

# Appendix C: Project Classification Checklist (Step 3)

**Instructions:** Complete the following checklist in order to classify a project as either **basic** or **non-basic**. Certain sections include **explanation and guidance** sections to assist authorities in properly completing the checklist. See Step 3a of the attached guide for additional help.

**Project Name:** Chignecto National Wildlife Area, Nova Scotia – Routine Maintenance of High Voltage Transmission Lines L6551

## Section A: Are the expected potential impacts of this project limited to the interior of a building?

**YES**      **Basic project.** Complete sections D and E and continue to complete an MMF (Step 4a)

**NO**      Continue to Section B

### **Explanation and Guidance**

*Instances where any potential effects of a project are negligible or limited in scope may be deemed unlikely to cause adverse environmental effects.*

Biophysical Effects

## Section B: Does the project have the potential to negatively affect the environment?

**YES**      Continue to Section B-1

**NO**      Continue to Section C

**UNKNOWN**      **Non-Basic project.** Complete sections D and E and continue to complete an EEE (Step 4b)

### **Explanation and Guidance**

*Consider the below questions in answering Section B. Answers of 'yes' to any of these guidance questions will likely translate to an answer of 'yes' to Section B. Consult section 81 for more clarity on what constitutes an environmental effect under the IAA. Further project information or research may be required to answer these questions.*

- Does the project have the potential to harmfully alter, disturb or destroy vulnerable natural features (e.g. habitat for endangered species, water source for a town, wetlands.)?
- Does the project have the potential to release a polluting substance into the land, water, or air?
- Does the project have the potential to cause land use changes (e.g. resource extraction, deforestation, clearing of vegetation,..)?
- Does the project have the potential to affect birds, aquatic animals<sup>1</sup>, and wildlife (flora and fauna), including species at risk and its critical habitat?
- Does the project have the potential to result in alteration of water level, quality, flow or management regime in a water body, or result in other important changes to surface or groundwater resources (including well water)?
- Does the project have the potential to cause sensory disturbances such as noise and/or vibrations?

## B-1: Can all of these effects be managed by “effective and established” mitigation measures?

**YES**      Continue to Section C.

**NO**      **Non-basic project.** Complete Sections D and E and continue to complete an EEE (Step 4b)

Indigenous Peoples and Health, Social and Economic Conditions

## Section C: Is the project likely to have an effect on Indigenous peoples and on health, social and/or economic conditions, resulting from a change to the environment?

**YES**      Continue to C-1.

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from “Effects to Valued Components – Environment”. TISG Template. Pg 47-48.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b>	<b>Basic project.</b> Continue to Section D
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>UNKNOWN</b>	<b>Non-basic project.</b> Complete Sections E and F and continue to complete an EEE (Step 4b)
<b>Explanation and Guidance</b>	
<i>Consider the questions below in answering Section C. Consult section 81 of IAA for more clarity on what constitutes an environmental effect.</i>	
Does the project have the potential to result in changes to the environment that may affect Indigenous peoples, specifically <sup>2</sup> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social, economic, and health conditions</li> <li>• Physical and cultural heritage, use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or anything of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance</li> <li>• Indigenous culture</li> <li>• Indigenous knowledge</li> </ul>	
Does the project have the potential to result in changes to the environment that may affect the following health factors <sup>3</sup> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human health or community health</li> </ul>	
Does the project have the potential to result in changes to the environment that may affect the following social factors <sup>4</sup> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Services and infrastructure</li> <li>▪ Land and resource use and recreation</li> <li>▪ Navigation</li> <li>▪ Community well-being</li> <li>▪ Structure, site, things of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance</li> </ul>	
Does the project have the potential to result in changes to the environment that may affect the following economic factors <sup>5</sup> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic conditions and livelihoods (e.g. impact to agriculture from a change in livestock health and productivity)</li> </ul>	

<b>C-1: Can <u>all</u> of these effects be managed by “effective and established” mitigation measures?</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b>	<b>Basic project.</b> Complete Sections D and E and continue to complete an MMF (Step 4a)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b>	<b>Non-Basic project.</b> Complete Sections D and E and continue to complete an EEE (Step 4b)

<b>Section D: Project Classification Conclusion</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Basic Project requiring the completion of a Mitigation Measures Form (MMF)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Non-basic project requiring the completion of an Environmental Effects Evaluation (EEE)</b>

<b>Section E: Sign Off (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Comments:</b> <i>Enter any additional comments you consider warranted here.</i>	

<b>Completed by:</b> Andrew Kennedy		2/10/2025
	Signature	Date

<sup>2</sup> Adapted from “Effects to Indigenous Peoples”. TISG Template. Pg 60-64.  
<sup>3</sup> Adapted from “Effects to Valued Components – Human Health”. TISG Template. Pg 53.  
<sup>4</sup> Adapted from “Effects to Valued Components – Social”. TISG Template. Pg 54-57.  
<sup>5</sup> Adapted from “Effects to Valued Components – Economics.” TISG Template. Pg 58.

