

Comments and Enclosure 1: Federal Authority Advice Record (FAAR) - Deep Geological Repository (DGR) for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel Project

Registry File: 88774

Please submit the completed form by **February 4, 2026** via email to nuclearwaste-dechetsnucleaires@iaac-aeic.gc.ca¹. In order to be posted on the Registry, and to align with the Official Languages Act, IAAC is requiring that you submit the FAAR form, or a summary of it, in French and English.

Department/Agency Contact Information

Submission Date	February 4, 2026
Department/Agency	Indigenous Services Canada
Lead Contact, Title, Work Unit	Julia Gregory, Policy Analyst; Impact Assessment, Lands and Economic Development Sector
Email, Phone	Julia.gregory@sac-isc.gc.ca
Alternate Contact, Title, Work Unit	Imene Khaldi, Regional Health Impact Assessment Officer- Ontario Region; Impact Assessment and Health Service
Email, Phone	imene.khaldi@sac-isc.gc.ca

Review the draft Initial Project Description and answer the following questions:

1. Is your department or agency in possession of specialist or expert information or knowledge in its area of expertise that may be relevant to the conduct of an impact assessment of the project?

Specify the specialist or expert information or knowledge.

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) works collaboratively with partners to improve access to high quality services for First Nations, Inuit and Métis, and to reduce inequities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations. Grounded in this work, the department has ongoing relationships with Indigenous communities and organizations, contextual insights into conditions and issues facing communities, and data and information that it uses to fulfill its mandate. In assessments of federally-designated projects under the *Impact Assessment Act*, ISC provides expert, advisory input to support the identification and consideration of potential impacts to Indigenous people's health, social and economic conditions.

ISC possesses expertise in the following areas, which may apply to the assessment:

- Community demographics; social conditions and services
- Housing and other essential community infrastructure on reserve lands
- Expansion of First Nations reserve lands
- Emergency management and preparedness of Indigenous communities
- Management and administration of reserve lands and environmental conditions
- Economic and business development and community opportunity readiness
- Education
- Health

ISC's mandate in public health and health services is to ensure access to health services for First Nations on-reserve and Inuit communities, to help address health barriers and disease threats, and to build strong partnerships with Indigenous peoples to improve health outcomes. ISC can contribute related expertise in:

- **Primary health care, promotion, and disease prevention**, including public health protection and primary care delivery;
- **Supplementary health benefits and wellness programs**, such as mental health supports, dental care, pharmacy, vision care, and visiting health professional services;
- **Health infrastructure and system capacity**, including the transformation of health systems and community-based capacity building;

ISC may also hold knowledge and/or information on:

- Health status of First Nations on-reserve;
- The provision of health services (i.e., nurses on-reserve to provide primary healthcare services, dental care for children on-reserve, Communicable Disease Control program);
- Community health and wellness programs (i.e., community nutrition programming, Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative, mobile community-led mental wellness teams, toll-free crisis lines, suicide prevention and life promotion activities, trauma-informed health and cultural supports programming);
- Environmental public health services (i.e., such as drinking water quality, food safety, chemical contamination of traditional foods or the perception of contamination, diet); and
- Environmental public health inspections on-reserve (i.e., housing, public facilities, care facilities, food facilities).

For all subject areas, expertise may include baseline and/or historical data; information about programs the department administers; research; policies; and insights or analysis of needs, gaps, and trends. The availability of expertise may vary by community and temporal or geographic scale.

ISC has a role in crown's engagement efforts by providing information on federal resources and programs that can assist potentially impacted Indigenous groups in assessing and addressing potential impacts. Notably, ISC may be able to directly support interested impacted communities in conducting their own Health Impact Assessments.

Does your department or agency have additional information or knowledge on the project not specified above, including information on the geographic, environmental, economic or social context of the project? (e.g. location of protected or sensitive areas, previous history between local communities and proponent or similar projects, local or regional social or economic concerns)?

ISC may be able to provide more information or knowledge on social or economic concerns as the assessment progresses.

2. Will your department or agency exercise a **power, perform a duty or function**, or provide **financial assistance**, related to the project to enable it to be carried out in whole or in part?

