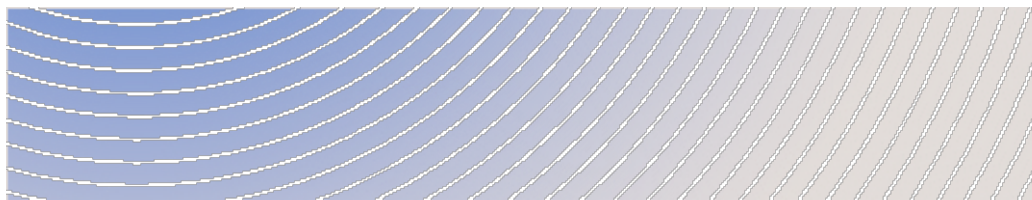


Cooperation Plan



PEACE RIVER NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT

APRIL 20, 2026



Cooperation Plan

IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA – GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

IMPACT ASSESSMENT COOPERATION PLAN FOR THE PEACE RIVER NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT

April 20, 2026

1. Introduction

On July 7, 2025, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) determined that a comprehensive impact assessment (IA) is required for the Peace River Nuclear Power Project (the project) pursuant to section 16 of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA).

On the same day, IAAC, on behalf of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (Minister) referred the impact assessment to a review panel. Pursuant to section 43 of the IAA, the Minister must refer to a review panel designated projects that include physical activities regulated under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA). The review panel will conduct an integrated impact assessment (integrated assessment) that follows the framework outlined in the [Memorandum of Understanding on Integrated Impact Assessments Under the Impact Assessment Act between the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#) (the MOU).

IAAC and the CNSC will cooperate with the common objective that both legislative requirements are achieved in a single integrated assessment, with an assessment outcome including both a federal decision by the Governor in Council under the IAA, as well as a separate, independent decision by the review panel on the issuance of a Licence to Prepare Site under the NSCA.

Although the project is under federal jurisdiction of the IAA and the NSCA, activities related to the project may be subject to provincial authorizations and a provincial environmental assessment under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, with respect to environmental, social and economic effects that are not within exclusive federal jurisdiction or those effects that do not impair the vital and essential operations of the federal project.

On April 2, 2026, Canada and Alberta released a Co-operation Agreement with respect to how the two jurisdictions would co-operate in the conduct of environmental and impact assessments, while reducing duplication through a single assessment process that respects federal and provincial jurisdictions. The Peace River Nuclear Power Project is considered a federal work or undertaking, however at the time of posting this Cooperation Plan it is undetermined if a provincial environmental assessment or which provincial authorizations might be required for the project in whole or in part. Canada and Alberta acknowledge that any determination on the application of provincial legislation would likely occur after a [Notice of Commencement](#) has been issued for the federal integrated assessment.



Should a provincial environmental assessment and regulatory process requirements be required, Canada and Alberta will cooperate in the conduct of the assessment for the Peace River Nuclear Power Project in accordance with the provisions of this Cooperation Plan and will also adhere to relevant provisions of the Cooperation Agreement.

The draft Cooperation Plan was developed by IAAC and the CNSC to set out intentions and plans for a cooperative assessment process for the project. Input from the Alberta Ministry of the Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA), and other participating Alberta ministries and regulatory boards (participating ministries and regulatory boards) as coordinated by AEPA, was sought during the public comment period to inform this version of the Cooperation Plan (the Plan).

AEPA and Affordability and Utilities will serve as the lead provincial ministries and act as representatives on behalf of all other participating Alberta ministries, as listed in Appendix 1. The provincial regulatory mechanisms, as listed in Appendix 2, that may apply if the project would be permitted to proceed, may not be exhaustive and are subject to change. The Government of Canada may revise the Plan in response to new information or updated information from the proponent, Indigenous Nations and communities, the public, jurisdictions or other participants in the process, and in order to accommodate any changes to the project.

For anticipated federal permits required, please see the project's [Permitting Plan](#).

2. Project

Energy Alberta (the proponent) is proposing the construction of up to four 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 would generate up to 4,800 megawatts. The project assessment is being conducted in collaboration with the CNSC.

For more information on the integrated assessment of the project or to view the information and comments received, visit the [Peace River Nuclear Power Project](#) page on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (the registry) at <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/89430>.

