

**Federal Authority Advice Record (FAAR)****FAAR Response must be submitted by January 26, 2026**

Beacon AI Centers Heartland Project – Heartland Power.

Registry File: 90123

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1. Will your department or agency exercise a **power, perform a duty or function**, or provide **financial assistance**, related to the project to enable it to be carried out in whole or in part? As relevant,
  - a) Specify the power, duty or function, or financial assistance, and the likelihood that it will be required to construct the project, based on the Initial Project Description, as either Required, Potential, Likely, Unlikely or Not Required
  - b) Describe any associated Indigenous or public consultation, including timelines
  - c) Describe any associated information requirements (e.g., alternative means assessment, habitat offsetting), and specify those that may be coordinated with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required
  - d) Identify any associated project-specific guidance or issues of which the proponent should be aware, or information the proponent should provide
  - e) Indicate whether your department or agency has identified any power that it will not be exercising or may not be able to exercise to allow the project to be carried out, in whole or in part.

[Health Canada \(HC\) will not exercise a power, perform a duty or function, or provide financial assistance related to the Project.](#)
2. **Using Table 1**, identify project- and context- specific **key issues**, based on the expertise within your mandate<sup>1</sup> and the information in your possession, including the Initial Project Description, any exchanges with the proponent or others related to the project and known means to address the effects of the project. For each key issue:
  - a) Specify the key issue (e.g., specific species and location)
  - b) Specify the project component or activity linked to the key issue
  - c) Explain why it's a key issue based on:
    - i. biophysical effect pathway(s) from the specific project component or activity
    - ii. concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandate
    - iii. the issue being material<sup>2</sup> to decision making under the *Impact Assessment Act*
  - d) Identify how the issue could be resolved, including through means other than an impact assessment
  - e) Identify additional information the proponent could provide including to give confidence on how the issue can be addressed through other means.

Ayesha Sohail

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 Name and title of Departmental /  
 Agency Responder

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 January 26, 2026  
 Date

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the [Memoranda of Understanding with IAAC](#).

<sup>2</sup> An issue is material to decision making if its analysis is anticipated to affect the conclusions on (1) whether adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or direct and incidental adverse effects (collectively adverse federal effects) are likely not significant, or of low, medium or high significance; (2) appropriate mitigation measures for significant adverse federal effects; or (3) justification in the public interest.

**Table 1: Key Issues to inform the impact assessment process**

This table should outline key issues to inform the impact assessment process, including whether an impact assessment is required and, if so, the scope of the assessment and tailoring of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines.

Key issues are the major concerns directly related to a project component or activity, the analysis of which is anticipated to be material to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*.

Federal authorities' advice should be guided by the identification and resolution of key issues. If an impact assessment is required, it will be focused on key issues.