As relevant,

- a) Specify the power, duty or function, or financial assistance, and the likelihood that it will be required to construct the project, as either Required, Potential, Likely, Unlikely or Not Required
- b) Describe any associated Indigenous or public consultation, including timelines, and elaborate on any potential opportunities for consultation coordination with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required
- c) Describe any associated information requirements (e.g., alternative means assessment, habitat offsetting), and specify those that may be coordinated with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required
- d) Identify any associated project-specific guidance or issues of which the proponent should be aware, or information the proponent should provide
- e) Indicate whether your department or agency has identified any power that it will not be exercising or may be unable to exercise to allow the project to be carried out, in whole or in part, with reasons; if unsure, explain what must be resolved to increase confidence.

No, ISC will not exercise a power, perform a duty or function or provide financial assistance to enable this project to be carried out.

3. **Using Table 1**, identify project- and context-specific **key issues** based on the expertise within your mandate¹ and the information in your possession. Available information may include your access to databases and corporate knowledge, the draft Initial Project Description, any exchanges with the proponent or others related to the project and known means to address the effects.

For each key issue:

- a) Specify the key issue (e.g., specific species and location)
- b) Specify the project component or activity linked to the key issue
- c) Explain why it is a key issue based on:
 - i. biophysical effect pathway(s) from the specific project component or activity
 - ii. concerns unique to the project or a priority within your mandate
 - iii. the issue being material² to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*
- d) Potential pathways from key issues that could lead to an impact on Indigenous Peoples and their rights
- e) Identify how the issue could be resolved, including through other means than an impact assessment (e.g., other regulatory oversight)
- f) Identify additional information the proponent could provide to build confidence about how the issue could be addressed through other means

DGRs are proposed in geology chosen for its technical suitability for containing radioactive waste. The proponent's proposed DGR would permanently contain 5.9 million bundles of used nuclear fuel, which will remain radioactive for thousands of years. It will be important to ensure the DGR's barriers designed to prevent releases are stable over the long-term. Adaptive management will be an important consideration to ensure adverse effects are avoided or minimized over the long term.

Key issues will vary depending on the phase of the project. According to the proponent's IPD, the site preparation and construction phases of the project are anticipated to take 13 years (planned over 2030-2042). Placement of nuclear waste into the repository will begin in the operations phase scheduled in 2043 and anticipated to occur over 50 to 60 years. Once operations are complete, there would be an approximate 100-year phase of extended monitoring, decommissioning and closure. The site would then be decommissioned and closed and the proponent would eventually apply to be released from CNSC licensing. The site would transition into the institutional control that would be established by the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario.

During the operations phase and extending into the decommissioning and closure phase of the Project, the potential for radiological releases from the Project as well as malfunctions, accidents, and malevolent acts will be key considerations.

IAAC has prepared the following **preliminary list of potential effects that are likely to be key issues** for the integrated assessment.⁴ While completing **Table 1**, IAAC requests that, as appropriate based on your department or agency's mandate and expertise, you validate this list, add precision or rationale where appropriate, and recommend any additional key issues for consideration. For a federal work or undertaking, such as nuclear energy works, a broader range of effects are within federal jurisdiction, including socio-economic effects.

- Effects to Biological Environment: vegetation (terrestrial, riparian and wetland environments), wildlife, reptiles and amphibians, fish and fish habitat, birds, species at risk

¹ Refer to the [Memoranda of Understanding with IAAC](#).

² An issue is material to decision making if its analysis is anticipated to affect the conclusions on (1) whether adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or direct and incidental adverse effects (collectively adverse federal effects) are likely not significant, or of low, medium or high significance; (2) appropriate mitigation measures for significant adverse federal effects; or (3) justification in the public interest.

