

Enclosure 1: Federal Authority Advice Record – Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project

Please submit the completed form by April 6, 2026, via email to Nottawasaga@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.¹

Department/Agency Contact Information

Submission Date	March 30, 2026
Department/Agency	Department of National Defence
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Review the Initial Project Description and answer the following questions:

1. Will your department or agency exercise a **power, perform a duty or function**, or provide **financial assistance**, related to the project to enable it to be carried out in whole or in part?

Yes

As relevant,

- a) Specify the power, duty or function, or financial assistance, and the likelihood that it will be required to construct the project, as either Required, Potential, Likely, Unlikely or Not Required

- **Required - Minister of National Defence Determination**

Under the *National Defence Act* (NDA) the Minister of National Defence (MND) has the management and direction of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and all matters relating to national defence, including real property, and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all defence establishments and works for the defence of Canada.

The Agreement in Principle signed in 2021 between TC Energy (TCE) and DND, establishes a framework that includes a decision-point for the MND on whether TCE's Ontario Pumped Storage Project (OPSP) can be accommodated at 4 CDTC Meaford without CAF effects, after the following are completed.

1. For the portion of land where DND infrastructure will potentially be relocated - Impact Assessment Act (IAA) S. 82 Environmental Effects Determination (EED);
2. For the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Effects related to the construction and lifecycle of the OPS - CAF Operational Impact Assessment; and,
3. For the TCE OPS project - Positive Impact Assessment Determination under the IAA of the TCE OPS.

- **Legislative Authorities impacting land use for this project:**

- DND holds land because of its mandate under the *NDA*.
- The *Federal Real Property and Federal Removable Act (FRPFIA)* usually empowers the Minister to lease land to external parties, even outside the Minister's *NDA* mandate.

¹ Please note that advice provided to IAAC may be posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet Site or otherwise made available to the public.

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- However, the *Dominion Water Power Act (DWPA)*, under the Minister of Indigenous Services (ISC), fully regulates the use of Crown land for “water power” through land-use permits and licences and supersedes the *FRPFIA*.
 - As TCE's OPSP constitutes a “water power”; the Minister of ISC holds the exclusive land-use authority with this project, ousting DND's decisions on land use.
 - Additional agreements between TCE and the Crown, beyond the licenses to be issued by the Minister of ISC, may be required and negotiated before TCE can begin construction.
- b) Describe any associated Indigenous or public consultation, including timelines, and elaborate on any potential opportunities for consultation coordination with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required
- DND has supported community presentations in collaboration with the project proponent and facilitated Indigenous group visits to the Meaford site, including participation by unit personnel. This engagement will continue until the relocation project is complete.
 - For the MND Determination and relocation of DND infrastructure, 39 first nation groups have been engaged and consulted based on meaningful historic events and issues. DND has engaged groups with respect to species at risk studies, wetland studies, and archaeology studies and included the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) as on-site observers for the archaeology assessment at their request. The SON also have DND's Species at risk studies and wetland and watercourse studies. The Historic Saugeen Metis and the Huron Wendat First Nation have also been informed of studies, and any archaeology findings deemed by an independent third-party archaeologist to be significant to these communities will be shared with them.
 - TCE's OPS project was enabled using the Dominion Water Power Act. Since the OPS would trigger a change in land use, conducting indigenous consultation as part of the TCE OPS project area is likely required. DND will continue to support any engagement process with information about 4 CDTC and National Defence.
- c) Describe any associated information requirements (e.g., alternative means assessment, habitat offsetting), and specify those that may be coordinated with the impact assessment process, if an impact assessment is required
- The MND Determination is dependent on TCE providing timely, adequate, and accurate information on their OPS during all phases of their project so that impacts at 4 CDTC and the CAF can be assessed. This includes impacts on human health, safety, emergency management, and military operations as well as providing the full OPS project footprint at all stages. Any changes in the OPS footprint scope beyond what is provided in the IPD may change the scope of the DND IAA S. 82 EED or change CAF effects and cause delays with a MND determination. DND cannot reasonably assess the impacts on military activities without TCE providing a more fulsome design.
 - Because the TCE used the DWPA to access federal lands, the situation creates several interdependencies with several departments. Schedules for DWPA licensing, the IA, MND determination, DND and OPS construction projects need to be mapped out. The departments involved must clarify their individual schedules, and the GoC's overall schedule may or may not align to TCE's desired start date for OPS construction.
 - Several pieces of DND infrastructure will be impacted by the TCE OPS and will need to be relocated elsewhere at 4 CDTC Meaford before TCE can start any site work on the OPS. This is a condition in the 2021 Agreement in Principle DND and TCE signed.
 - IAAC determined that the relocation of DND infrastructure requires a s.82 IAA determination as it is independent of the TCE OPS designated project. DND will need its own permits from regulators.

