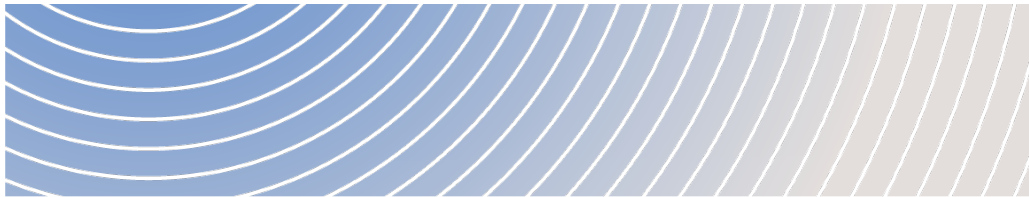




Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Timiskaming Dam- Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project



INFORMATION REQUEST NO 1 (PART 2)

4 March 2024



Canada



Table of contents

Surface Water	1
Information requests directed to the proponent	1
Comments and advice for the proponent.....	2
Fish and Fish Habitat	4
Information requests directed to the proponent	4
Comments and advice for the proponent.....	5
Birds and Bird Habitat.....	6
Information requests directed to the proponent	6
Indigenous Peoples.....	8
Information requests directed to the proponent	8
Comments and advice for the proponent.....	9
Accidents or failures	13
Information requests directed to the proponent	13
Archeological Resources.....	14
Comments and advice for the proponent.....	14
Follow-up and Monitoring programs	17
Comments and advice for the proponent.....	17



Important information to consider when responding to the information request

Rationale for missing elements of information

The proponent must answer all the following questions to allow the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) to continue its analysis. Referring to the sector studies is not a sufficient response. These studies support the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The proponent must clearly indicate how it considered these studies in its environmental assessment and decisions.

If the proponent chooses to provide a single answer for more than one question, the proponent must clearly identify which questions the answer relates to.

The proponent must provide a rationale if no information is submitted for any of the items requested in this information request.

Review of the environmental effects assessment

For any questions that require a revision of the project's environmental effects assessment, the proponent must also update the following aspects:

- descriptions of potential environmental effects
- mitigation measures
- descriptions and assessments of the significance of residual environmental effects
- cumulative effects assessment
- monitoring and follow-up program

Mitigation measures

In responding to the questions in this information request, the proponent must describe the practices, policies and commitments that constitute mitigation measures, i.e., technically and economically feasible measures for the elimination, reduction or control of the project's environmental effects. In its analysis of the significance of the effects, the Agency assesses whether the mitigation measures proposed by the proponent are adequate to mitigate the anticipated effects on the various valued components. In the absence of adequate mitigation measures proposed by the proponent, the Agency may conclude that there are significant adverse environmental effects and present its conclusions in the environmental assessment report submitted to the Minister.

Surface Water

Information requests directed to the proponent

IAAC-1-103 Road drainage system – AOO concerns

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Section 7.1.5 (Surface water)*.

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 7*.

Context

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) are still concerned that salt-loading and suspended solids from road run off could still find its way into the Kichi-Sibi. In chapter 8 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the proponent answered that “The Ontario and Quebec’s road standards will be implemented which prevent road runoff from entering directly into the river”. AOO requests that section 7 of the EIS be updated with this information and indicate what these road standards are with respect to mitigating impacts to salt-loading and suspended solids from road run off into the Kichi-Sibi.

The Agency instructs the proponent (Public Services and Procurement Canada) to:

- A) Update section 7 of the Environmental Impact Statement with information referring to road’s drainage system and a description of these road standards with respect to mitigating impacts to salt-loading and suspended solids from road run off into the Kichi-Sibi.

PSPC Response:

See stormwater drainage drawings in Appendix A. Drainage of the new road system will be similar to the existing system, made of a mix of open ditches and culverts. No catch basin is planned other than the lower points of the manholes. There will be a total of 4 outflows to the Ottawa River:

- Outflow A: draining the area East of the road on Long Sault Island;
- Outflow B: draining the PSPC service area West of the road on Long Sault Island;
- Outflow C: draining the area between this fish passage and the road next to the dam-bridge on Long Sault Island;
- Outflow D: draining the area on the Quebec shore.

Limited impact is anticipated from new stormwater drainage system. Excavation will be performed during road construction while the cofferdam is in place, limiting risk of releasing sediment to the river (Outflows B, C, D). As for Outflow A, point of release it is planned outside of the riverbed also limiting risk of releasing sediment during construction. As stated in Response AEIC-1-16, a complete set of mitigation measures are planned to protect quality of surface water during construction.



Comments and advice for the proponent

Comment 1-46 Hydrologic model and contaminants

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Section 7.1.5 (Surface water)*.

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 11.2.3.4.2*.

Comments and advice

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) are concerned that the proponent did not “provide the methods and results for a hydrologic model that investigates how this change in river hydrology may erode, transport, and deposit riverbed sediments during a worst-case scenario” and that the current model “still considered the riverbed to be a non-erodible surface.”

In particular, the proponent states: “The HEC-RAS software also identifies a composite layer on the bed, made up of several particle sizes. To study the plume of sediment generated by removing the cofferdam, the bed of the waterway was considered to be a non-erodible surface, as it consists primarily of metric blocks and layered stones forming a natural cobbling on the bed”. This statement indicates that the redistribution of riverbed sediments was not considered in the model. Given that the Arbour¹ (2020) report indicates high levels of heavy metals in most sample locations, it is important to understand how changing the hydrology of the river may disrupt these sediments during a 1 in 10-year flooding event. This was a primary concern for Indigenous Peoples and was identified as a valued component by AOO. Algonquin community members will continue to harvest fish in this area for generations. It is important to understand all potential impacts and risks to human health. Given the importance of this issue, AOO indicate that it should be carried forward to an issue resolution meeting.

