facebook, Instagram, X and LinkedIn platforms. Select posts were boosted to advertise on Meta (Facebook and Instagram) and LinkedIn, reaching over 40,000 users and over 3,800 engagements on the posts.
- Launched a **digital engagement platform** using Social Pinpoint software on October 21, 2024, resulting in over 1,650 visits and over 180 engagements.
- Printed 50 **posters** about Bruce C Table Talks to place on local community poster boards.

Note that all above data was collected prior to the submission of this document and metrics are expected to continue increasing.

Since the submission of the Bruce C IPD, Bruce Power has engaged with audiences via the following methods:

- Sent letters to all lower and upper tier municipalities in Bruce, Grey, and Huron Counties to inform them that the Bruce C IPD was submitted, provide **Notice of Commencement of Planning Phase of the IA**, and to encourage participation during the public comment period on the Registry. Followed up with email to advise that Bruce Power had requested and received a 45-day extension to the Planning Phase to ensure that the public, municipalities, and Indigenous Nations and Communities had additional time to engage on the Bruce C IPD.
- Interacted with municipal councilors and staff at the **Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference** on August 18-20, 2024, **Clean Energy Frontier Conference** on September 30-October 1, 2024, and **Ontario West Municipal Conference** on October 25, 2024.
- Interacted with community members at **Port Elgin's Pumpkinfest** on Oct 4-5, 2024.
- Completed **regional polling** to gauge awareness and support for the proposed expansion of the Bruce Power site.
- Committed to **municipal capacity funding** for the Municipality of Kincardine, Town of Saugeen Shores and County of Bruce to support participation in the IA process.

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- Working with the Municipality of Kincardine, Town of Saugeen Shores and County of Bruce to consider allocation of additional funding for a **municipal socio-economic impact review and/or related studies**.
- Scheduled a series of small group conversations – **Bruce C Table Talks** – at eight locations in Bruce, Grey and Huron Counties.
- Scheduling presentations to community groups, organizations and workplaces as requested.
- Receiving and responding to inquiries through the Project’s digital engagement platform and a dedicated Project email address.
- Receiving early input on key areas of interests, issues and concerns through a valued components survey. The survey will remain open until mid-January 2025 and results will help gauge community interests and guide outreach in the impact assessment.

**6.0 CONCLUSION**

This Plain Language Summary of the Response to the Summary of Issues has been prepared to summarize Bruce Power’s approach to the Response to the Summary of Issues, which has been provided as a separate document. This Plain Language Summary has also provided an update on studies to support the responses provided, and an update on Indigenous and public engagement that has occurred since the submission of the Bruce C IPD.

**BRUCE C PROJECT – RESPONSE TO SUMMARY OF ISSUES: PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY****7.0 REFERENCES**

- [R-1] Pathways to Decarbonization: A report to the Minister of Energy to evaluate a moratorium on new natural gas generation in Ontario and to develop a pathway to zero emissions in the electricity sector [Internet]. Independent Electricity System Operator; 2022 Dec. Available from: <https://www.ieso.ca/en/Learn/The-Evolving-Grid/Pathways-to-Decarbonization>
- [R-2] Independent Electricity System Operator. 2024 Annual Planning Outlook Report [Internet]. 2024 Mar. Available from: <https://www.ieso.ca/en/Sector-Participants/Planning-and-Forecasting/Annual-Planning-Outlook>
- [R-3] Bruce Power. Bruce C Project-Initial Project Description [Internet]. 2023 Aug p. 116. Available from: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p88771/158463E.pdf>