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- ECCC and DFO will need to make a S. 82 determination on the DND relocated infrastructure because a Species at Risk Act permit will be required and potentially a Fisheries Act authorization.
 - ECCC has indicated they must evaluate the cumulative effects between the TCE OPS project and the DND S. 82 Relocated Infrastructure project.
 - DND must have assurances from regulators and authorities that DND will be able to obtain permits and/or authorizations.
 - DND is unable to accommodate mitigation or offsetting requests related to the OPS project using additional 4 CDTC land and/or resources.
 - DND is unable to accommodate any additional land use for compensatory offsetting that may be required by permit or authorization conditions outside the TCE OPS footprint. If offsetting is required TCE will need to explore alternative locations. DND needs to maintain the ability to effectively train at 4 CDTC and therefore no other restrictions can be imposed on the land outside the PSP project footprint that would limit the ability of the Canadian Armed Forces to train or develop infrastructure.
- d) Identify any associated project-specific guidance or issues of which the proponent should be aware, or information the proponent should provide
- i. OPS Project related activities must not impede or limit military activities at 4CDTC nor its role in the CAF. This includes but is not limited to: CAF mobility on site, emergency responder access and response times, ammunition use and storage, fire response and potable water supply, and the ability of 4CDTC residents to have adequate rest and enjoyment. The base has several hundred residents, including a daycare.
 - ii. TCE has indicated to DND that they anticipate completing project specific assessments of lighting impacts and traffic impacts in the future as part of the impact statement process. At this time, limited information has been provided to DND to assess impacts to 4 CDTC. DND will require this information to complete assessments.
 - iii. DND must maintain our radio frequency signals throughout the base to manage safety on the ground, in the air and on the water. DND needs to understand any potential for radio frequency interruptions and solutions to mitigate any interruptions. At this time, no information has been provided to DND on communications or emanations that could interfere with base safety and communications to support decision making. Interference with military signals from electromagnetic waves from transmission lines is a concern.
 - iv. TCE must design the OPS to manage surface water so that 4 CDTC is not affected by any changes in water runoff. DND will require the information for the MND Determination regardless of if it is scoped into the IA. Precipitation, including snow melt, must be managed. It is unclear if climate resilience issues have been identified and mitigated. Increased precipitation and frequency of storm events may impact surface water movement and redirect water to 4CDTC land because of the OPS infrastructure or increase the rate of dolomite escarpment erosion. Water from the OPS spillway must not enter 4 CDTC either.
 - v. DND must also be able to obtain permits and authorizations that may be required by ECCC or DFO for its relocated infrastructure that is impacted by the TCE OPS project.
 - vi. A general comment for 6.2.6 Potential Marine Access dock for the TCE OPS. TCE has indicated in the IPD that the marine dock is being assessed if it will be temporary or permanent with one of the dependencies being the potential use by DND. DND is questioning the need for a large marine dock and more land and prefers to have TCE propose other construction options that do not use a dock.

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- vii. The marine access road depicted in Figure 3-1 is illustrated outside the footprint established in the Agreement in Principle (AIP) and differs from locations previously identified to DND which routed it along the shoreline. DND flagged this to TCE during the draft IPD review. This location has not been assessed by DND and is not agreed to at this time.
- viii. The spillway is identified on federal land in Table 3-1 but is not shown on Figure 3-1. As spillway placement and discharge flows could affect DND infrastructure, training areas, and safety, DND requires detailed information on spillway location(s), flow paths, access requirements, and associated infrastructure.
- ix. The IPD indicates that ownership, routing, and responsibility for the electrical transmission connection will be determined through future IESO and Hydro One processes, and that no preferred alignment has yet been identified. Transmission infrastructure has the potential to affect DND land use, communications systems, safety zones, and operational readiness. Without preliminary alignment and technical information, DND is unable to assess these impacts. DND requests that candidate transmission routes, corridor requirements, and an outline of DND's role in the IESO/Hydro One process be provided.
- x. All works on DND land must remain within the approved AIP footprint unless otherwise formally authorized by DND. A request to amend the approved AIP footprint may result in project delays.

Unhindered movement in airspace, on land, and in water & amphibious areas at 4 CDTC.