Also, the monitoring programs presented in chapters 22 and 23 are not adequate to capture all changes in water quality resulting from changes in river hydrology. In the worst-case scenario, where changes in the hydrology of the river results in the redistribution of contaminated sediments during a 1 in 10-year flooding event, a better sampling program will be needed. The proponent must provide details to demonstrate that any changes in water quality associated with the changes in the river hydrology will be captured by the monitoring program in all flow conditions up to a 1-in-10-year return period flood. The potential redistribution of contaminated sediments is highly concerning to AOO. AOO indicate that this issue should be carried

¹ Arbour, C. (2020). Assessing inputs of contaminants in the upper Ottawa River near the town of Temiskaming, Quebec. Nipissing University.



forward to an issue resolution meeting, with a commitment to discuss how capacity could be provided to AOO to hire environmental monitors to help fill identified gaps in the monitoring program.

AOO request an issue resolution meeting related to the potential redistribution of contaminated sediments. It is of utmost importance to AOO to understand the likelihood and magnitude of all impacts to water quality, especially the resuspension of mercury and methylmercury, which have the potential to impact the aquatic environment and Algonquin health and well-being.

PSPC Response:

In the draft consultation and communications plan for AOO, PSPC has added these topics for discussion and resolution. PSPC has reviewed the consultation and communications plans with the AOO to ensure that the plan and the topics reflect how AOO wishes to be consulted and what issues should be resolved.



Fish and Fish Habitat

Information requests directed to the proponent

IAAC-1-104 Fish sampling protocols

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Section 7.1.5 (Surface water)*.

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 7*.

Context

Because the fish and wildlife habitat and water quality of the Kichi-Sibi and surrounding areas are of the utmost importance to the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO), it is important to AOO that there is scientific rationale for parameters and protocols for water quality monitoring, incidental capture thresholds, and significant levels of mortality.

The Agency instructs the proponent (Public Services and Procurement Canada) to:

- A) Provide an update to the fish sampling protocols to reflect the recommendations of AOO to reduce avoidable environmental impacts and provide meaningful involvement in both the environmental monitoring for the project and subsequent adaptive management.

PSPC Response:

In its responses to AEIC-1-99 to AEIC-1-101, PSPC provided additional rationale and precision on water quality monitoring to protect water quality of the Kichi-Sibi and surrounding areas. PSPC also committed to reducing the incidental capture thresholds of wildlife in response to AEIC-1-51, and comment 1-23.

In the draft consultation and communications plan for AOO, PSPC has added these topics for discussion and resolution. PSPC has reviewed the consultation and communications plans with the AOO to ensure that the plan and the topics reflect how AOO wishes to be consulted and what issues should be resolved. For now, no additional fish sampling is planned before and during the construction. Fish monitoring and follow-up programs might be required by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in its fish authorization. Should any fish samplings be conducted, recommendations from the AOO will be taken into considerations.



Comments and advice for the proponent

Comment 1-47 Habitat compensation – AOO clarifications

References

CEAA, August 2018. Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 7.1.6 (Fish and fish habitat) and 7.3.1 (Fish and fish habitat).

Tetra Tech, February 2023. Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, sections 12.2.2.5.1

IAAC, May 2023. Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project, Information Request No 1 (Part 1), Comment 1-14.

Comments and advice

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) wish to clarify Comment 1-14 of the first part of the first information request. AOO states that the proponent failed to respond to AOO's recommendation to increase its fish habitat compensation ratio. AOO request that the proponent provides a more robust offsetting ratio than the minimum requirements of Fisheries and Oceans Canada to offset the cumulative effects that isolated fish populations have (extensive and long-standing habitat segregation) had to endure since the construction of the dam system in the Kichi-Sibi, including this proposed project. This commitment and action would satisfy the conservative standards that AOO hold for fish and habitat value.

PSPC Response:

PSPC commits to engaging directly with the AOO to develop and implement a fish habitat compensation plan. A higher offsetting ratio will be part of the discussion. PSPC also commits to addressing the suitability, stability, function, and monitoring of all spawning grounds or other areas important to fish as part of the fish habitat compensation plan. DFO will also directly consult with Indigenous groups on the fish habitat compensation plan.

Birds and Bird Habitat

Information requests directed to the proponent

IAAC-1-105 Migratory birds – incidental captures

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, sections 7.3.2 (Birds and bird habitat), 7.3.3 (Species at Risk) and 7.4 (Mitigation measures)*.

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, sections 12.2.4.5 and 12.2.6.5*.

IAAC, May 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project, Information Request No 1 (Part 1), IAAC-1-51*.

Context

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) wish to add information to the question IAAC-1-51 of the first part of the first information requests. The proponent indicates in the Environmental Impact Statement this following mitigation measure: “Record all incidental captures and accidents involving wildlife, and if significant levels are recorded at a particular location (more than 5), a biologist should be consulted to determine, with Indigenous peoples, if additional mitigation measures are required (develop, in collaboration with Indigenous groups, and implement a wildlife management plan)”.

AOO indicate that the proponent must provide a citation and justification for the suggested value of five (5) incidental captures. Additionally, AOO expect that a threshold of one (1) will be used for incidental captures for species at risk and species of conservation concern. Species at risk and of conservation concern must not be adversely affected by the project several times before a biologist is consulted to determine whether additional mitigation measures are required.

