



Impact Assessment  
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation  
d'impact du Canada

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

Région de l'Ontario  
600-55, rue York  
Toronto (Ontario) M5J 1R7

May 19, 2023

**Sent by email**

**Correspondence to Provincial Review Team**

Andrea L. Martin, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Gavin Downing, Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism  
Karen Singh, Ministry of Community and Social Services  
Camille Assam, Ministry of Indigenous Affairs  
Chris Goode, Ministry of Energy  
Lenore Robson, Ontario Energy Board  
Robert Francis, Ministry of Health  
Trevor Fleck, Ministry of Infrastructure  
Kathleen O'Neill, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Lou Politano, Infrastructure Ontario  
Mary Perry, Ministry of Mines  
Ewa Downarowicz, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Michael Gluck, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Shawn Lawson, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery  
Gaetano Gigliotti, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport  
Katie De Palma, Ministry of Transportation

Dear Colleagues:

**Subject: Invitation to provide comments on the Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project**

***Please complete and submit the attached form by June 14, 2023.***

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) accepted the Initial Project Description for the Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project (the Project) from Northland Power Inc. and Ontario Power Generation (jointly, the Proponent) as meeting the requirements of the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations* under the *Impact Assessment Act* (the IAA).

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On May 19, 2023, the Initial Project Description was posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site<sup>1</sup>, starting the 180-day planning phase of the impact assessment. The Agency announced the start of a 30-day comment period<sup>2</sup>, inviting the public, Indigenous groups and other jurisdictions to provide comments on the proposed Project.

Feedback will help the Agency prepare a Summary of Issues<sup>3</sup> for the Proponent and inform the Agency's decision as to whether the Project requires an impact assessment. If an impact assessment is required, this same feedback would help the Agency prepare draft planning documents.

### **The Project**

Northland Power Inc., in partnership with Ontario Power Generation, is proposing the construction and operation of a new pumped storage and hydroelectric generating facility located in the municipality of Marmora and Lake, Ontario. As proposed, the Marmora Clean Energy Hub Project would produce up to 500 megawatts, and would operate for 100 years. The open pit lake from the abandoned Marmoraton iron ore mine would be transformed into the lower reservoir of the facility. The project would include an upper reservoir, tunnels and a powerhouse, a water delivery system, and an underground transmission line. The project would also include a 30-megawatt ground-mount solar facility, which would operate for at least 25 years.

Attached to this letter is the *Provincial Advice Record*. This form requests information on your ministry's mandate and invites your ministry's comments on the Proponent's Initial Project Description. This includes your ministry's input on key potential project effects and frameworks for addressing effects, relevant regulatory processes, opportunities to tailor the (potential) assessment requirements, and opportunities to cooperate with other jurisdictions.

Please submit the completed *Provincial Advice Record* via the *Submit a Comment* feature available on the Project's Registry page<sup>4</sup>, **no later than June 14, 2023**.

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<sup>1</sup> Reference #84597 at <http://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/147660?culture=en-CA>

<sup>2</sup> Reference #84597 at <http://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/84597?culture=en-CA>

<sup>3</sup> The Summary of Issues is a list of issues raised in the Planning Phase prepared by the Agency, as per section 14(1) of the *Impact Assessment Act*. This document provides the proponent with an understanding of issues and allows participants to see how their comments and concerns have been characterized.

<sup>4</sup> Reference #84597 at <http://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/84597?culture=en-CA> Letters and forms can be uploaded using this feature. If you have any difficulties submitting this way, please contact the Agency using the information provided below for assistance

The information submitted to the Agency in the *Provincial Advice Record* will be made public on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet Site (Reference #84597). Please do not include any information that cannot be shared publicly. The Agency's Submission Policy<sup>5</sup> describes examples of private or confidential information that should not be included.

After the proponent receives the Summary of Issues, it is required to submit a Detailed Project Description that includes an explanation of how it intends to address the issues raised. The Agency may contact your ministry for information or advice to determine if the proponent's response to the Summary of Issues is complete. Following acceptance of the Detailed Project Description, the Agency will decide<sup>6</sup> whether an impact assessment of the Project is required.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Natalie Boyd, Project Manager, by phone at 647-616-2471 or email [marmora@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:marmora@iaac-aeic.gc.ca). If desired, the Agency is also available to meet and discuss.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Anjala Puvananathan  
Director, Ontario Region

**Enclosure:** Provincial Advice Record

c.c: Ian Kerr, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Tim Christie, Ministry of Economics and System Planning  
Shruti Talwar, Ministry of Energy  
Cindy Batista, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Marc Stewart, Ministry of Mines  
Karla Barboza, Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism  
Erin Cotnam, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Suzy Shalla, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Dennis Jeffrey, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Tony Marzotto, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

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<sup>5</sup> <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/participation/conditions>

<sup>6</sup> In making its decision, the Agency must take into account the factors set out in subsection 16(2) of the *Impact Assessment Act*.