

Impact Assessment of the Peace River Nuclear Power Project

INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT SESSION - APRIL 23, 2025

Land Acknowledgement



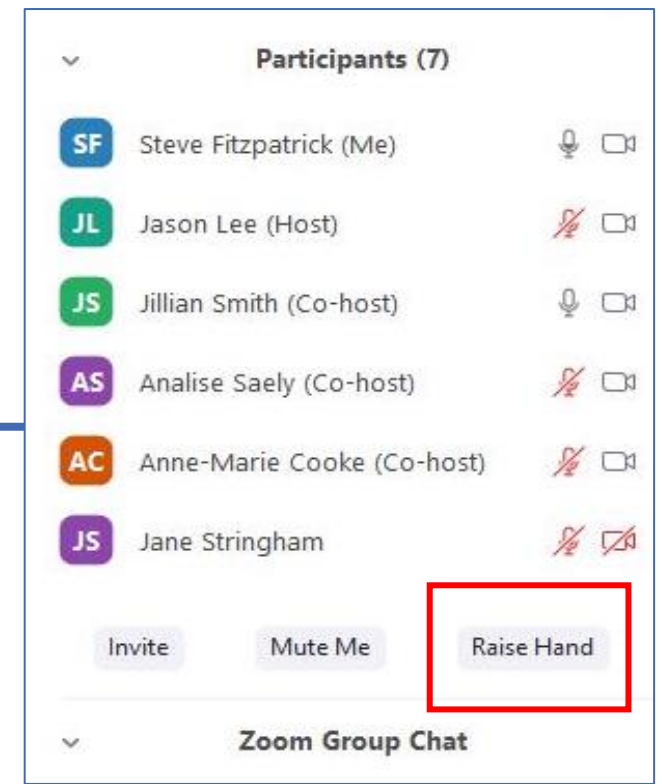
Photo Credit: Mighty Peace Tourism



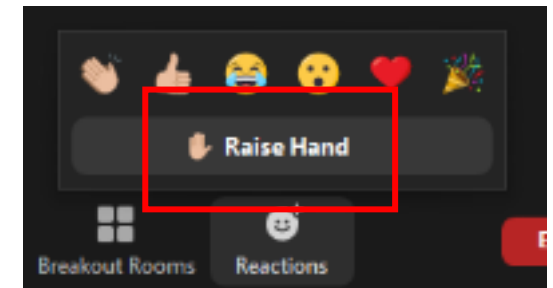
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

To participate

- Click the “Raise Hand” function or type the question into the chat
- If you are on the phone, press *9 to ask a question and *6 to unmute/mute
- Please mute your microphone unless speaking



OR



Presenters

Shalini Chaudhary

Session Moderator

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Review Panels Division

Jenna Wolno

Panel Management Analyst

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Review Panels Division

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Panel Management Analyst

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Review Panels Division



Session Overview

- Who we are
- Integrated assessment of nuclear projects
- Peace River Nuclear Power Project
- Public participation
- Have your say
- Next steps
- Discussion



Who we are

INTRODUCTION



Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)

- Federal agency reporting to the Minister of **Environment and Climate Change**
- Conducts federal impact assessments on major projects in Canada (like marine terminals, major mines and nuclear facilities) under the ***Impact Assessment Act***
- Works with the support of other federal departments
- Conducts Indigenous consultation and meaningful public engagement
- Cooperates with provincial, territorial and Indigenous jurisdictions



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada



Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)

- Canada's nuclear regulator
- Regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to prevent unreasonable risk to health, safety, security and the environment
- Administers the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA)
- Implements Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy
- Disseminates objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public



Integrated assessment of nuclear projects

GENERAL OVERVIEW



Impact assessment

- Impact assessment is a process the federal government uses to make decisions on major projects in Canada. It:
 - looks at the potential positive and negative effects of proposed projects
 - aims to mitigate the projects' adverse effects and enhance their positive effects
- Impact assessments rely on:
 - scientific evidence and expertise
 - Indigenous Knowledge
 - community knowledge



Integrated assessment of nuclear projects

- When a project includes activities regulated under the NSCA, IAAC works with the CNSC to conduct an integrated assessment.
- IAAC and the CNSC:
 - cooperate with the common objective that all their requirements are achieved in a single integrated assessment as "one project, one assessment"
 - assess potential effects over the lifecycle of the project and considers the first licensing phase of a nuclear facility (e.g. site preparation).
- Integrated assessment outcome: IA decision, potential issuance of applicable licence under the NSCA