# Appendix D: MMF: Basic Project Mitigation Measures Form (Step 4a)

This template is meant to be used by authorities in determining the significance of potential adverse environmental effects of a proposed basic project, as well as outlining the associated mitigation measures.

## Section A: Project Identification

<b>Project Title:</b>	Chignecto National Wildlife Area, Nova Scotia – Routine Maintenance of High Voltage Transmission Lines L6551
<b>Project Location:</b>	Chignecto National Wildlife Area, Amherst, Nova Scotia
<b>Lead authority:</b>	Environment Climate Change Canada
<b>Contact Name:</b>	Andrew Kennedy
<b>Title:</b>	Protected Areas Coordinator
<b>Telephone No.</b>	506-364-5077
<b>Email address:</b>	andrew.kennedy@ec.gc.ca
<b>Other authority(ies):</b>	Name of Organization(s)
<b>Contact Information (if required):</b>	If required, include relevant information such as contact person, telephone, etc. as done above.

## Section B: Project Description and Description of the Environment

<b>Project Description:</b>	<p>Nova Scotia Power Incorporated is proposing to undertake routine maintenance actions and repairs to existing electricity transmission infrastructure located within the boundaries of the Chignecto National Wildlife Area.</p> <p>The Chignecto National Wildlife Area is administered under the Wildlife Area Regulations of the Canada Wildlife Act. The National Wildlife Area contains two high-voltage electricity transmission lines operated by Nova Scotia Power Incorporated, within its boundaries. Both transmission lines, and associated Right of Way corridors, pre-date establishment of the National Wildlife Area.</p> <p>The scope of this project includes maintenance, replacement of wooden poles, cross-arm and framing with Fibre Reinforced Polymer poles and steel cross arms, conductor and insulator replacement, log-anchor repair and overhead ground wire. These maintenance activities are performed as equipment wears out or is due for scheduled replacement and may be carried out with the use of an excavator, tracked pole setter, crane, bucket truck, nodwell, ATV, and half-ton truck.</p>
<b>Description of the Environment (if applicable):</b>	<p>The National Wildlife Area and immediate project location is characterized by riparian zones associated with dyke edge and drainage creek interface, constructed freshwater wetland and grassy / treed dyke tops.</p>

## Section C: Resources and Public Consultation

**Resources consulted:**

Harries, H. 1968. Ecological Survey of the Chignecto Coastal Lowlands.

Jones & Hall, 1971. Chronology of Waterfowl migration, March 8-May 3, 1971

Maillet, J. et al. 1999. Impoundment Age and Waterfowl Use. CWS Technical Report Series # 290.

Environment and Climate Change Canada. 2018. Chignecto National Wildlife Area Management Plan. Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, Atlantic Region, 47 pp.

Nova Scotia Power Inc. 2014. Environmental Protection and Right of Way Management. 84 pp

**Section D: Mitigation Measures Requirement**

Check the following box if no mitigation measures are required. If mitigation measure are required, proceed to section E.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No mitigation measures are required as one or more of the following conditions apply.</b>	
	<i>Continue to Section F. Do not complete Section E.</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Potential impacts are negligible or limited in scope</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>There are no potential adverse effects to Indigenous peoples and/or health, social and economic conditions</b>

**Section E: Identify Environmental Effects & Mitigation Measures**

Summarize the potential adverse environmental effects as well as any corresponding technically and economically feasible mitigation measures which will be implemented should the project proceed. Establish if the environmental effect relates to Indigenous rights (I.R.), and/or health (H), social (S) economic (E) conditions by checking the corresponding box for each completed row. Consult Step 4a of the Guide for help determining what constitutes these effects. Add rows as needed.

Environmental Effect	B.P.	I.R.	H	S	E	Effective and Established Mitigation Measure (Technically and Economically Feasible)
Damage and / or disturbance to migratory birds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Routine work will be timed to avoid seasonal periods sensitive for migratory birds. (April 1 – August 31). Maintenance work to be undertaken in March 2025.
Damage to habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All work sites and access routes will be remediated after work has been completed. Best practices will be used for wetland and stream crossings when necessary. When possible, work will be performed when ground is frozen, or snow cover provides adequate protection. Swamp matting will be used in the wetland to reduce impacts to habitat.

Damage to habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Impacts of large machinery will be mitigated by use of swamp mats when working at/near structures in the wetlands. Silt fencing and hay/straw will be on site if erosion and sediment control measures are required.
Deposition of deleterious substance into watercourse / wetland / NWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Machinery will be re-fueled outside the National Wildlife Area. Spill response kits will always be on site to deal with any accidental fluid releases from the machinery.


### Section F: Determination

**Taking into account implementation of mitigation measures outlined in the analysis, this project:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Requires further analysis. Complete an Environmental Effects Evaluation (Step 4b)</b>

### Section G: Sign-off and Approval

**Completed by: Andrew Kennedy**

<b>Comments:</b> <i>Enter any additional comments you consider warranted here.</i>		
		
Andrew Kennedy ECCC CWS	Signature	2/10/2025 Date