Access to the Range and Training Areas is controlled through Range Control and must be permitted by Range Control prior to entry. This is through the **Defence Controlled Access Area Regulations** and the 4 CDTC Range Standing Orders. For context purposes, range and training areas have large, designated danger area templates to prevent stray bullets and ammunition from injuring people.

No OPS structures or activities during construction nor operation shall impede aircraft, land, water and/or amphibious movements at 4 CDTC.

- The airspace is controlled military space CYD 501. 4 CDTC has helicopter and military drone traffic.
 - The water space and shoreline along the north and east boundary have markers on nautical chart L/C 2201. 4 CDTC trains special forces in this area.
 - All lands within 4 CDTC and outside of the proposed OPS footprint require permission to access. Defence Controlled Access Area Regulations (SOR /86-957)
- e) Indicate whether your department or agency has identified any power that it will be unable, or may be unable, to exercise to allow the project to proceed, in whole or in part as currently planned, with reasons; if unsure, explain what must be resolved to increase confidence
 - i. DND is currently conducting a CAF Operational Impact Assessment and departmental risk assessment to support a MND determination on being co-located with the OPS. DND is also completing a s. 82 determination under the IAA for the DND Relocated Infrastructure. This will inform the MND Determination if the TCE OPS project can be accommodated at 4 CDTC. There can be no CAF Effects during the decommissioning and demolition of DND infrastructure, OPS planning and development, and OPS design, construction, operations and decommissioning/reclamation. DND's relocated infrastructure must be fully operational before TCE can begin construction as per the 2021 Agreement in Principle with TCE.

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- DND does not have sufficient OPS project information at this time to fully complete these assessments.
 - As mentioned earlier, DND's ability to accommodate the OPS is contingent on ECCC and DFO issuing permits or authorizations for the DND relocated infrastructure. DND must have assurances from those departments that DND will be able to obtain permits and/or authorizations as well as what mitigation or offsetting will be required in permit conditions. If DND cannot obtain permits or authorizations or meet permit/authorization conditions to relocate the DND infrastructure, then DND will not be able to accommodate the project at 4 CDTC.
2. **Using Table 1**, identify project- and context-specific **key issues** based on the expertise within your mandate² and the information in your possession. Available information may include your access to databases and corporate knowledge, the Initial Project Description, any exchanges with the proponent or others related to the project and known means to address the effects.

For each key issue:

- a) Specify the key issue (e.g., specific species and location)
- b) Specify the project component or activity linked to the key issue
- c) Explain why it is a key issue based on:
 - i. biophysical effect pathway(s) from the specific project component or activity
 - ii. concerns unique to the project or a priority within your mandate
 - iii. the issue being material³ to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*
- d) Identify how the issue could be resolved, including through other means than an impact assessment (e.g., other regulatory oversight)
- e) Identify additional information the proponent could provide to build confidence about how the issue could be addressed through other means

IAAC has prepared a preliminary list of potential effects that are either likely or unlikely to be key issues for the impact assessment.⁴ While completing **Table 1**, IAAC requests that, as appropriate based on your department or agency's mandate and expertise, you validate this list, add precision or rationale where appropriate, and recommend any additional key issues for consideration. For project activities on federal lands (e.g., reservoir, powerhouse, water conveyance structures, switchyard, etc.), per section 2 of the IAA, a broader range of effects are within federal jurisdiction, including socio-economic effects.

IAAC has identified the following topics as **potential key issues** for the impact assessment:

- Effects to fish and fish habitat
 - during operations from interactions with the inlet/outlet structure such as impingement and entrainment, changes in lake flow patterns, and turbidity, which may require special attention in ongoing project design
 - during construction of the inlet/outlet structure from lake-bed disturbance and turbidity, unless this is easily managed with well understood mitigation
- Effects to the environment on federal lands
 - including federally listed species at risk, wetlands, and riparian environments that provide special habitat or functions, from construction activities and footprint location, some of which could require offsetting and special attention in ongoing project design
 - if soil contaminants are identified in overburden materials to be disturbed and/or relocated, potential changes to groundwater and surface runoff quality, to inform site specific stormwater management strategies

² Refer to the [Memoranda of Understanding with IAAC](#).

³ An issue is material to decision making if its analysis is anticipated to affect the conclusions on (1) whether adverse effects within federal jurisdiction or direct and incidental adverse effects (collectively adverse federal effects) are likely not significant, or of low, medium or high significance; (2) appropriate mitigation measures for significant adverse federal effects; or (3) justification in the public interest.