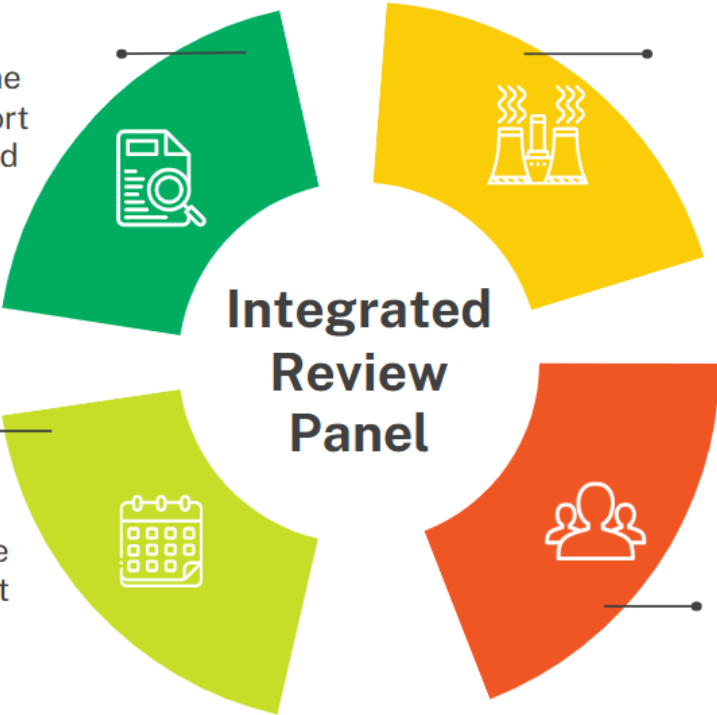
Integrated Review Panel

WHAT

A panel of independent experts that prepares the Impact assessment report outlining conclusions and recommendations regarding a proposed project.

WHEN

The Review Panel commences its assessment work at the beginning of the Impact Assessment phase.



WHY

Projects that include activities regulated under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* must be referred to an integrated review panel.

WHO

Review Panel candidates can be put forward for consideration. Panel members must:

- Have relevant knowledge and expertise.
- Be free from bias and conflicts of interest.
- At least one member must be from the CNSC roster.