3. Approach to cooperation

Through cooperation, IAAC, the CNSC and participating ministries and regulatory boards will strive to increase efficiency and certainty for the proponent, as well as for the public and Indigenous Nations and communities, and ensure that the best available expertise is shared and applied. Where possible, IAAC and the CNSC may coordinate activities with participating ministries and regulatory boards, including harmonizing timelines and streamlining processes, in order to best share expertise and reduce redundancies in the assessment process. Each jurisdiction will retain its own decision-making authority in accordance with their respective legislative requirements.



The Plan describes the current approach to cooperation and does not preclude IAAC, the CNSC or participating ministries and regulatory boards from making changes to the cooperative approach described in this plan in order to accommodate changes that may occur during this assessment process, or any provincial assessment or permitting process that may be required in the future.

4. Timelines and time management

Timelines for the integrated assessment process are legislated under the IAA. When possible, IAAC and the CNSC will provide participating ministries and regulatory boards with advanced notices of opportunities for cooperation. IAAC, the CNSC and participating ministries and regulatory boards may align milestones and activities during the integrated assessment process, when appropriate. IAAC and the CNSC will also work with any participating ministries and regulatory boards to ensure that timely and effective communication occurs throughout the integrated assessment process.

IAAC recognizes that efforts to align respective timelines do not supersede legislative obligations concerning time limits, which are prescribed in the IAA, Alberta's *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, and other relevant provincial legislation.

5. Sharing of information

All information relevant to the integrated assessment of the project will be posted by IAAC or the review panel on the registry. As such, participating ministries and regulatory boards will have access to the public record for the integrated assessment. The registry contains all substantive comments and submissions from participants in the assessment, including the public, Indigenous Nations and communities, federal departments, and provincial ministries and regulatory boards, in addition to all information submitted by the proponent.

IAAC, the CNSC and participating ministries and regulatory boards will respect requirements related to privacy and confidentiality, including protection of Indigenous Knowledge, when sharing or publicly posting information.



IAAC and the CNSC will share with participating ministries and regulatory boards, as appropriate, the following information obtained during the assessment of the project. More opportunities for cooperation may be identified and developed at each stage of the regulatory process:

Table 1 – Opportunities to share information with participating ministries and regulatory boards during the integrated assessment process

<p>Integrated Assessment Process *in collaboration with CNSC</p>	<p>Information Sharing Opportunities and Efficiencies</p>
<p>Planning Phase</p> <p>IAAC accepts Initial Project Description (IPD).</p> <p>IAAC and the CNSC conduct early engagement and develop the Summary of Issues (SOI).</p> <p>IAAC and the CNSC develop Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (the Integrated Guidelines).</p> <p>IAAC determines if an integrated assessment is required.</p> <p>IAAC and the CNSC develop Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan (IEPP), Public Participation Plan (PPP), Permitting Plan, and the Cooperation Plan.</p>	<p>Documentation:</p> <p>Provide input on the development of technical documents (e.g., SOI).</p> <p>Collaborate on the development of the Cooperation Plan.</p> <p>Provide input on the development of the Integrated Guidelines.</p> <p><u>Information sharing:</u></p> <p>Share information as applicable on the development of the Cooperation Plan.</p> <p>IAAC shares information from the review of technical documents (e.g., IPD, SOI).</p>
<p>IAAC and the CNSC prepare draft review panel Terms of Reference (TOR).</p>	<p><u>Information sharing:</u></p> <p>IAAC shares information on the development and content of the review panel's TOR.</p> <p>The review panel's TOR will be developed by IAAC and the CNSC and established by the Minister. Agreements may be entered into with jurisdictions as referred to in paragraphs (a) to (g) of the definition of jurisdiction in the IAA.</p>



