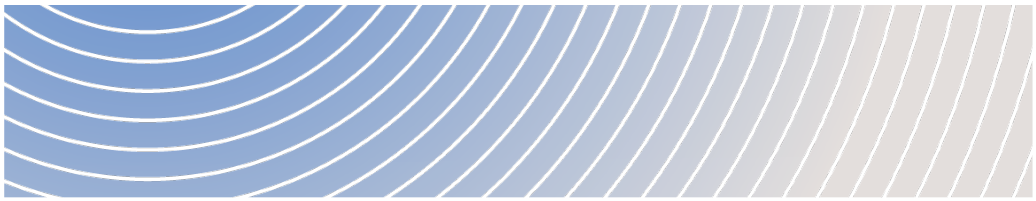
Summary of the draft Integrated Guidelines



NEW NUCLEAR AT WESLEYVILLE PROJECT

April 7, 2026

DRAFT VERSION

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Agence d'évaluation d'impact du Canada

Canada

The following is a summary and does not provide a full list of requirements found in the draft Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (the integrated guidelines). The intention of this document is as a communication tool for participants to support their understanding and review of the draft integrated guidelines.

For the full list of requirements, please refer to the complete draft Integrated Guidelines on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry at https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/165939?culture=en-CA

Section 1: Introduction

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

- Prepare the Impact Statement in a way that is ethical and respectful
- Provide an Impact Statement that will meet the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's (IAAC) requirements, including the Generic requirements for Impact Statements and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's (the CNSC) expectations in these integrated guidelines
- Assess the key factors identified for the impact assessment, including potential environmental, health, social, and economic effects
- Share information early on federal permits and approvals to help coordinate regulatory processes and streamline reviews

Section 2: Project Description

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

- Identify the proponent's:
  - Legal name and contact information
  - Corporate structure and affiliations
- Demonstrate qualifications of the people preparing the Impact Statement
- Explain management structure for site evaluation activities and roles of key personnel
- Provide a full project overview, including:
  - Purpose and objectives
  - Components and physical activities at each project phase: construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning
- Describe key project elements, such as:
  - New reactors (including those in the plant parameter approach), cooling systems, water intake and discharge structures, power transmission, waste management
  - Temporary and permanent infrastructure (e.g., roads, storage, buildings)
- Provide maps showing:

  - Site boundaries and layout
  - Proximity to adjacent resource leases, land uses and federal lands
- Provide timelines and schedules for each project phase

Purpose and Need:

- Describe why the project is being proposed, including:
  - Energy demand forecasts
  - Policy drivers

Alternatives Assessment:

- Evaluate alternative means of carrying out the project (e.g., different locations or technologies) and present how choices were justified based on:
  - Technical and economic achievability
  - Potential environmental and health effects
  - Impacts on Indigenous Peoples and public interests
- Include reasons for not choosing specific alternatives

Section 3: Description of Engagement with First Nations and other Indigenous Communities

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

- Follow the standard Indigenous engagement requirements (Generic Requirements) and relevant IAAC guidance, and comply with CNSC REGDOC-3.2.2.
- Summarize engagement to date: who was engaged, how, when/how often, and any community protocols or preferences.
- With permission, include key records of engagement and any Indigenous-led studies or assessments; respect confidentiality and data ownership.
- Describe how disagreements were addressed and how consensus was sought during Impact Statement development.
- Describe how First Nations and other Indigenous communities' decisions about free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) were sought and supported, and how discussions will continue (noting FPIC for Crown decisions is the Crown's responsibility).
- Describe capacity needs and how First Nations and other Indigenous communities were supported, including community views on whether funding support was reasonable.
- Describe how timelines were communicated and whether they were flexible enough to support review, understanding, and input.

- Describe commitments to continue engagement throughout the project lifecycle (if the project proceeds), including how engagement will be reported to the CNSC.

Section 4: Assessment Methodology

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

- Follow the standard assessment methodology requirements (Generic Requirements) and relevant IAAC guidance, and explain how the methodology is used across the Impact Statement.
- Describe methods for study boundaries (space/time), baseline conditions, effects assessment, mitigation, residual and cumulative effects, significance, follow-up, and how uncertainty and bias were addressed.
- Ensure baseline data collection is adequate for elements that may be carried into future licensing phases, including monitoring for specified levels of change.
- Provide data sources and collection methods (e.g., sampling, surveys, protocols), and describe modelling methods and key assumptions.
- Identify measurement endpoints, as appropriate.