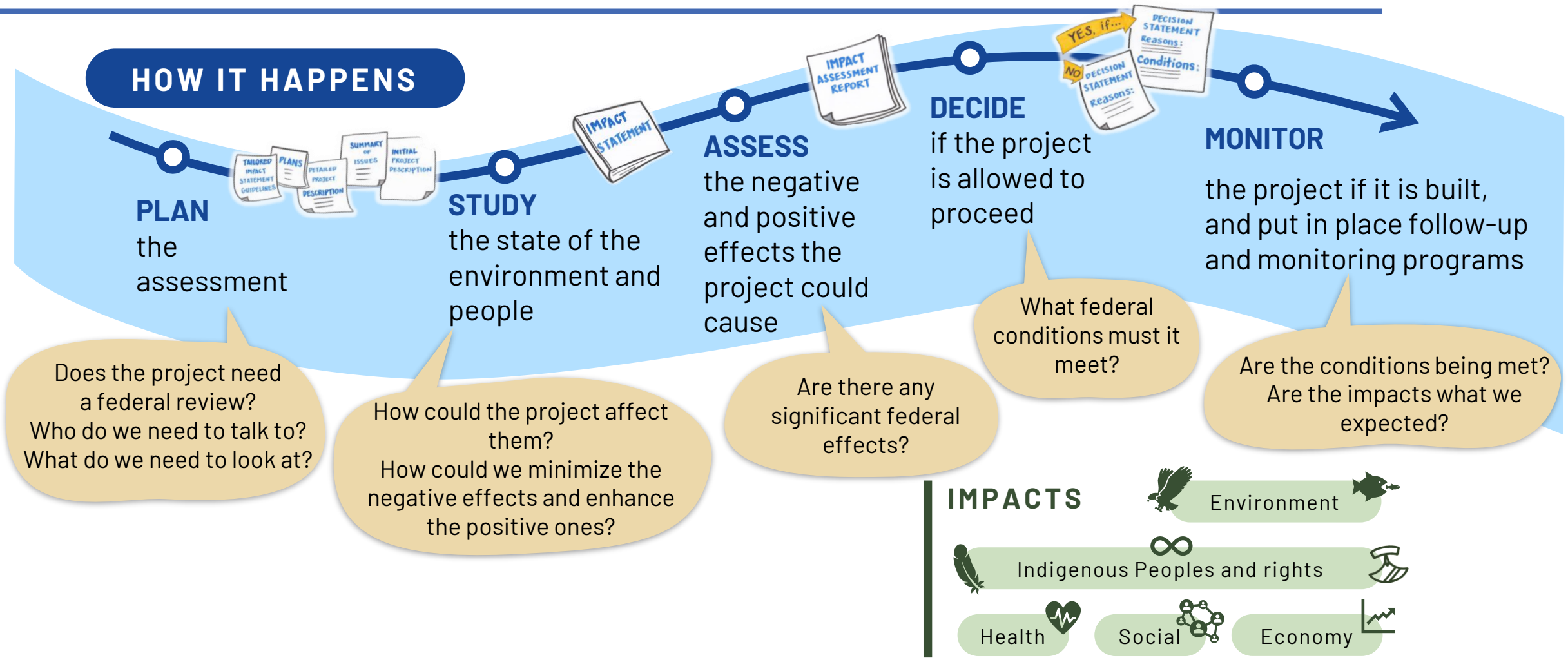


Consultation with Indigenous Peoples of Canada

- To promote relationship building, cooperation and partnership with Indigenous peoples
- To meet the Crown's duty to consult
- To ensure that impact assessments take into account Indigenous Knowledge, cultural considerations and customs
- To meet statutory obligations as outlined in the *Impact Assessment Act*
- Fulfill the Government's commitment to implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*



Phases of an integrated assessment



Planning Phase Steps

- **April 14 - May 14 (NOW):** 30-day comment period on Initial Project Description to identify issues that are important to you
 - Following the end of this comment period, IAAC and CNSC will provide a Summary of Issues to Energy Alberta for response
- **Late May (NEXT):** 30-day comment period on Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines to identify what information is required for the assessment



Peace River Nuclear Power Project

ENERGY ALBERTA



GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Energy Alberta and the Peace River Nuclear Power Project



(Image source: Peace River Nuclear Power Project – Initial Project Description – April 2025)

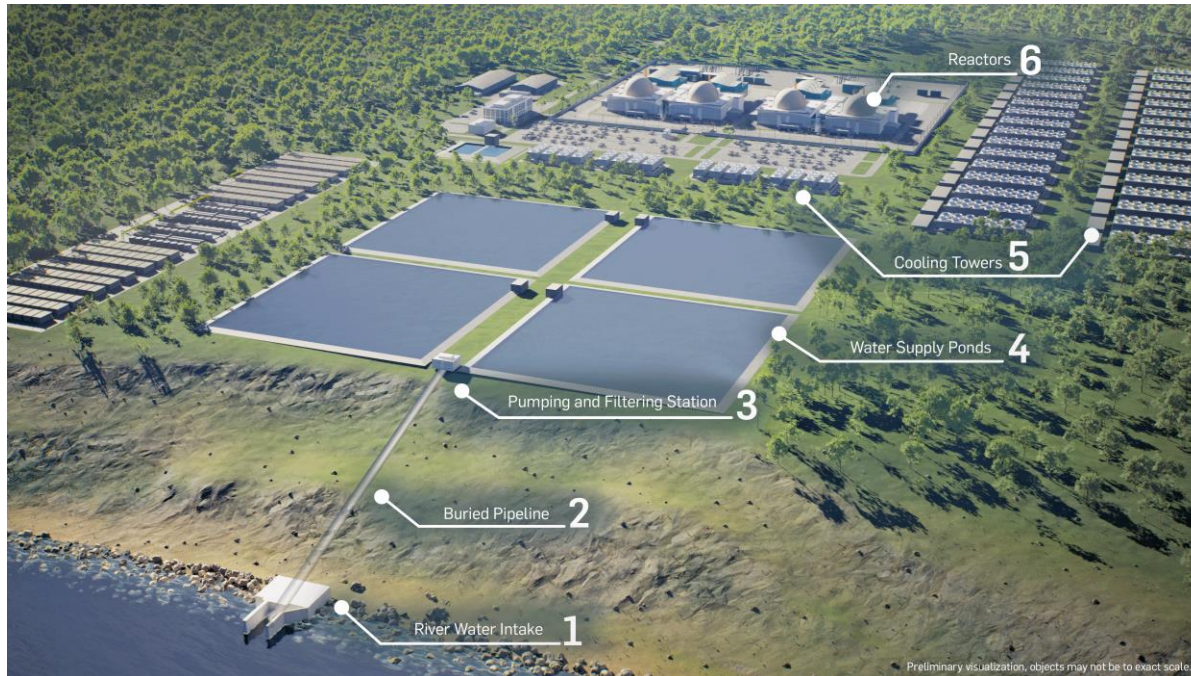
Energy Alberta is a private-sector company proposing the site preparation, construction, operation and decommissioning of a new nuclear generating station at one of two potential sites north of the Town of Peace River, Alberta.