Integrated Assessment Process *in collaboration with CNSC	Information Sharing Opportunities and Efficiencies
<p>Impact Statement Phase</p> <p>The proponent prepares and submits an Impact Statement which includes the information necessary for a Licence to Prepare Site (LTPS) application.</p> <p>IAAC and the CNSC invite comments on the Impact Statement.</p> <p>IAAC leads the review of the Impact Statement, with input from participating ministries and regulatory boards, to determine if it conforms to the Integrated Guidelines (<i>IAA</i>, Section 19(4) decision).</p> <p>CNSC reviews the Impact Statement to determine if there is adequate information for staff to make recommendations based on regulatory requirements.</p>	<p><u>Information sharing:</u></p> <p>IAAC and the CNSC keep participating ministries and regulatory boards informed on any important issues.</p> <p>Participating ministries and regulatory boards cooperate and leverage technical expertise and capacity during the review of the proponent's Impact Statement, including the identification of potential deficiencies, information requests, and information sharing.</p>



<p>Integrated Assessment Process *in collaboration with CNSC</p>	<p>Information Sharing Opportunities and Efficiencies</p>
<p>Impact Assessment Phase</p> <p>Review panel drafts potential IA conditions and makes them available for public comment.</p> <p>Review panel will hold public hearings once it has determined that it has sufficient information.</p> <p>Review panel prepares the Impact Assessment Report, which summarizes the integrated assessment process and considers the information and evidence provided by the proponent, any participating ministries and regulatory boards, Indigenous Nations and communities, and the public.</p> <p>Review panel makes recommendations and submits its report to the Minister.</p> <p>IAAC prepares recommendations to assist the Minister, including the Consultation and Accommodation Report.</p>	<p><u>Information sharing:</u></p> <p>Participating ministries and regulatory boards continue to cooperate and leverage technical expertise and capacity during the review of the proponent’s information.</p> <p>Participating ministries and regulatory boards provide complete and timely information to the review panel, as appropriate.</p> <p>Participating ministries and regulatory boards share information in advance of any submissions to the review panel to avoid duplication and ensure consistency/alignment, to the extent possible.</p>
<p>Decision-making Phase</p> <p>Governor in Council makes public interest determination.</p> <p>Minister issues a Decision Statement.</p>	<p><u>Information sharing:</u></p> <p>IAAC shares the Decision Statement, when issued, with participating ministries and regulatory boards.</p>



Integrated Assessment Process *in collaboration with CNSC	Information Sharing Opportunities and Efficiencies
<p>Public engagement and Indigenous consultation (throughout assessment process).</p>	<p><u>Information sharing:</u></p> <p>If participating ministries and regulatory boards determine they have consultation obligations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IAAC and the CNSC to share information on Indigenous Nations and communities, preliminary consultation information, including contacts, protocols and potential impacts to rights where possible. <p><u>Indigenous consultation and engagement:</u></p> <p>If applicable, IAAC, the CNSC, and participating ministries and regulatory boards coordinate engagement and consultation activities (to the extent possible), including comment periods and Indigenous consultation to avoid consultation fatigue and ensure Indigenous Nations and communities have the capacity to actively participate.</p> <p><u>Public engagement:</u></p> <p>If applicable, IAAC, the CNSC, and participating ministries and regulatory boards coordinate public engagement activities, including comment periods (to the extent possible) to avoid engagement fatigue and to support participation.</p>
<p>Post-decision Phase</p> <p>The Review Panel, as the Commission, decides on the LTPS under the NSCA, including proposed conditions.</p>	<p><u>Information sharing:</u></p> <p>CNSC to share record of decision on the LTPS, when issued, with participating ministries and regulatory boards.</p>



6. Public participation and participant funding

If the province or proponent identify any comment periods for potential EA processes or for any permits and approval applications that may be required, IAAC and the CNSC will collaborate with participating ministries and regulatory boards to align comment periods with the integrated assessment, to the extent possible, and include links to each others' websites, coordinate public notices, and share comments received, where appropriate.

Funding to support public participation in the integrated assessment is available through IAAC's Participant Funding Program. For information about the activities that are eligible for funding or to apply for funding please see the National Program Guidelines and application on the following page <https://www.canada.ca/en/environmental-assessment-agency/services/public-participation/participant-funding-application-environmental-assessment.html>.

For further information on public participation and engagement activities, please see the project's [Public Participation Plan](#).

7. Indigenous consultation and engagement

IAAC will lead Crown Consultation on behalf of the Government of Canada for this assessment, in collaboration with the CNSC. If applicable, Alberta would be responsible for Crown Consultation for applicable provincial decisions.