Section 5: Biophysical Environment

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

Topics (environmental components):

- Meteorological environment: weather, air quality, climate change influence
- Water: surface water quality and quantity, groundwater, wetlands
- Land and soil: soil quality, erosion, contamination risks, geology
- Wildlife and plants: migration, nesting, breeding, species at risk, habitat
- Noise and vibration: effects on wildlife and nearby communities
- Light pollution: night-time lighting impacts
- Electromagnetic field: exposure levels and health risks
- Species at risk, birds, and fish

Requirements:

- Provide baseline conditions for each environmental component (topics listed above)
- Include maps, including maps showing habitat types, water flow, sensitive areas
- Predict changes from all activities and phases of the project. For example:
  - Construction: clearing land, blasting, trenching
  - Operation: discharges, noise, emissions

    - Accidents: spills, radiation leaks, fires, seismic activity (earthquakes)
- Follow federal and provincial guidelines for study methods

Section 6: Health, Social, and Economic Conditions

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

Topics:

- Health:
    - Physical health (e.g., air quality, noise, radiation)
    - Mental and emotional health (e.g., stress from construction or displacement)
    - Access to healthcare and safe drinking water
    - Country foods
- Social and infrastructure:
    - Housing availability and affordability
    - Traffic and transportation safety
    - Emergency services, policing, education systems
- Economic topics:
    - Job creation and workforce needs
    - Employment and training opportunities
    - Gender-based pay disparity
    - Pressure on local businesses and services
    - Impacts on traditional, local, regional, and land-based economies

Requirements:

- Include information for both the local communities and for First Nations and other Indigenous communities.
- Include vulnerable populations:
    - Elders, children, people with existing health conditions
    - Low-income and racialized communities
    - 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals
- Provide baseline conditions for each Valued Component
- Predict changes and effects from all activities and phases of the project
- Propose mitigation measures. For example:
    - Hire locally and equitably
    - Invest in education or training programs
    - Support community programs and infrastructure

- Follow federal and provincial guidelines for methodology and thresholds

Section 7: Indigenous Peoples

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

Topics:

- Physical and cultural use:
  - Historical and current cumulative effects
  - Indigenous governance, laws, and traditional activities
  - Archaeological sites, protected areas, cultural sites, and efforts to restore traditional practices.
  - Harvesting and resource use
- Health, social and economic:
  - First Nation or other Indigenous community specific health, social and economic concerns
- Indigenous rights:
  - Project related impacts on the ability to exercise rights identified by First Nations and other Indigenous communities
  - Cumulative impacts on Indigenous rights

Requirements:

- Work with First Nations and other Indigenous communities to provide baseline information on Valued Components.
- Assess:
  - how the project might impact important heritage sites and structures
  - how impacts could affect Indigenous Peoples' ability to pass on their culture and knowledge
  - the potential effects on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes
- Document and assess the potential impacts on Indigenous rights
- Provide solutions and mitigation to address concerns raised by First Nations and other Indigenous communities

Section 8: Security Considerations

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

- Conduct a Site Selection Threat and Risk Assessment (SSTRA) that includes:
  - Evaluation of physical threats, such as terrorism, sabotage, and armed attacks
  - Identification of potential attack pathways, including air, road and water routes

    - Assessment of response capabilities, including response time and personnel availability
- Describe on-site security measures, including:
    - Fencing, surveillance systems, restricted zones, and controlled access points
    - Cybersecurity protections and procedures for handling insider threats
- Address potential vulnerabilities during:
    - Construction
    - Operations
    - Maintenance and decommissioning
- Include any mitigation measures, such as:
    - Design features that improve defense and resilience
    - Collaboration with local police, fire, and emergency response units
- The SSTRA is confidential but must be prepared and ready for regulatory review

Section 9: Effects of Potential Accidents or Malfunctions

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

- Identify and describe all realistic accident scenarios, including:
    - Equipment failures, fires, explosions, chemical leaks, radiological hazards
    - External hazards: earthquakes, wildfires, ice storms, floods, storms, plane crashes
    - Human error or cyber security incidents
    - Transportation accidents involving hazardous or radioactive materials
    - Potential effects of climate change
- Predict how these events could affect:
    - Public safety
    - Air and water quality
    - Wildlife and habitats
    - Indigenous rights and land use
- Estimate the likelihood and consequences (short and long term) of each accident scenario
- Assess the risk to the health and safety of workers and the public over the lifecycle of the project
- Develop and describe mitigation strategies:
    - Emergency response plans (including a description of current emergency response systems)
    - Containment systems
    - Spill control and radiation protection measures
    - Communication protocols with first responders, the public, and First Nations and other Indigenous communities

  - Long-term monitoring and recovery measures
- Outline financial guarantees to ensure compensation and environmental restoration in the event of a disaster

Section 10: Contributions to inform Decision Making

Instructions to Ontario Power Generation include:

- Demonstrate how the project affects Canada's ability to meet:
  - Climate commitments, including net-zero (i.e., produce no more than the amount of greenhouse gas that gets removed from the atmosphere) by 2050
  - Nature and biodiversity targets, such as conserving 30% of lands and waters by 2030
  - Other environmental objectives under federal legislation and international agreements (e.g., migratory birds, species at risk)
- Provide:
  - Greenhouse gas emissions from all project phases (construction, operation, decommissioning)
  - Carbon sinks (like forests or wetlands) that may be affected or destroyed
- Explain how the project aligns with:
  - Federal climate and environmental plans
  - Regional sustainability strategies
- Evaluate the long-term benefits and risks of the project for current and future generations
- Identify Valued Components (e.g., endangered species, clean water, cultural sites) that are critical to sustainability
- Determine whether the project:
  - Contributes positively to sustainability
  - Has long term impact on future generations and whether impact will extend beyond the project lifecycle
  - Has neutral or uncertain effects
  - Includes risks that must be reduced or managed
  - Propose actions to enhance positive effects and reduce long-term harm, especially in the face of uncertainty