As proposed, the Project would provide up to 4,800 megawatt-electric of new nuclear generating capacity in Alberta and operate for approximately 70 years.

Energy Alberta plans to construct two twin CANDU MONARK (4 in total) nuclear reactors.



Project details



(Image source: Peace River Nuclear Power Project – Initial Project Description – April 2025)

Key components and activities may include:

- Site preparation (e.g., land clearing)
- Cooling water intake from the Peace River
- New nuclear facility (four reactors)
- Waste management
- Refurbishment and major maintenance
- Site restoration



Project schedule

Key Project Phase	Anticipated timeline (Start – Finish)
Integrated Assessment	3 years (2025 – 2028)
Site Preparation	3 years (2028 – 2030)
Construction & Commissioning	13 years (2029 – 2042)
Active Operation	70 – 85 years (2035 – 2120)
Safe Storage Operation	20 years
Decommissioning	20 years
Site Restoration & Abandonment	Thereafter



More Project Information

Additional information on the Peace River Nuclear Power Project can be found on:

- The Canadian Impact Assessment Registry: [Peace River Nuclear Power Project \(iaac-aeic.gc.ca\)](https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca)
 - Initial Project Description and Summaries available under “key documents”
- Energy Alberta’s website: [The Peace River Nuclear Power Project \(energyalberta.com\)](https://energyalberta.com)



Public Participation

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE ASSESSMENT



Why Participate

- Public participation is essential to understand issues surrounding a project and its impacts on people and their environment.
- By participating, you can:
 - identify issues that are important to you
 - help us understand the context in which the proposed project would take place
 - provide important knowledge or views about a project's potential impacts
 - help identify and address the potential impacts of a proposed project in the early stages of an assessment
 - influence decisions about projects or measures to mitigate impacts



How to participate

- Attend a **public session** hosted by IAAC, CNSC or the proponent to ask questions and share your views
- Visit the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry:
 - Use the “submit a comment” feature on the project page
- Write to peacenuclear-nucleairepaix@iaac-aeic.gc.ca:
 - with your comments and questions
 - to add your address to the project’s email notification list



Have your say

SUMMARY OF THE INITIAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION



Have your say

Public comments are invited on the summary of the Initial Project Description **between April 14 and May 14, 2025.**

This is your opportunity to identify key issues related to this project.

A summary of these issues will be provided to Energy Alberta who will respond by letting us know how they intend to address them.

Your comments will also inform the draft Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, which outline the information and studies that Energy Alberta must provide to inform the assessment.



The Canadian Impact Assessment Registry

Peace River Nuclear Power Project

Energy Alberta is proposing the construction of two twin CANDU MONARK nuclear reactors, located approximately 30 kilometres north of the Town of Peace River, Alberta. As proposed, the Peace River Nuclear Power Project would cover 1,424 hectares in area and operate for approximately 70 years. The plant will generate up to 4,800 megawatts per year. The project assessment is being conducted in collaboration with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

Latest update

April 16, 2025 — The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada is making [funding available](#) to help Indigenous Nations and communities and the public participate in the integrated impact assessment process for this project. Applications received by May 16, 2025, will be considered.

April 14, 2025 — The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission are [inviting Indigenous Nations and Communities, and the public](#) to review the [summary of the Initial Project Description](#) for the Peace River Nuclear Power Project and provide feedback by May 14, 2025. Comments received will be used to prepare the summary of issues.

At a glance

Planning	Impact Statement	Impact Assessment	Decision Making	Post Decision

[Planning](#)

In progress 1/180 days

Key documents

- [Initial Project Description of a Designated Project](#) | April 11, 2025
- [Summary of the Initial Project Description of a Designated Project](#) | April 11, 2025

Comment periods

- [Public Notice - Public Comments Invited on the Summary of the Initial Project Description](#) | April 14, 2025 to May 14, 2025 - Open

Participate

[Submit a Comment](#) [View Comments](#) Total: 4

[View interactive map](#)

Location: Peace River (Alberta)

Nature of Activity: Nuclear Energy

Assessment Status: In progress

Start Date: 2025-04-14

Proponent: Energy Alberta Inc.