- Effects to Physical Environment: geology and geochemistry, soils and sediment, ambient radioactivity, air quality/emissions, surface water quality/quantity, groundwater quality/quantity, effects to Lake Ontario
- Accidents and malfunctions and effects of the environment on the project
- Impacts to Indigenous rights, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, physical and cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples and sites of archaeological importance, with a focus on potential archaeological resources on land or water, and species of cultural importance
- Effects to the health, social and economic conditions and the positive and negative consequences of these changes that are likely to be caused by the carrying out of the designated project

Julia Gregory

Name of Departmental / Agency Responder

2026-02-04

Date

***Overarching comments:**

ISC notes the preliminary list of potential effects that are likely to be key issues for the integrated assessment. We concur with the broad statement that key issues will include potential impacts to rights, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, physical and cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples, and as effects to the health, social, and economic conditions of Indigenous peoples. ISC understands that the proponent is still undertaking significant work with potentially affected Indigenous communities and that this engagement will inform the selection and assessment of specific key issues under the above noted umbrellas. ISC encourages the proponent to: undertake meaningful, comprehensive, and ongoing engagement with all potentially impacted Indigenous groups early in the impact assessment process, and prior to finalizing pathways of effects, valued components, and assessment endpoints. Such engagement should support the identification and understanding of biophysical exposure pathways associated with project components and activities, informed by community-specific land use, resource use, and lived experience. Engagement should also support a more comprehensive consideration of community-identified issues that may influence Indigenous health, social determinants of health, and overall community well-being; social conditions, and economic conditions.

Point of clarification: Inconsistent information on Intermediate-Level Waste (ILW) management

It is clear in the IPD that Low Level Waste (LLW) and Intermediate Level Waste would be segregated and stored on site on an interim basis in LLW and ILW surface storage facilities. The IPD states that upon completion of the emplacement of all of the used nuclear fuel into the DGR, on the proponent will focus on the co-emplacement of LLW from the interim LLW storage facilities into the DGR, in dedicated placement rooms or areas that are separate from the used nuclear fuel placement rooms. However, there is inconsistent information on how the ILW will be managed as table 9.5 (Activities During Decommissioning) states that ILW will be removed and transferred to a Licenced facility, while in page 97 of the IPD states that emplacement underground with the LLW is an option to consider. Clarity is required on how the proponent is planning to manage the ILW at the decommissioning phase Furthermore, the IPD states that Design details and operational descriptions of the co-emplacement of LLW (liquid and solid radioactive waste streams) will be provided in future licensing applications. The Impact Statement should provide sufficient detail to support an assessment of effects from these design and operation components.

Table 1: Key Issues to inform the integrated assessment process

This table should outline key issues to inform the integrated assessment process, including whether an impact assessment is required and, if so, the scope of the assessment and tailoring of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines. Key issues are the major concerns directly related to a project component or activity, the analysis of which is anticipated to be material to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*. Federal authorities' advice should be guided by the identification and resolution of key issues. If an impact assessment is required, it will be focused on key issues.

Comment ID	a) Key issue	b) Project component or activity	c)(i) Biophysical effect pathway(s)	c)(ii) Concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandate	c)(iii) Material to federal decision-making	d) Impacts on Indigenous Peoples and their rights	e) Means for issue resolution	f) Additional information from the proponent
------------	--------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--	---	---	-------------------------------	--