The Agency instructs the proponent (Public Services and Procurement Canada) to:

- A) Provide a justification for the suggested value of five (5) incidental captures.

PSPC Response:

The 5 incidental captures threshold was taken from specifications of similar projects recently completed. PSPC will adapt the specifications for this project to a threshold of 2 incidental captures. This has been changed based on the recommendation from Faune et Parcs of Government of Quebec.

- B) Consider the Algonquins of Ontario’s recommendation that a threshold of one (1) be used for incidental captures for species at risk and species of conservation concern. If it is not possible, justify why.



PSPC Response:

PSPC has already committed to a threshold of one incidental captures for species at risk (See Section 12.2.6.1, mitigation measure no.10):

“10. Record all incidental captures and accidents involving wildlife, and if significant levels (one for the species at risk) are recorded at a particular location, a biologist should be consulted to determine if additional mitigation measures are required (develop, in collaboration with Indigenous groups, and implement a wildlife management plan).”



Indigenous Peoples

Information requests directed to the proponent

IAAC-1-106 Health and socio-economic valued components – cumulative effects

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 7.3.4 (Indigenous Peoples), and 7.6.3 (Cumulative effects assessment)*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Chapter 17 (Cumulative effects)*

Context

The table 17.1 of the Environmental Impact Statement states that health and socio-economic was considered a valued component for a cumulative effect component. According to the Algonquins of Ontario this should be added to the Indigenous Nations valued components cumulative effects.

The Agency instructs the proponent (Public Services and Procurement Canada) to:

- A) Consider and assess the project's health and socio-economic cumulative effects on Indigenous Nations. If it is not possible, justify why.

PSPC Response:

SART and AOPFN have recently submitted their assessment of cumulative effects on their health and socio-economic valued components – please see responses in RFI Part 1, 1-71, 1-72, 1-73, and 1-79. The cumulative effects assessment did consider the health and socio-economic impacts on other Indigenous groups as was outlined in Table 17.1 with rationale given as to why they were not brought forward into the cumulative effects assessment.

IAAC-1-107 Bioaccumulation of methylmercury

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 7.3.4 (Indigenous peoples) and 7.4 (Mitigation measures)*.

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 22.4.*

Context

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) wish to add information to the question IAAC-1-72 of the first part of the first information request. In section 22.4 of the Environmental Impact Statement, the proponent indicates this following sentence: “taking into consideration that those criteria may not [emphasis added] protect higher trophic levels like fish and aquatic birds.” AOO request that it is clearly stated the water quality criteria used do not (as opposed to “may not”) protect against bioaccumulation of methylmercury in higher trophic levels and the consumption of fish by humans. As AOO have previously mentioned, Algonquin community members may consume more fish than the average Canadian as fish is part of their traditional diets, so it is very important the bioaccumulation risk to humans are clearly stated.

The Agency instructs the proponent (Public Services and Procurement Canada) to:

- A) Clearly state that the water quality criteria used do not (as opposed to “may not”) protect against bioaccumulation of methylmercury in higher trophic levels and the consumption of fish by humans. If unchanged, justify why.

PSPC Response:

The sentence “taking into consideration that those criteria may not protect higher trophic levels like fish and aquatic birds” is taken from the “Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life”, published by the CCME ([Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life - Mercury - Inorganic mercury and methylmercury \(ccme.ca\)](http://www.ccme.ca)). PSPC has not the authority nor the scientific capacity to challenge this statement.

Comments and advice for the proponent

Comment 1-48 Participation of AOO in discussions on fish passage options

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 7.3.4 (Indigenous peoples – Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes).*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 13.3.*

IAAC, May 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project, Information Request No 1 (Part 1), Comment-1-19.*

Comments and advice

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) wish to be involved in discussions on fish passage options. As previously mentioned, Kichi-Sibi Pimisi (American eel) has been an important species and harvest food source for Algonquin peoples since time immemorial, and AOO are deeply concerned with the health and vitality of this population and recommend taking steps in repairing the connection of the Kichi-Sibi by the construction of an eel fishway. AOO also agree with the Comment-1-19 of the first part of the first information request on



recommending the completion of a detailed study to evaluate the potential for a multi-species fishway and wish to be consulted on the design of this proposed study.

PSPC Response:

PSPC has already committed to this in the EIS. In the draft consultation and communications plan for AOO, PSPC has also added this topic for discussion and resolution. PSPC has reviewed the consultation and communications plans with the AOO to ensure that the plan and the topic reflect how AOO wishes to be consulted and what issues should be resolved.

Comment 1-49

Continued collaboration with AOO on socio-economic data

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 7.3.4 (Indigenous peoples – Health and Socio-economic conditions).*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 13.3.*

Comments and advice

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) acknowledge the proponent's efforts to collect AOO socio-economic data, and acknowledge the challenges faced in collecting the information and data necessary to adequately assess socio-economic impacts. AOO recognize that future Ottawa River infrastructure projects by the proponent provide further opportunity to work together to ensure economic benefits from future projects are enhanced through additional research and collaboration between AOO and the proponent. AOO request the opportunity to continue working collaboratively with the proponent to develop creative solutions to fill gaps in the necessary socio-economic information so that additional Algonquin socio-economic valued components may be identified.

PSPC Response:

In the draft consultation and communications plan for AOO, PSPC has also added this topic for discussion and resolution. PSPC has reviewed the consultation and communications plans with the AOO to ensure that the plan and the topic reflect how AOO wishes to be consulted and what issues should be resolved. As part of the Socio-economic Management Plan, if there are opportunities to collaborate in filling any socio-economic information gaps, PSPC is open to discussing these with the AOO.