Authorities: Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Assessment Type: Planning Phase for Impact Assessment

Reference Number: B9430

Nearby assessments

...within 200 kilometres

- Wolverine River Lateral Loop (Carron Creek Section) Carron Lake
- Woodland Cree CMHC Co-Investment Housing Project - Simon Lake Subdivision (21-Units) Woodland Cree First Nation
- GS-7245 Woodland Cree Reserve 226 Woodland Cree 226

Peace River Nuclear Power Project

Planning (Active)

About this comment period

To prepare for a potential assessment, there are opportunities to comment on the benefits and concerns of a project, who should conduct the assessment, like a province or panel, and what types of studies are needed. Your comments play an important role in better understanding the project and ensuring the assessment is well run.

From 2025-04-14 to 2025-05-14

Related Documents


Document Title	File	Date Posted
Summary of the Initial Project Description of a Designated Project	pdf (5.59 MB)	2025-04-11

Disclaimer


The use of this online submission tool is voluntary and subject to the [Terms of Use](#). To submit information or comments, you will need to provide a valid email address. Information submitted via this tool must comply with the [Submission Policy](#) and should not contain confidential information or inappropriate content. Refer to the contact information identified on the relevant assessment page to submit information via other means.

[Submit a comment](#) [View existing comments](#)


Most helpful comments

 **Most helpful** = articulate a concern or opportunity with specific information to conduct further studies


- I'm concerned about potential impacts to rainbow trout often found in Dash creek, adjacent to the project site

 **Helpful** = identify a specific concern or opportunity with general information to conduct further studies

- You should look at potential impacts to fish species found in Dash creek

 **Incomplete** = identify a non-specific concern or opportunity without any information to conduct further studies

- I think the project will be bad for the fish in the area

 **Least helpful** = statement for or against the project without any meaningful information to conduct further studies

- The project is terrible and bad for the environment

Not accepted = comments that are derogatory or that contain profanity, racist content or personal information that could identify an individual

Considerations

When providing your comments, consider the following:

- What matters to you and your community? For example: wildlife, noise, water quality, jobs, health, etc.
- How could this project benefit or affect your community?
- Do you have specific knowledge about your community that may be relevant to the assessment of this project? For example: history, environment, social, economic, etc.



Other ways to participate

The integrated assessment process includes several opportunities for **public participation** through various means. Tell us:

- What is your preferred way to participate in public consultations?
 - provide comments online or by mail
 - attend info sessions online or in person, public hearings
 - open-house events, technical workshops
 - community meetings with proponent, etc.



Participant Funding Program

What is it?

- Funding that is provided at key stages of the assessment process for participants who want to provide relevant knowledge or expertise to the integrated assessment.

Who is eligible?

- Individuals, non-profit organizations, and Indigenous Nations and communities and organizations that meet at least one of these eligibility criteria can apply:
 - have a direct local interest in the project, such as living or owning property in the area
 - have community knowledge or Indigenous Knowledge relevant to the assessment
 - have expert information relevant to the anticipated impacts of the project
 - have an interest in the project's potential impacts on Treaty lands, settlement lands or traditional territories, or related claims and rights.

Participant Funding Program

- Deadline for submitting an application for the Planning Phase: **May 16, 2025**
- Funding opportunities are published on the [Registry's project page](#) and [IAAC's website](#).
- For any questions or to request help with your application, contact:
Funding Programs Team
Phone: 1-866-582-1884
Email: fp-paf@iaac-aeic.gc.ca



Next steps

CONCLUSION



Reminders

Reminders:

Submit your comments on the summary of the IPD on the project before May 14, 2025 at 11:59 pm

Submit an application for participant funding for the Planning Phase before May 16, 2025

Contact information :

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Peace River Nuclear Power Project
160 Elgin, 22nd Floor, Ottawa, ON

K1A 0H3

613-699-6778

peacenuclear-nucleairepaix@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Media relations :

Media@iaac-aeic.gc.ca



Discussion

TIME FOR YOUR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS



Thank you!

Questions? Comments?

[Peace River Nuclear Power Project](#)
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613-699-6778

PeaceNuclear-NucleairePaix@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

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