

From: MartenFalls (IAAC/AEIC)
Sent: June 16, 2020 8:58 AM
To: 'Kimberly Jorgenson' <Email address removed>
Cc: <Email addresses removed>
Subject: RE: Marten Falls and Webequie Road Project IAs – CLFN Follow-Up to Feb 24th IAAC Letter

Hello Kim,

Thank you for your email, dated March 24, 2020, providing Constance Lake First Nation's response to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's Notice of Commencement letter for the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project. My apologies for the delay in responding to you.

The Agency recognizes that documentation of Constance Lake First Nation's traditional territory and Indigenous knowledge continues to evolve and that a clearer understanding the Project's potential impacts on the community's exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty rights will also evolve as more data is collected. Constance Lake First Nation is invited to share any information related to the Project with the proponent and the Agency to support our understanding of the Project's potential impacts on the community. The Agency will continue to seek Constance Lake First Nation's input throughout the impact assessment process.

The Agency is aware of the announcement made by the Province of Ontario, Marten Falls First Nation and Webequie First Nation regarding the Northern Road Link. On May 19, 2020, the Agency notified Marten Falls First Nation and Webequie First Nation that the project appears to be designated under the *Impact Assessment Act* and requested an Initial Project Description. At this time, the Agency has not received an Initial Project Description for the Northern Road Link. Upon the proponent's submission of an Initial Project Description that complies with the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations*, the Agency will notify Indigenous groups who may be impacted by the Project of a formal comment period and seek their views on the Initial Project Description and whether an impact assessment should be required for the project.

The Agency also notes Constance Lake First Nation's request for a community-specific annex to the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan (IEPP Annex) and will be pleased to set up a virtual meeting at a later date to discuss your community's specific interests.

At this time, the Agency will wait for further information from Constance Lake First Nation before updating the summary of the Agency's understanding of Constance Lake First Nation's exercise of rights and potential impacts of the Project. We understand that the community requires more information about the Project before making direct and indirect linkages on the potential impacts of the Project. The Agency would be pleased to assist Constance Lake First Nation on developing these linkages during a virtual discussion, if this is of interest and at a time that is convenient to the community.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Agency recognizes that the Government of Canada has advised all Canadians to implement social distancing measures, including avoiding close contact with others, to minimize COVID-19 transmission in communities. In consideration that social distancing measures often need extensive preparation and currently take priority, the Agency highlights its current measures and commitments to support your community's COVID 19 response at this time:

- The Agency is currently following [guidelines](#) that have been issued by the Public Health Agency of Canada and local health authorities;
- The Agency has halted in-person and in-community meetings; when a meeting is unavoidable during the current circumstance, we will conduct those activities through digital communications including: teleconference calls and WebEx as appropriate and to the preference of Indigenous groups to discuss projects;
- The Agency remains flexible and able to adapt our conduct as necessary to prioritize the health and safety of communities participating in impact assessments;
- The Agency continues to be in touch with proponents to understand how projects are affected by COVID-19;

The Agency welcomes any further details from Constance Lake First Nation about when the community might be prepared to participate in future consultation activities. In the meantime, the Agency will provide updates to Indigenous groups about the status of the Project at regular intervals.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Project, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by phone at 416-476-5476 or by email at iaac.martenfalls.aeic@canada.ca.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Cafaro

Marten Falls Community Access Road Project
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada / Government of Canada
CEAA.MartenFalls.ACEE@canada.ca / Tel: 416-952-1576

Projet de route d'accès à la collectivité de Marten Falls
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