<p>Identify each comment by your organization's acronym and a sequential comment number. e.g.: IAAC-01</p>	<p>Specify each key issue (e.g., specific species and location).</p>	<p>Identify the project component or activity linked to the key issue. Be specific about the nature, scale, novelty and complexity of the component or activity.</p>	<p>Identify the specific effect pathway between the project component or activity and the affected environmental or human receptor (including Indigenous Peoples).</p>	<p>Describe why it's a key issue within the mandate of your department or agency, including in terms of priorities of the federal government and in terms of anticipated likelihood, severity or uncertainty of effects. Identify if the key issue is common for project activities of this nature or in this sector, or whether it is unique to this project due to the project's complexity, size or novelty; a sensitive or rare receiving environment; and/or proximity of sensitive environmental or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples).</p>	<p>Describe why the key issue is material to decision-making as either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ federal experts' knowledge and experience with past project assessments; ○ presence of sensitive species, habitats or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples); ○ novel or complex project activities, components or technologies; ○ high uncertainties in effects or in the effectiveness of mitigation measures; ○ unknown or unproven mitigation; or • a factor for the justification in the public interest anticipated to be material to decision-making such as a likely positive effect contributing to sustainability, to Canada's environmental obligations or climate change commitments or in supporting governmental priorities, such as reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. 	<p>Describe how you have identified within your mandate and expertise may lead to impacts on Indigenous Peoples and their rights. This advice must be informed by knowledge and input from Indigenous Nations and communities during the comment period, or within the Initial Project Description to support a more accurate, respectful and collaborative assessment.</p>	<p>Describe how the key issue could be resolved or addressed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance for which your department or agency is responsible; • Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance from another jurisdiction, including the province; • Common, proven, well-understood or standard mitigation measures to mitigate the effect or effect pathway(s); or • Commitments made by the proponent (e.g., in the Initial Project Description). 	<p>Describe information the proponent could provide, or commitments the proponent could make, that would provide confidence that the issue can be resolved by existing means (to be considered for the final Initial Project Description, future Summary of Issues and response, or (potential) Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines. Consider whether information, studies, analyses or collaborative work with other authorities would be required to address the issue beyond existing means.</p>
<p>ISC- 01</p>	<p>Non-negligible adverse effects on the health and social conditions of Indigenous Peoples from the transportation of nuclear waste.</p>	<p>New transportation routes for used nuclear fuel, particularly where unprecedented nuclear waste transportation routes may intersect with Indigenous lands, waters, or communities, could potentially affect Indigenous health and well-being through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air pollutant emissions; • Noise emissions; • Increased risk associated with road traffic, including 	<p>Indigenous communities may be directly exposed to biophysical stressors associated with transportation of nuclear waste through multiple environmental media and the high risk associated with the nuclear fuel being transported. In addition, changes to lands, waters, and resources; the perceived safety of traditional and recreational land use; and real or perceived contamination of</p>	<p>ISC is responsible for supporting the health, safety, and overall well-being of Indigenous Peoples and supports the position that any assessment of non-negligible adverse effects on the health and social conditions of Indigenous Peoples should consider all effect pathways between the project component or activity and the effects on the environment and Indigenous Peoples. The issue of transporting nuclear waste is reflected in the recommendations articulated by First Nations through the Assembly of First Nations' <i>Final</i></p>	<p>In Section 9.3 of the IPD, the proponent states that the transportation of nuclear materials (i.e., used nuclear fuel) within established transportation corridors is not considered an incidental activity to the Project, on the basis that such activities are ongoing, independently regulated, and would occur regardless of the Project's implementation. From an ISC perspective, it is unclear how these transportation activities can be characterized as "ongoing" in northwestern Ontario, where used nuclear fuel transportation is unprecedented, not currently</p>	<p>Refer to Column C.</p>	<p>ISC-HSS recommends that transportation of nuclear waste be considered within the scope of the Federal Impact Assessment of the Project, with consideration of the regulated processes under Transport Canada and CSNC. In regard to effects on Indigenous health and well-being, ISC is in support of the recommendations provided in the AFN final report 2024 and recommends that the proponent meaningfully</p>	