Comment 1-50

AOO preferred nomenclature

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Section 5 (Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Issues Raised).*



Tetra Tech, February 2023. Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement.

Comments and advice

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) advise the proponent to use the following nomenclature throughout the Environmental Impact Statement:

- The terms “modern treaty negotiations” and “unceded AOO Settlement Area over “Algonquin (Ontario) land claim settlement”.
- The terms “Algonquin Knowledge” when referring to Indigenous Knowledge contributed by Algonquins, and “Algonquin Knowledge and Land Use Study” or AKLUS.

PSPC Response:

As requested by AOO during the EIS review process, these terms have been used in the EIS and will be used should further reports be developed.

Comment 1-51 Table 1.2 matrix of interactions between environmental and project components - socio-economic environment (Indigenous Peoples)

References

CEAA, August 2018. Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 7.3.4 (Indigenous peoples – Health and Socio-economic conditions).

Tetra Tech, February 2023. Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 10.3.

Comments and advice

Kebaowek First Nation, Wolf Lake First Nation and Timiskaming First Nation (SART) disagree with the approach limiting table 1.2 Matrix of Interactions Between Environmental and Project Components - Socio-Economic Environment (Indigenous People) - Option 1 (Downstream of the Existing Dam) limiting the assessment to option 1 and would like to see all options assessed in the same manner.

PSPC Response:

PSPC followed requirements and recommendations of the Agency's *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement* issued for the Timiskaming dam-bridge of Québec replacement project on August 21, 2018, and of the Agency's publication entitled *Addressing “Purpose of” and “Alternative Means” under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* released in March 2015. Concordance of the EIS to above cited Guidelines was confirmed by the Agency.

**Comment 1-52 Tables 6.9, 6.10 and 6.11 and presentations of Indigenous groups rights**

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 5 (Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Issues Raised)*.

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement*.

Comments and advice

Kebaowek First Nation, Wolf Lake First Nation and Timiskaming first Nation (SART) notice that Tables 6.9, 6.10, 6.11 categorizes rights impacts for all Indigenous groups and recommend that the proponent subdivide these tables so that they present impacts on rights and impacts on the interests of the groups consulted separately, for more clarity.

PSPC Response:

Tables 6.9, 6.10 and 6.11 are intended to show where there could be pathways of effects rather than show details for each Indigenous group. Further articulation of rights and the assessment of project and cumulative effects on each individual Indigenous group is contained in their section in Chapter 13 or in the RFIs submitted in Part 1.



Accidents or failures

Information requests directed to the proponent

IAAC-1-108 2022 dam break analysis

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 3.2.2 (Operation), and 7.6.1 (Effects of potential accidents or malfunctions).*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix 8.3, sections 15.3.2 and 24.*

Context

Section 15.3.2 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) states that “a more recent dam break analysis was conducted by KGS Group (KGS, 2022) for PSPC [the proponent] for the Timiskaming Dam Complex as part of a Dam Safety Review for the site” and Appendix 8.3 states that this report, which would include a numerical modelling of breach scenarios, would be available for the final EIS submitted to the Agency. Also, this analysis is not referenced in Chapter 24 nor is it made available in appendix of chapter 15 as done for the 2003 report in Appendix 15.1.

The Agency instructs the proponent (Public Services and Procurement Canada) to:

A) Provide the recent dam break analysis that was conducted by KGS Group (KGS, 2022).

PSPC Response:

This report is a protected document and cannot be shared through the Request For Information process. However, extracts from the report could be shared directly with the requester. This will be discussed directly with the requester.

Archeological Resources

Comments and advice for the proponent

Comment 1-53 Archeological guideline requirements

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Sections 7.3.4 (Indigenous Peoples), and 7.3.5 (Other Valued Components that may be affected by the project)*.

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Sections 13.4.4.8.3 (Rights Context: Physical and Cultural Heritage) and 23.7.1.2 (Table 23.2 Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Measures)*

Comments and advice

Section 13.4.4.8.3 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) states that “If there were any archeological resources on Long Sault Island or on the banks of the Ottawa River investigated for this EIS, then they have probably already been removed or destroyed from previous developments. Moreover, no archeological resources have been found during the archeological survey completed in 2017.” The table 23.2 of the EIS states the proposed mitigations or enhancements.

The Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) request that the proponent complete an archeological assessment that clearly reaches excavation parent material and all naturally deposited sediments were screened through 6 mm mesh. The proponent responded that “No additional archeological surveys will be conducted except when the cofferdam is installed during the construction. For this survey, we will comply with the Ontario Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archeologists”. AOO is not satisfied with this response because the Archéotec survey did not excavate to parent material.

AOO points out that the Ontario Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archeologists requires that an Ontario Professionally licensed archeologist be present to conduct the field work. The report should be sent to the Ministry of Tourism and Culture of Ontario and a draft to AOO prior for review. AOO request to be notified before fieldwork is completed.

PSPC Response:

For the marine archaeological assessment, PSPC did follow the Ontario Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists i.e. Ontario Professionally licensed archeologists conducted the assessment and were present for the field work; all draft reports were submitted to the Indigenous groups (including AOO) and to the Ministry of Tourism and Culture of Ontario for review; AOO was notified before fieldwork.

No additional archaeological studies are planned prior to construction. If this changes, PSPC will contact AOO and a similar protocol to the one indicated above will be followed. Also, an archaeological survey might be conducted when the cofferdam is installed. If so, PSPC will contact AOO and discuss their participation in survey.

