

Hello,

On August 18, 2023, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) posted the Notice of Commencement of the federal impact assessment for the Northern Road Link Project (the Project), proposed by Marten Falls First Nation and Webequie First Nation (the Proponent). The Project is now in the impact statement phase of the impact assessment process.

The Agency posted the following documents on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website (Registry #84331), and the documents will inform the impact assessment process:

- Notice of Commencement
- Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (the Guidelines)
- Public Participation Plan
- Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan
- Cooperation Plan
- Permitting Plan

The Agency thanks those that provided comments on the draft Guidelines and Public Participation Plan.

The Agency is of the view that the Project does not warrant a referral to a review panel, after considering the factors in subsection 36(2) of the Impact Assessment Act. Please note that the Minister of Environment and Climate Change has until 45 days after the Notice of Commencement to make a final determination on whether to refer the impact assessment to a review panel.

In the coming months, the Agency will share with you information about the next steps in the federal impact assessment process, upcoming funding opportunities, and a summary table with the comments received during the planning phase, with the Agency's responses that describe how the comments were taken into account in finalizing the Guidelines and plans. This table also will inform the Proponent's work while preparing its Impact Statement.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 416-669-2775 or NorthernRoad-RouteDuNord@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Thank you,
Ely Weisbrot
(he/him/il)
Acting Project Manager, Ontario Region
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada / Government of Canada
NorthernRoad-RouteDuNord@iaac-aeic.gc.ca / 416-669-2775

Gestionnaire de Projets par intérim, Région de l'Ontario
Agence d'évaluation d'impact du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
NorthernRoad-RouteDuNord@iaac-aeic.gc.ca / 416-669-2775