		<p>accidents or malfunctions that could result in the release of radioactive contaminants, particularly into adjacent waterbodies..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term risk perception. 	<p>country/traditional foods may directly affect social determinants of health, including the mental health and overall well-being of Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Report on 2024 Dialogue Sessions and Recommendations to the NWMO</i>¹. This discussion of preparedness and response capacity, transparency regarding transportation routes, and the potential health and well-being implications of accidents or incidents affecting lands and waters along transportation corridors speak to important contextual nuances. The AFN estimates that at least 210 First Nations communities could be affected by transportation routes associated with the DGR, highlighting the potential scale of these health and well-being concerns.</p>	<p>occurring, and where no nuclear facilities are located in the region.</p> <p>ISC acknowledges that the transportation of nuclear materials is regulated separately by Transport Canada and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), and that these regulatory processes include requirements for engagement and consultation with Indigenous groups. However, potential effects on Indigenous groups, particularly where transportation corridors may cross or be proximate to Indigenous territories should warrants assessment to make sure all potential real or perceived impacts on Indigenous health and well-being, including emergency preparedness, risk perception, physical and mental health, and impacts to lands and water are adequately identified and to meaningfully consider.</p>		<p>engage with and seek perspectives of all First Nations who rely on the same watershed as the proposed site, as well as those along the transportation route and involve First Nation Health Authorities when transportation of nuclear waste is scoped in the Impact Assessment.</p>	
ISC-02	<p>Non-negligible adverse effects on the social and health conditions of Indigenous peoples.</p> <p>Lack of health, social, and economic baseline conditions of Indigenous peoples.</p>	<p>Construction, operation phases.</p>	<p>The Project is anticipated to result in multiple pathways of effects on health, social, and economic conditions. To adequately identify and assess specific pathways of effects on the health, social, and economic conditions of Indigenous Peoples, robust and Indigenous-specific health baseline data are essential.</p>	<p>ISC is responsible for supporting the health, safety, and overall well-being of Indigenous Peoples and supports the position that any assessment of potential impacts on Indigenous health, social, and economic conditions should be informed by the results of Indigenous-led baseline studies, or by studies conducted by the proponent, preferably co-developed with, reviewed, and validated by First Nation communities and organizations, rather than relying solely on aggregated census data and public health unit data. These data obscures community-specific baseline conditions, limiting the ability to identify pathways through which project-related changes could interact with Indigenous health and social determinants of health.</p>	<p>Under Sections 2(e) and 2(f) of the Impact Assessment Act, non-negligible adverse effects on the health of Indigenous peoples related to the Project falls within federal jurisdiction. The determination of significance of the potential adverse effects is directly tied to the understanding and completeness of the health, social, and economic conditions of Indigenous peoples' baseline.</p> <p>In section 15 of the IPD, the proponent states that health, social, cultural and economic baseline information is informed primarily by municipal-level data and western scientific approaches, and based its findings on broad geographic catchments (Kenora Census Division and Northwestern Health Unit) that does not provide disaggregated data that distinguish Indigenous from non-Indigenous populations, nor on-reserve from off-reserve populations.</p> <p>ISC acknowledges that the IPD, by nature, have limited information,</p>	Refer to Column C	<p>ISC recommends that the proponent includes in the Impact Statement :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted health, social, cultural and economic baseline studies for on-reserve populations. Given the relatively small population sizes of these Indigenous communities, such studies would be feasible and could provide meaningful, community-specific insights that cannot be derived from aggregated datasets. The scope, depth, and methodology of any additional baseline work proposed and demonstrate how input from Indigenous groups has been incorporated into baseline characterization. Disaggregated baseline data on health, social, 	<p>Baseline studies on Indigenous health, social, cultural, and economic conditions should be carried out collaboratively with affected First Nations, in a manner that respects OCAP® principles (Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession). First Nations should retain ownership of both the information and the methodologies, enabling communities to replicate, update, or build upon these studies over time.</p> <p>Such community-specific baselines would not only strengthen the Impact Statement,</p>

					<p>and also acknowledges the proponent willingness to update or produce additional Social, Cultural, Economic, and Health Baseline studies to meet the need of the regulatory process once it starts working with First Nations and Métis communities as part of the integrated initial license application and Impact Statement. However, the current baseline data on health, social, cultural and economic conditions limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proponent's ability to identify, predict, and assess the likelihood and significance of potential effects on Indigenous Peoples. • The ability of Indigenous groups to provide meaningful inputs on the potential VCs and validation of the baseline conditions. <p>The availability of health, social, and economic baseline conditions of Indigenous peoples is essential for ISC's ability to review the assessment of potential health risks and service pressures, provide informed advice, identify gaps or uncertainties in project assessments, and recommend effective mitigation and preparedness measures that protect Indigenous health and well-being.</p>		<p>cultural, and economic conditions, specific to on-reserve First Nations and Métis communities.</p>	<p>but would also support long-term monitoring and provide First Nations with indicators that can inform ongoing community health planning, governance, and decision-making.</p>
ISC-03	Non-negligible adverse effects on the social and health conditions of Indigenous peoples.	Construction, operation, phases	The Project may result in multiple pathways of effects on Indigenous health, social, and economic conditions; identifying these pathways requires explicit consideration of the social determinants of health.	ISC is responsible for supporting the health, safety, and overall well-being of Indigenous Peoples.	<p>The proponent states that a pathways of change analysis and risk assessment screening for potentially affected Indigenous groups cannot be completed at this stage, as future engagement is expected to define valued components, measurement indicators, and assessment endpoints to inform the scope of the assessment.</p> <p>In its preliminary understanding of potential Project impacts on the Anishinaabe Peoples of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation (WLON), and potentially other Indigenous Peoples who may be affected by the Project</p>	Refer to Column C	<p>ISC recommends that the proponent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conduct or co-develop a Health Impact Assessment with Indigenous Communities. • Develop pathways of effects on Indigenous health that reflect a broader definition of health and well-being, particularly from an Indigenous perspective, and don't rely solely on the results of HHERAs for conclusions. 	