Comment 1-54 Archeological investigation gaps – AOO concerns

References

CEAA, August 2018. Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Section 7.3.4 (Indigenous Peoples)

Tetra Tech, February 2023. Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Section 17.4.6.1.2 (Mitigation); section 17.4.1.1 (Selected Valued Components) and table 17.1 (Rationale behind the selection of Valued Components)

Comments and advice

Section 17.4.6.1.2 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) states that “to mitigate the effects to archeological resources, archeological investigations will be conducted in partnership with Indigenous communities.”

Although the concerns of the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) on the possibility that excavations do not reach parent material or bedrock and that these future archeological investigations might fail to correct the gaps of the previous assessment were partially addressed by making sure the investigations happen in advance of project works and with input from Indigenous Nations, AOO is still concerned that it might fail. Therefore, it recommends that these future archeological investigations take place to correct the previous study deficiencies as described.

In table 17.1 of the EIS, the proponent mentions that an archeological assessment will happen before construction and in collaboration with Indigenous groups. AOO is of the opinion that since the Archéotec survey’s test pits did not reach parent material or bedrock, therefore the conclusion that no impact will be had is implausible. This method does not meet the Ontario Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archeologist. AOO request that an archeological survey be repeated to reach “parent material or bedrock, by using a backhoe with a straight-edge bucket to excavate slit trenches of 1*5 m. The overburden should be removed mechanically but the lower portion of each slit trench should be excavated by hand to bedrock or at least 5 cm into sterile parent material.” AOO requests that they be meaningfully engaged in the second stage of the archeological assessment, be informed on upcoming work and ensure that AOO is in agreement with the fieldwork timelines.

PSPC Response:

PSPC commits to engaging with AOO for archaeological assessment as it was done for the marine archaeological assessment conducted this year. As mentioned in response to Comment 1-54, should any additional archaeological assessment be conducted, PSPC will contact AOO.

In the draft consultation and communications plan for AOO, PSPC has also added this topic for discussion and resolution. PSPC has reviewed the consultation and communications plans with the AOO to ensure that the plan and the topic reflect how AOO wishes to be consulted and what issues should be resolved.

**Comment 1-55 Archeological surveys (1)**

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Section 7.3.4 (Indigenous Peoples)*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Section 17.4.6.1.2 (Mitigation); section 17.4.1.1 (Selected Valued Components) and table 17.1 (Rationale behind the selection of Valued Components)*

Comments and advice

Kebaowek First Nation, Wolf Lake First Nation and Timiskaming First Nation (SART) believe that the 2017 archeological survey were insufficient. They recommend that additional terrestrial work on Long Sault Island be completed as several areas of potential impact were not assessed. SART is committed to undertaking the remaining archeological work.

PSPC Response:

No additional archaeological studies are planned prior to construction. If this changes, PSPC will contact SART. Also, an archaeological survey might be conducted when the cofferdam is installed. If so, PSPC will contact SART and discuss their participation in survey.

In the draft consultation and communications plan for SART, PSPC has also added this topic for discussion and resolution. PSPC has reviewed the consultation and communications plans with the SART to ensure that the plan and the topic reflect how SART wishes to be consulted and what issues should be resolved.

Comment 1-56 Archeological surveys (2)

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, Section 7.3.4 (Indigenous Peoples)*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Section 17.4.6.1.2 (Mitigation); section 17.4.1.1 (Selected Valued Components) and table 17.1 (Rationale behind the selection of Valued Components)*

Comments and advice

Kebaowek First Nation, Wolf Lake First Nation and Timiskaming First Nation (SART) are of the opinion that the best practices from the Province of Ontario be adopted in all archeological work for the project.

PSPC Response:

PSPC has already committed to following the best practices from the Province of Ontario as it stated in the EIS Chapters 13 and 14: "Comply with the Ontario Heritage Act".



Follow-up and Monitoring programs

Comments and advice for the proponent

Comment 1-57 Monitoring and tracking of suspended solids

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, sections 7.2.2 (Changes to surface water), 7.4 (Mitigation measures) and 9 (Follow-up and monitoring programs).*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, section 22.4.*

IAAC, May 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project, Information Request No 1 (Part 1), Question IAAC-1-100.*

Comments and advice

Section 22.4 of the Environmental Impact Statement states that “When the average SS [suspended solids] concentration value measured during the work is greater than the target SS concentration 100 m downstream of the work for more than six consecutive hours, the Contractor shall: Temporarily stop work generating SS to review work practices to limit sediment resuspension”. Although question IAAC-1-100 ask to determine whether threshold values (alert thresholds) for SS would be used, the Algonquins of Ontario recommend that the proponent provides a maximum allowable threshold for SS at 100 metres downstream. And also, when this threshold is attained, that the time period to initiate the same stop work protocol should be shortened to no more than an hour.

PSPC Response:

As stated in PSPC response to AEIC-1-100, the methodology described in Section 22.4 to monitor suspended solids is taken from the 2016 publication from MDDELCC and ECCC. This methodology sets a threshold of 25 mg/L above upstream SS conditions.

Comment 1-58 Area restoration – AOO concerns

References

CEAA, August 2018. *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, section 7.3.4 (Indigenous Peoples)*

Tetra Tech, February 2023. *Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Section 17.5.6.4.2 (Plants and Natural Materials Harvesting - Mitigation)*



Comments and advice

Section 17.5.6.4.2 of the Environmental Impact Statement states that “Any areas that become contaminated due to Project activities will also be restored.” The Algonquins of Ontario have requested that the restoration methods be clarified or at least be directed to the sections that outlines the methods intended to be used to determine contamination and the restoration methods.