IAAC will coordinate, to the extent possible and as desired by Indigenous Nations and communities, with participating ministries and regulatory boards while respecting the principles of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP) and Indigenous Data Sovereignty.

Where participating ministries and regulatory boards also have consultation obligations, federal and provincial consultation and engagement can be aligned, where appropriate and supported by Indigenous Nations and communities, to minimize consultation fatigue and share information, while ensuring Indigenous Nations and communities have the capacity to meaningfully participate.

For further information on proposed Indigenous consultation and engagement activities as part of the integrated assessment process, please see the project's [Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan](#).

8. Decision Statement

If applicable, IAAC, the CNSC and participating ministries and regulatory boards will consult with each other regarding draft Impact Assessment conditions to ensure consistency of conditions and improve regulatory efficiencies.



9. Interpretation

This Plan is not a legal document and does not change any existing federal, provincial, or Indigenous legislative or regulatory jurisdiction, right, power, privilege, prerogative or immunity by virtue, nor does it create any new legal powers, duties or legally binding obligations.

10. Contact Information

The IAAC office designated for administering the integrated assessment of the project in collaboration with the CNSC is:

Integrated Assessment for the Peace River Nuclear Power Project
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Review Panel Division
160 Elgin Street, 22nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3
Email: peacenuclear-nucleairepaix@iaac-aeic.gc.ca



Appendix 1

Table A1. Alberta Ministries and Regulatory Boards Participating in the Integrated Assessment

Provincial Ministry	Responsibilities	Contact Information
<p>Ministry of the Environment, and Protected Areas (AEPA)</p>	<p>The Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas works to protect and restore the environment and ecosystems throughout the province, while supporting economic prosperity, quality of life and a sustainable future for Albertans. Using a common-sense approach, the Ministry works to ensure the environment and natural resources are conserved and responsibly developed to best support the needs of Alberta communities, Indigenous Peoples, and job creators, now and into the future.</p> <p>This includes the responsibility that large-scale industrial and resource development projects do not adversely affect Alberta’s environmental quality. This is done by managing the provincial environmental assessment process and addressing such impacts, for example but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • air quality, noise impacts, groundwater and surface water, drinking water sources, fish consumption aquatics, wildlife species at risk, environmental spills (land and surface water and soils). <p>The ministry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • works to protect and enhance Alberta’s environment and ecosystems to ensure a sustainable future, making life better for Albertans • works with Albertans, Indigenous communities and stakeholders to ensure the province’s environmental, social and economic outcomes for the future are met • engages Albertans to understand the challenges in ensuring Alberta’s natural resources are managed using innovative and responsible approaches 	<p>Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas 2nd Floor - 9920 108 Street NW Edmonton AB, T5K 2M4 Tel.: 780-427-5828 Email: environmental.assessment@gov.ab.ca</p>



Ministry of Affordability and Utilities (AU)	The ministry: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• leads and coordinates government's ongoing efforts to make everyday life more affordable• manages and develops policy for the development of the province's utilities sector• oversees a reliable and affordable electricity system for Albertans	
---	---	--



Appendix 2

Table A2. Alberta Ministry Regulatory Mechanism References

The following is a preliminary list of provincial regulatory mechanisms that may apply if the project would be permitted to proceed:

Regulatory Mechanism	Reference
Approval under the <i>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</i> . The <i>Activities Designation Regulation</i> indicates an approval is required for a power plant	https://www.alberta.ca/apply-for-environmental-protection-and-enhancement-act-approvals
Approval (at minimum) for construction and a licence for water diversion and use under the <i>Water Act</i> and its regulations.	https://open.alberta.ca/publications/water-act-approvals
Disposition under the <i>Public Lands Administration Regulation</i> .	https://open.alberta.ca/publications/plar-approvals-and-authorizations-administrative-procedures
Approval under the <i>Historical Resources Act</i> .	https://www.alberta.ca/apply-historical-resources-act-approval-development-project
Approval under the <i>Hydro and Electric Energy Act</i> .	https://www.auc.ab.ca/rule-007/
Permit for Species at Risk under the <i>Wildlife Act</i>	Wildlife Act - Open Government