⁴ IAAC has prepared this list based on limited information prior to receipt of the Initial Project Description. It may change based on input received from federal and provincial authorities, Indigenous communities, and the public.

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- Impacts to the physical and cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples and sites of archaeological importance, with a focus on potential archaeological resources on land or water, and species of cultural importance (e.g., black bear)
- Impacts to the economic conditions of Indigenous Peoples
- Effects to people from activities on federal lands, such as dust and noise interactions with base personnel, to help DND identify suitable mitigation and monitoring for any conditions it may place on a land use decision
- Positive effects of the project, including
 - economic benefits for Indigenous groups
 - contributions to Canada's ability to meet its climate change commitments for long-term targets (i.e., 2050) and displace greenhouse gas emissions in the energy sector
 - contributions to sustainability including local socio-economic benefits and Indigenous economic reconciliation

IAAC has identified the following topics as **unlikely key issues** for the impact assessment because the effects are either immaterial to decision-making, effectively managed by other regulatory mechanisms, or have well understood mitigation measures:

- Effects to fish and fish habitat from
 - loss of habitat from lake-bed footprint, which is expected to be routinely managed through an authorization under the *Fisheries Act*, if needed
 - changes to water levels in the Georgian Bay, which are anticipated to be negligible based on the volume of water taken relative to the volume in the lake
 - changes to water quality in the Georgian Bay from reservoir outflow, because the reservoir will be lined with an impermeable layer and water will not be held in the reservoir for prolonged periods
- Effects to migratory birds from construction activities due to well-understood mitigations measures, and regulations under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
- Effects to the environment on federal lands, including wildlife and vegetation that are not federally listed species at risk, as population-level effects are unlikely
- Effects on Indigenous peoples':
 - ability to access lands and resources for traditional purposes (harvesting, navigation), as IAAC understands that access to the surrounding land and water is already restricted by DND (apart from any land use near the potential transmission lines outside of the restricted use areas)
 - use of fish for traditional or commercial purposes because population-level changes to fish in the Georgian Bay are not anticipated; should fish population changes be a concern, effects to fishing would be considered
- Effects to the health, social and economic conditions of non-Indigenous peoples resulting from activities carried out on federal lands, including
 - changes to commercial and recreational use of water in the Georgian Bay as public access to the surrounding water is already restricted
 - changes to the visual environment as the project is primarily obscured from view
 - changes to drinking water quality from reservoir outflow because bay water will move in and out without alteration and an impermeable layer in the reservoir will prevent seepage
 - non-Indigenous cultural heritage resources due to well established protocols set by provincial standards, and regulatory oversight off-federal lands
 - impacts to the operations of the Canadian Armed Forces from construction and operation logistics, as DND can manage these in parallel through its Operational Impact Assessment
 - changes to socio-economic conditions in Meaford from the construction workforce as the proponent will focus on local and regional workers, where possible, and is working closely with the municipal government and community service providers
 - changes in energy pricing as this will be managed by Ontario's energy contracting policies and decisions
- Contributions to Canada's ability to meet its climate change commitments for short-term targets (i.e., 2035) because the project will cause greenhouse gas emissions during construction and no further information is required to conclude the project does not contribute to Canada's short-term targets

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- Contributions to Canada's ability to meet its environmental obligations as no further information is required to conclude the project does not contribute to Canada's ability to meet its environmental obligations

Tanya Malloy
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Name and title of Departmental /
Agency Responder

March 30, 2026
Date

Table 1: Key Issues to inform the impact assessment process

This table should outline key issues to inform the impact assessment process, including whether an impact assessment is required and, if so, the scope of the assessment and tailoring of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines.

Key issues are the major concerns directly related to a project component or activity, the analysis of which is anticipated to be material to decision-making under the *Impact Assessment Act*.

Federal authorities' advice should be guided by the identification and resolution of key issues. If an impact assessment is required, it will be focused on key issues.