PSPC Response:

Restoration methods will depend on the nature and location of contaminant. Detection of soil contamination was covered by PSPC response to AEIC-1-102.

Comment 1-59 Cumulative effects – AOO concerns

References

CEAA, August 2018. Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Part 2, section 7.4 (Mitigation measures)

Tetra Tech, February 2023. Timiskaming Dam-Bridge of Quebec Replacement Project (Quebec) Environmental Impact Statement, Section 21 (Cumulative effects)

Comments and advice

The Algonquins of Ontario have expressed that the proponent might want to rephrase their section 21 on cumulative effects to open the possibility that some mitigation measures might require additional actions should the monitoring indicate the need for further measures.

PSPC Response:

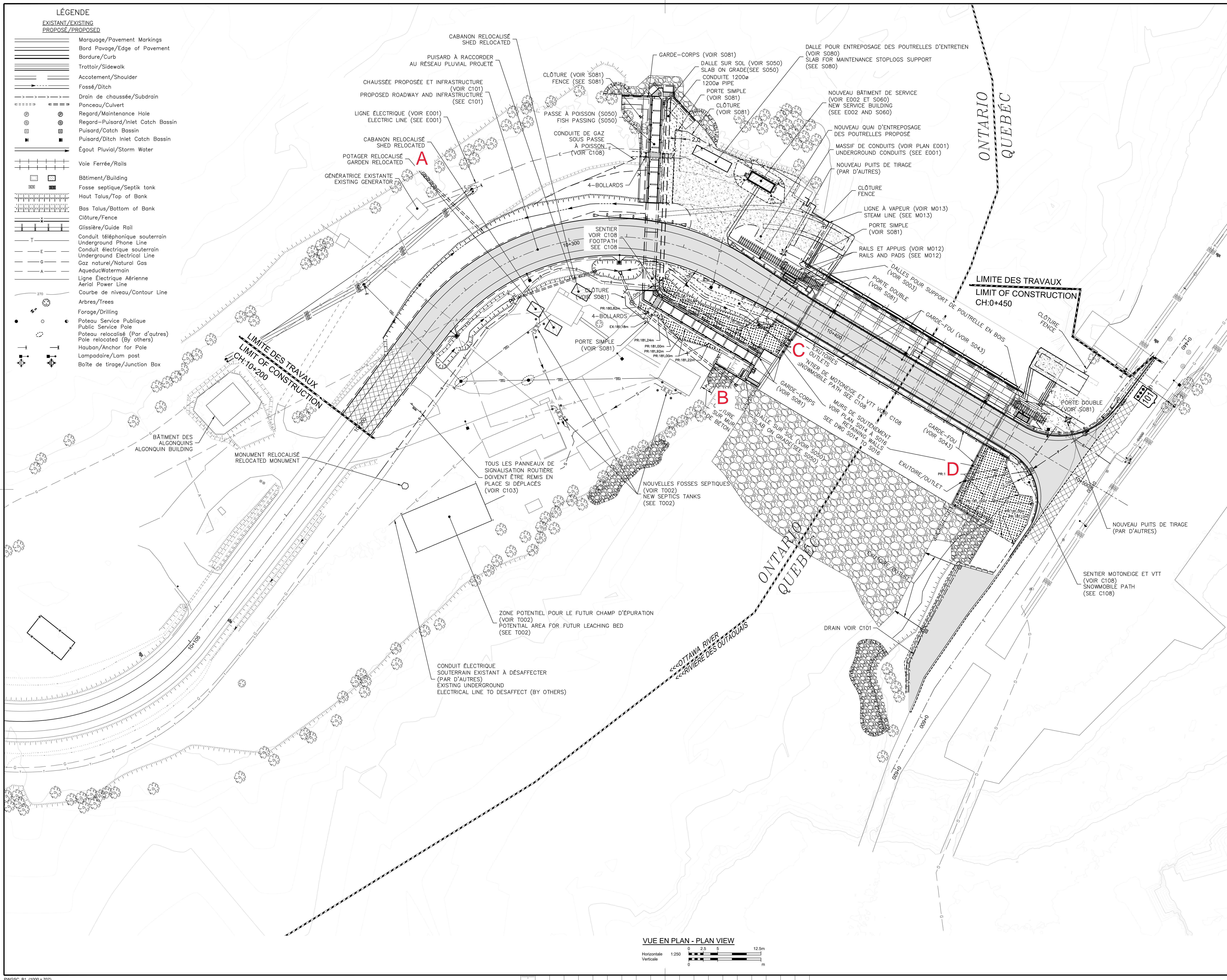
Should monitoring or follow-up programs detect unforeseen impacts causing cumulative effects, PSPC agrees to work with Indigenous groups and authorities to implement additional actions or mitigation measures. Please refer to Chapter 22-23, Section 22.1, page 22-2, last paragraph:

“If the results of these different monitoring plans show that the real impacts are different from those anticipated and the mitigation measures are not sufficient, other or additional mitigation measures will be put in place (adaptative mitigation strategy).“