					<p>(IPD page 280), the proponent commits to conducting Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments (HHERAs) to demonstrate that the Project does not pose adverse effects on Indigenous health conditions. However, reliance on HHERAs alone reflects a narrow interpretation of health, focused primarily on direct biophysical exposure pathways, and does not adequately consider the broader concepts of health and well-being, particularly from an Indigenous perspective (such as; community safety, access to culturally appropriate health and social services, food security and access to traditional foods, cultural continuity, mental wellness, intergenerational impacts...)</p> <p>In addition, ISC considers that a comprehensive Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is justified as it would enable a systematic assessment of both direct and indirect effects on Indigenous health and well-being, including social, cultural, economic, and intergenerational dimensions, and would better support informed decision-making, long-term stewardship, and the protection of current and future generations.</p>		
ISC-04	Community Infrastructure	Construction, operation and decommissioning	<p>New activity on or population growth in nearby First Nations reserves in relation to the project could place new pressures on community infrastructure, including community services, roads, housing, drinking and wastewater infrastructure, and others, thereby impacting Indigenous Peoples' health, social and economic conditions.</p>	<p>Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) provides funding support to essential infrastructure to First Nation communities. ISC also provides community support for social programming, education and economic development in First Nation communities.</p> <p>Departmental resources, may not be sufficient to address new pressures on existing community infrastructure and services resulting from the project, or support positive benefits, resulting in service gaps. The magnitude and nature of changes to community infrastructure and services would be an important issue to study, in order to anticipate any increased</p>	<p>Should existing or planned infrastructure on reserves be potentially impacted by the project activities, federal funding, via ISC programming, will need to be identified to address any concerns. The costs or technical means are unknown, which may impact ISC's ability to support communities. New impacts to essential services- and the government's ability to meet them – could have long-term implications for the health and well-being of Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p>Anticipated increases in factors such as vehicle traffic, water consumption, solid waste management, housing needs, particularly related to projected population growth related to the project, should be modelled through the assessment in order to anticipate whether community needs can be met with existing or currently planned resources. Costs to address potential impacts should be identified, in partnership with responsible First Nations authorities.</p>	

				needs and associated resources to address them.			
ISC-05	Economic conditions of Indigenous peoples	Labour force required for construction, operation, and decommissioning	The project is anticipated to generate employment opportunities; access to these opportunities may be inequitably distributed between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, resulting in fewer benefits than anticipated for Indigenous communities and/or adverse effects to the health, social, and economic conditions of Indigenous peoples,	<p>This key issue is common across projects that purport economic benefits related to employment; however, the nature of this project may come with specific barriers to employment that are not typically considered and addressed in more common project types (e.g. specific training or qualification requirements; health based concerns with employment opportunities).</p> <p>With respect to ISC's mandate, federal funding to support First Nations business development is limited and ranked in priority with other projects nationally. As ISC provides limited annual funding to support community economic development activities nationally, ISC's supports may not be adequate to adjust for inequitably realized economic benefits; uncertainty exists around the realization of benefits to local and regional Indigenous Peoples.</p>	Indigenous people's health and well-being, including economic well-being,		<p>It is important to not generalize economic benefits without a clear understanding of individual and community needs and barriers to participation in project-related opportunities</p> <p>Community-specific needs should be considered with respect to education requirements, training needs, barriers to employment related to health concerns or willingness to undertake certain job components, and workplace safety (including safety related to workplace culture).</p>

¹ <https://registrydocumentsprd.blob.core.windows.net/commentsblob/project-88774/comment-64203/Final%20Report%20on%20the%202024%20Nuclear%20Dialogue%20Sessions%20and%20Recommendations%20to%20the%20NWMO.pdf>