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April 30, 2020

Andrew Scott  
Consultation Director  
O'Chiese Consultation Office  
Box 2127 Rocky Mountain House  
Alberta, T4T 1B6

Sent Via Email : [andrew.scott@ochiesebc.ca](mailto:andrew.scott@ochiesebc.ca)

**Re: Designation Request for the NGTL West Path Delivery 2022, Foothills Zone 8 West Path Delivery 2022, NGTL West Path Delivery 2023, and Foothills Zone 8 West Path Delivery 2023 Projects**

Thank you for your letter dated April 8, 2020, on behalf of O'Chiese First Nation Chief and Council, addressed to the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change (the Minister), concerning the NGTL West Path Delivery 2022, Foothills Zone 8 West Path Delivery 2022, NGTL West Path Delivery 2023, and Foothills Zone 8 West Path Delivery 2023 (the Projects). You have requested that the Minister designate the Projects under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA).

Under subsection 9(1) of IAA the Minister may, designate a physical activity that is not prescribed in the *Physical Activities Regulations*. The Minister may do this, if, in the Minister's opinion, the physical activity may cause adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or adverse direct or incidental effects (resulting from federal decisions), or public concerns related to those effects warrant the designation. In accordance with subsection 9(4) of IAA, it is expected that the Minister will respond to your request with reasons for their decision by May 27, 2020.

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) will review information about the Projects; any concerns from the public and Indigenous groups that the Agency becomes aware of; and expert advice from federal authorities in order to inform the Minister on whether the Project should be designated. If designated, the proponent, to proceed with the Projects would be required to submit an Initial Project Description, thereby commencing the planning phase of IAA. In that case, the planning phase would include the Agency determining whether a federal impact assessment is required.

Information on the Projects is available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry page (Reference Number: 80548): <https://www.aeic-iaac.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80548>.

Additional information regarding the process for designation requests can be found at the following link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/designating-project-impact-assessment-act.html>.

**Important note:** All records produced, collected or received in relation to the designation request process – unless prohibited under the *Access to Information Act* or *Privacy Act* – are considered public and may be released. If you have provided any comments or documents that contain confidential or sensitive information that you believe should be protected from release to the public, please contact the Agency as soon as possible. Information marked as confidential may not be kept confidential unless you contact the Agency prior to sharing the information.

Please contact Susan Tiege with any further questions regarding the Agency's designation request process at (587) 920 5430 or [susan.tiege@canada.ca](mailto:susan.tiege@canada.ca). The Agency will contact you regarding a teleconference in the near future to discuss any additional concerns and potential impacts.

Sincerely,

*<original signed by>*

Barbara Pullishy  
Regional Director, Prairie and Northern Region