

What We Heard

Summary of Concerns Raised at Public Information Sessions for the Centre Village Renewables Integration and Grid Security Project held by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada on July 21 and 22, 2025

Potential Effects of the Project

- Concerns about increased greenhouse gas emissions.
- Concerns about effluent discharge composition, downstream impacts, and the project impact to local well water, groundwater, and the aquifer.
- Questions about the project's impact on birds, wetlands, fish and fish habitat, flora and fauna.
- Concerns about impacts to the sensitive priority conservation area of the Chignecto Isthmus, and wildlife connectivity.
- Concerns about air quality and sound disturbances.

Impact Assessment Process

- Requests for a federal comprehensive impact assessment.
- Questions about what effects are considered areas of federal or provincial jurisdiction and how the decision on whether a federal comprehensive assessment will be made.
- Concerns about the length of the comment period, the short notice of the project, and the technology barriers to participation for elderly residents.
- Concerns about the adequacy of consultation with Indigenous communities, including off-reserve populations.
- Questions about the extent of Indigenous equity participation.

Site Selection and Project Planning

- Questions about how the site selection of Centre Village was chosen over other sites (like Scoudouc).
- Questions regarding how environmental factors influenced site selection.
- Concerns regarding the management of Canadian infrastructure by a U.S.- based company.

Health and Safety

- Concerns about the lack of disaster mitigation planning and lack of local emergency response capacity.
- Concerns about the potential upstream health impacts if natural gas used originates from fracked sources.
- Concerns about health effects from exposure to effluent and air emissions.
- Concerns regarding the poor condition of roads near the project location, should there be an emergency.

Alternatives to the Project and Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project

- Questions about the lack of consideration of alternatives, such as battery storage.
- Questions about the feasibility of converting the facility to hydrogen.
- Questions about whether and how the project supports renewables and grid stability.
- Questions about aeroderivative turbines and their use in Canada.
- Questions regarding the project's operation capacity, and concerns it could operate more than the proponent estimated.