Comment ID	a) Key issue	b) Project component or activity	c)(i) Biophysical effect pathway(s)	c)(ii) Concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandate	c)(iii) Material to federal decision-making	d) Means for issue resolution	e) Additional information from the proponent
<p>Identify comments by organization and comment number.</p> <p>e.g.: IAAC-01</p>	<p>Specify the key issue (e.g., specific species and location).</p>	<p>Identify the project component or activity linked to the key issue.</p> <p>Be specific about the nature, scale, novelty and complexity or the component or activity.</p>	<p>Identify the specific biophysical effect pathway between the project component or activity and the affected environmental or human receptor (including Indigenous Peoples).</p>	<p>Describe why it's a key issue within the mandate of your department or agency, including in terms of priorities of the federal government and in terms of anticipated likelihood, severity or uncertainty of effects.</p> <p>Identify if the key issue is common for projects of this nature or in this sector, or whether it's unique to this project due to its complexity, size or novelty; a sensitive or rare receiving environment; and/or proximity of sensitive environmental or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples).</p>	<p>Describe why the key issue is material to decision-making as either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>federal experts' knowledge and experience with past project assessments;</li> <li>presence of sensitive species, habitats or human receptors (including Indigenous Peoples);</li> <li>novel or complex project activities, components or technologies;</li> <li>high uncertainties in effects or in the effectiveness of mitigation measures;</li> <li>unknown or unproven mitigation; or</li> </ul> </li> <li>a factor for the justification in the public interest anticipated to be material to decision-making such as a likely positive effect contributing to sustainability, to Canada's environmental obligations or climate change commitments or in supporting governmental priorities, such as reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.</li> </ul>	<p>Describe how the key issue could be resolved or addressed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance that your department or agency has;</li> <li>Any means, including powers, duties, functions, frameworks, policies or guidance from another jurisdiction, including the province;</li> <li>Common, proven, well-understood or standard mitigation measures to mitigate the effect or effect pathway(s); or</li> <li>Commitments made by the proponent (e.g., in the Initial Project Description).</li> </ul>	<p>Describe information the proponent can provide, or commitments the proponent can make, in their Response to the Summary of Issues that would provide confidence that the issue can be resolved by existing means.</p> <p>Consider whether information, studies, analyses or collaborative work with other authorities would be required to address the issue beyond existing means.</p>
HC-01	<p>Potential exposure of Indigenous peoples to Contaminants of Potential Concern (COPCs) as a result of Project activities.</p>	<p>Construction and operations of the 920 MW natural gas fired power generation facility may result in the emission of air borne contaminants.</p> <p>Emission sources include diesel and gasoline engines (which may emit nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and</p>	<p>Exposure of Indigenous receptors via inhalation of CoPCs due to changes in ambient air quality associated with Project air emissions, including cumulative exposure on sensitive populations.</p>	<p>Under the Impact Assessment Act (IAA), Health Canada (HC) provides specialist or expert information and knowledge to support the assessment of impacts on the health of Indigenous peoples.</p> <p>Air emissions are expected from Project activities which might lead to impacts on Indigenous health, an area of federal jurisdiction. The air quality report notes that maximum predicted 1-hour and 24-</p>	<p>As per <i>Impact Assessment Act</i> Sections 2(e) and 2(f), adverse effects on the health of Indigenous peoples related to the Project falls within federal jurisdiction.</p> <p>The Project is located on Treaty 6 territory. The closest Indigenous reserve is Alexander First Nation 134, approximately 45km west of the Project. The closest residence is located 200m north of the Project area.</p> <p>The Project is located approximately 7 km north of Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, in the IH-DIZ. Fort Saskatchewan is an urban center which houses an urban Indigenous population who may choose to engage in traditional land use activities in the region.</p>	<p>HC recommends that the most stringent air quality objectives or standards (e.g., Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) or the World Health Organization (WHO) global air quality guidelines<sup>3</sup> for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) be used when undertaking air quality assessments. It is important, during air quality assessments to consider health-protective guidelines, including for non-threshold contaminants (such as PM<sub>2.5</sub>) for which health effects can be observed at any level of exposure. Further, applicable air quality standards, such as the CAAQS, should not be considered as "pollute up-to" levels and the Proponent is</p>	<p>HC recommends comparing the air dispersion modelling results against solely health-based guidelines; applying health-based benchmarks; considering cumulative air quality and identifying monitoring/adaptive management commitments as needed.</p> <p>HC recommends implementing all economically and technologically feasible mitigation measures to</p>

<sup>3</sup> World Health Organization. (2021). WHO global air quality guidelines: particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide. World Health Organization. <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/345329>.

		particulate matter), exhaust stacks and fugitive dust from land clearing and site preparation.		<p>hour PM2.5 concentrations may exceed Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives and Guidelines (AAAQO/G). The iPD considers these exceedances to be associated with emissions from existing regional industrial facilities.</p> <p>The air quality assessment in the iPD provides baseline context for air quality in the region but does not include discussion of receptor-based acute or chronic exposure.</p> <p>The Project is located in the Alberta Industrial Heartland – Designated Industrial Zone (IH-DIZ) which is zoned for heavy industrial use. HC does not have knowledge of the receiving environment being sensitive or rare.</p>		encouraged to strive for continuous improvement.	limit emissions of non-threshold air contaminants to the extent possible.

Please insert additional rows as necessary.