Appendix A

Surface drainage drawings



LÉGENDE

- EXISTANT/EXISTING**
PROPOSE/PROPOSED
- Marquage/Pavement Markings
 - Bord Pavage/Edge of Pavement
 - Bordure/Curb
 - Trottoir/Sidewalk
 - Accotement/Shoulder
 - Fossé/Ditch
 - Drain de chaussée/Subdrain
 - Ponceau/Culvert
 - Regard/Maintenance Hole
 - Regard-Puisard/Inlet Catch Basin
 - Puisard/Catch Basin
 - Puisard/Ditch Inlet Catch Basin
 - Égout Pluvial/Storm Water
 - Voie Ferrée/Rails
 - Bâtiment/Building
 - Fosse septique/Septic tank
 - Haut Talus/Top of Bank
 - Bas Talus/Bottom of Bank
 - Clôture/Fence
 - Glissière/Guide Rail
 - Conduit téléphonique souterrain
Underground Phone Line
 - Conduit électrique souterrain
Underground Electrical Line
 - G Gaz naturel/Natural Gas
 - A Aqueduc/Watermain
 - Ligne Électrique Aérienne
Aerial Power Line
 - 270 Courbe de niveau/Contour Line
 - Arbres/Trees
 - Forage/Drilling
 - Poteau Service Public
Public Service Pole
 - Poteau relocalisé (Par d'autres)
Pole relocated (By others)
 - Hauban/Anchor for Pole
 - Lampadaire/Lamp post
 - Boîte de tirage/Junction Box



Public Works and Government Services Canada
 Travaux publics et services gouvernementaux Canada
 Real Property Branch Direction générale des biens immobiliers



TETRA TECH

No. 32760T

Contractor to verify all dimensions & conditions on site and immediately notify the engineer of all discrepancies.
 L'entrepreneur doit vérifier toutes les dimensions et conditions sur le site et aviser immédiatement le représentant du ministère de toute divergence.

EN COURS 99%, FRANCAIS	18-03-13
------------------------	----------

revisions	description	date
A	A detail no. no. du detail	
B	B location drawing no. sur dessin no.	
C	C drawing no. dessin no.	

project **REMPLACEMENT DU BARRAGE TÉMISKAMINGUE DU QUÉBEC** projet
TIMISKAMING QUEBEC DAM REPLACEMENT

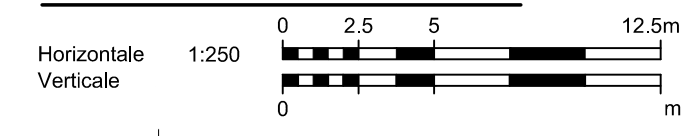
drawing **AMÉNAGEMENT GÉNÉRAL PROJETÉ** dessin
GENERAL PROPOSED LAYOUT

Designed By	Véronique Giroux, ing.	Conçu par	
Date	2017-09-09	(yyyy/mm/dd)	
Drawn By	Mario Chiquette, L.S.	Dessiné par	
Date	2017-09-09	(yyyy/mm/dd)	
Reviewed By	Eric Cloutier, ing.	Examiné par	
Date	2017-12-15	(yyyy/mm/dd)	
Approved By	Pierre Wagner, ing.	Approuvé par	
Date	2017-12-15	(yyyy/mm/dd)	
Tender	TPSGC PWGSC	Soumission	

