



Impact Assessment  
Agency of Canada

Ontario Region  
600-55 York Street  
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

Agence d'évaluation  
d'impact du Canada

Région de l'Ontario  
600-55 rue York  
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

February 14, 2023

Sent by email

Karen Wolfe  
Advocacy Chair  
Pefferlaw Area Ratepayers  
<Email address removed>

Dear Karen Wolfe,

**Subject: Acknowledgement of Your Request to Designate the Baldwin East Aerodrome Project under the *Impact Assessment Act***

Thank you for your February 3, 2023, letter concerning the Baldwin East Aerodrome Project (the physical activities referred to as the Project) proposed by Sutton Airport Development Inc. You have requested that the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (the Minister) designate the Project under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA).

The Project as proposed is not a designated project, as described in the *Physical Activities Regulations*. The impact assessment process under the IAA only applies to designated projects.

Under subsection 9(1) of the IAA the Minister may, by order, designate a physical activity that is not prescribed in the *Physical Activities Regulations*.<sup>1</sup> 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. This discretionary authority enables the Minister to consider **exceptional circumstances**, such as where a project is proposed in an environmentally sensitive location or there is a new or unique type of project that was not contemplated when the Project List was developed. The Minister would consider a number of relevant factors including whether or not:

- standard design features and mitigation would address the anticipated adverse effects;
- the potential adverse effects can be adequately managed through other existing legislative or regulatory mechanisms.

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<sup>1</sup> 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>.

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The Agency will review information about the Project and any concerns expressed, to prepare a recommendation to the Minister on whether the Project should be designated. Comments from your community, from the public and other Indigenous communities, expert advice from federal authorities, and input from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Town of Georgina, and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority will be considered.

According to subsection 9(4) of IAA, it is expected that the Minister will respond, with reasons, to the request by May 14, 2023. Once the Minister's response is publicly available, the Agency will notify your community of the outcome.

A Registry page for the Project will be available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site at <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations>.

**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. The Agency's Submission Policy<sup>2</sup> determines which submitted information can be shared publicly, and what should remain private. For further information on how we protect your privacy, please refer to the Privacy Notice<sup>3</sup>.

If you wish to provide further information to the Agency regarding this file, or have further questions regarding the Project and this analysis, please contact Spencer Roth at 647-355-7318 or [designationontario@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:designationontario@iaac-aeic.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Susan Tiege  
A/Regional Director, Ontario Region

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/participation/conditions>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/protection>