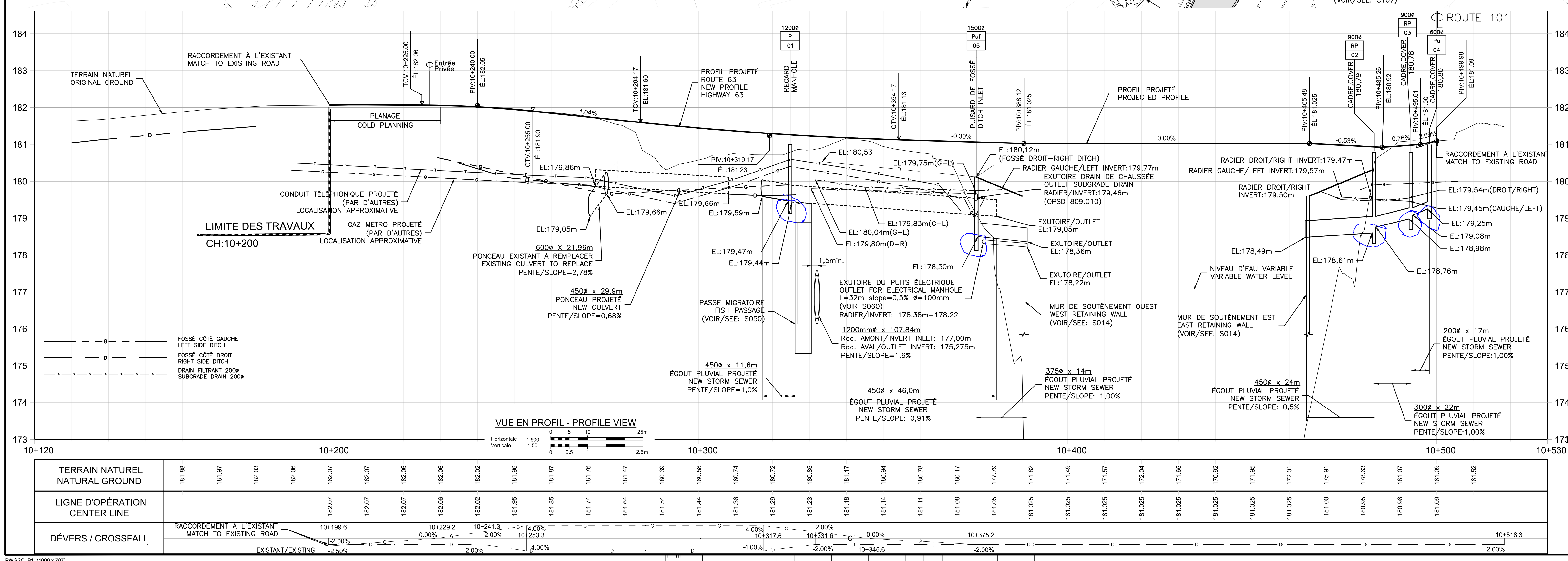
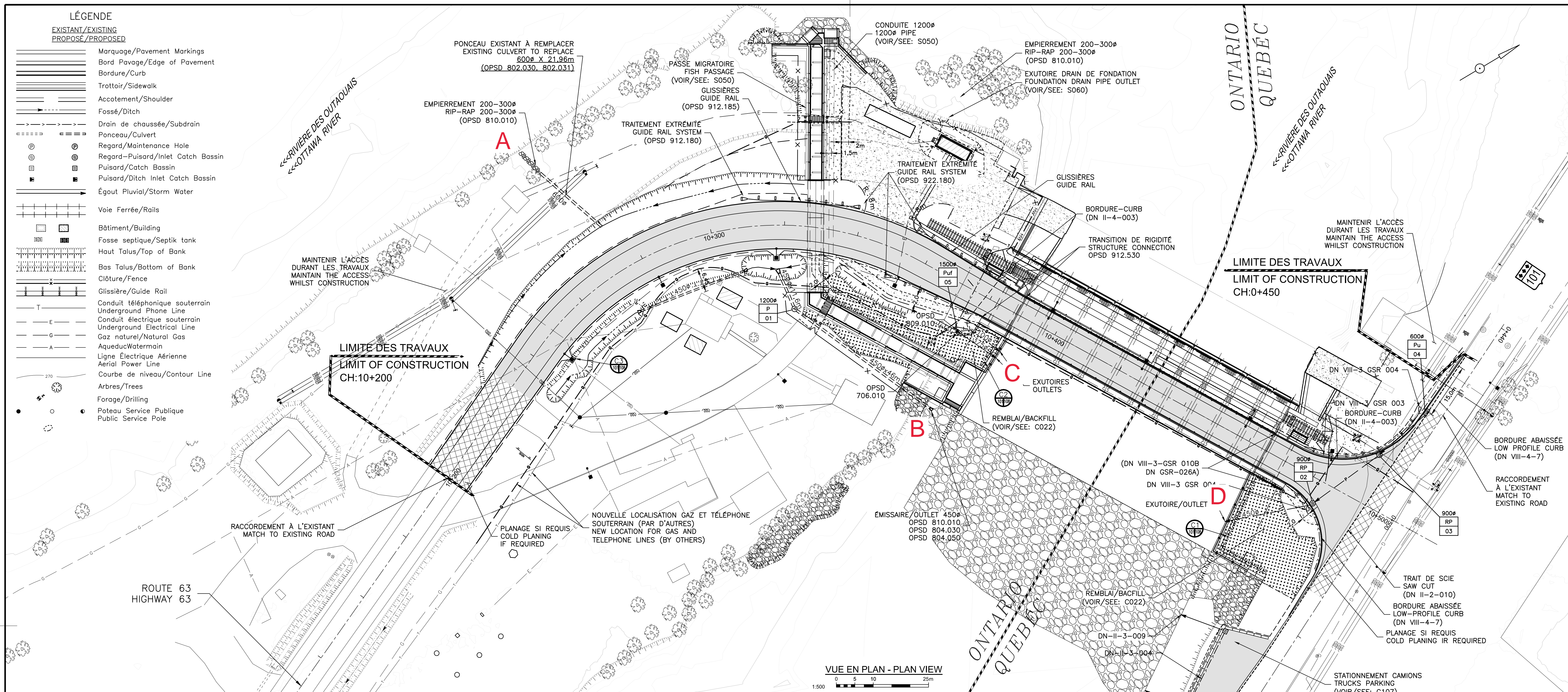
Project Manager Administrateur de projets
 Project no. No. du projet
R.073116.307

Drawing no. No. du dessin
C101

VUE EN PLAN - PLAN VIEW



\\TSS48F3\VP_L\REG\32760T\DESSIN\GN-INFR\DESSINS CONCEPTUELS\C-101_PLAN AMÉNAGEMENT GENERAL.DWG 2019/03/02 8:31:27 PAR: RICHARD BOUIN
 PWGSC B1 (1000 x 707)



Public Works and Government Services Canada
Travaux publics et services gouvernementaux Canada

Real Property Branch
Direction générale des biens immobiliers

TETRA TECH

No. 32760TT

Contractor to verify all dimensions & conditions on site and immediately notify the engineer of all discrepancies.

L'entrepreneur doit vérifier toutes les dimensions et conditions sur le site et aviser immédiatement le représentant du ministère de toute divergence.

revisions	description	date
EN COURS 99%		18-03-13

A

C

A

B

C

project **REMPLACEMENT DU BARRAGE TÉMISCAMINGUE DU QUÉBEC** project

drawing **AMÉNAGEMENT PROJETÉ CHAUSSEE ET INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN-PROFIL** dessin

Designed By **Véronique Giroux, ing.** Conçu par
Date 2017-09-09 (yyyy/mm/dd)

Drawn By **Richard Boutin, t.s.** Dessiné par
Date 2017-09-09 (yyyy/mm/dd)

Reviewed By **Eric Cloutier, ing.** Examiné par
Date 2017-12-15 (yyyy/mm/dd)

Approved By **Gilles Paquin, ing.** Approuvé par
Date 2017-12-15 (yyyy/mm/dd)

Tender **TPSGC PWGSC** Soumission

Project Manager **Administrateur de projets**

Project no. **R.073116.307** No. du projet

Drawing no. **C102** No. du dessin