Comment ID	a) Key issue	b) Project component or activity	c)(i) Biophysical effect pathway(s)	c)(ii) Concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandate	c)(iii) Material to federal decision-making	d) Means for issue resolution	e) Additional information from the proponent
DND-01	Effects to people from activities on federal lands, such as air quality interactions with base personnel, to help DND understand impacts for the Ministerial Determination if the project can be accommodated at 4 CDTC; and identify suitable mitigation and monitoring for any conditions the crown may require.	All OPS Project components on federal land primarily during construction activities (blasting, crushing, heavy equipment use, earthworks, and transportation). There is insufficient information around OPS activities that may potentially release pollutants to assess potential impacts of the Project on human health. IPD 3.4.1 Air Emissions Construction-related emissions may include dust from vehicle travel on unpaved roads, earthworks and wind erosion of stockpiles, and exhaust emissions from stationary equipment (e.g., generators, pumps,	Human Health Air Quality There are concerns about dust, particulate matter and vehicle emissions from blasting, rock crushing, earth works, haul trucks and heavy equipment having impacts on human health risks including mental health and well-being.	See comment ID “DND-01, DND-02, DND-03, DND-04”	An adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ presence of human receptors. ○ novel or complex project that is on federal land where there are regulatory gaps including jurisdictional responsibilities and oversight related to air quality. ○ unknown mitigation. 	<p>Commitments made by the proponent (e.g., in the Initial Project Description).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proponent indicated in the IPD that air quality will be considered as part of the IA process. The proponent has also indicated to DND through request for information that they anticipate assessing this during the IA process. However, they haven't explicitly indicated how they will study or mitigate impacts. <p>Common, proven, well-understood or standard mitigation measures to mitigate the effect or effect pathway(s);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proponent will need to identify the potential impact and detail the mitigation measures. The IPD does not provide adequate information to assess impacts and mitigation. 	<p>Follow Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Impact Assessment: Air Quality (Health Canada 2023) https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2024/sc-hc/H129-54-1-2023-eng.pdf and as applicable the Canada Labour Code and the Federal Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, as well as any other relevant references based on industry best practices.</p> <p>Provide a complete inventory of all potential air pollutants including, but not limited to, NOx, SO2, CO, ozone (O3), PM2.5, coarse particulate matter (PM10), PAHs, VOCs, DPM, and metals. Justify the exclusion of any common air pollutants from further consideration.</p> <p>Identify whether potential Project effects on ambient air quality may result in pathways of exposure to pollutants for identified human receptors.</p> <p>Compare baseline and predicted air quality to the most stringent and most up-to-date federal and provincial air quality criteria.</p> <p>Determine the human health impacts of changes to air quality from the project.</p> <p>Identify mitigation measures to eliminate, reduce or control adverse effects related to the project.</p> <p>Identify monitoring to verify if standards are being met and to inform any changes or implementation of mitigation measures.</p> <p>DND will require these assessments and the detailed construction management plan including strategies to</p>

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		<p>etc.), light and heavy vehicles, and construction equipment.</p> <p>IPD 12.4.1 Effects to community well-being, including to residents and 4 CDTC personnel, in the form of nuisances (noise, dust, traffic, visual) are expected to occur during the construction phase but are expected to be negligible once operations begin</p>				<p>DND requests that Health Canada, and Ontario MECP be involved in reviewing human health impacts to Air Quality and regulatory gaps. In addition, Employment and Social Development Canada should be involved with respect to requirements of the Canada Labour Code and Canada Occupational Health and Safety Regulatory requirements.</p>	<p>avoid and reduce construction-related impacts to 4 CDTC. DND adopts the approach that Federal legislation must be followed as required by law for Federal Land as applicable and that where no Federal legislation exists, the provincial law must be applied as a best practice to cover the regulatory gap. DND expects that TCE will apply the same principles at 4 CDTC. The proponent must identify which regulations, guidance and industry standards they will apply to the portion of the project on 4 CDTC. The proponent must identify how they plan to assess air quality impacts at 4 CDTC and the community on non-federal land adjacent to 4 CDTC that may be impacted by the project.</p>
DND-02	<p>Effects to people from activities on federal lands, such as noise and vibration interactions with base personnel, to help DND understand impacts for the Ministerial Determination if the project can be accommodated at 4 CDTC and identify suitable mitigation and</p>	<p>All Project components on federal land primarily during all phases but primarily during construction activities (blasting, crushing, heavy equipment use. There is insufficient detail around OPS activities that may potentially cause noise, vibration and electromagnetic impacts to assess potential impacts of the Project on human health</p>	<p>Human Health Noise and Vibration and Electromagnetic field</p> <p>There are concerns about blasting and rock crushing, heavy equipment and vehicle traffic potentially resulting in hearing loss, tinnitus, and other negative effects on human health risks including mental health and well-being.</p>	<p>See comment ID “DND-01, DND-02, DND-03, DND-04”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ presence of human receptors. ○ novel or complex project that is on federal land where there are regulatory gaps including jurisdictional responsibilities and oversight related to noise and vibration. 	<p>Commitments made by the proponent (e.g., in the Initial Project Description).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The proponent has indicated in the IPD that they will conduct studies and noise modeling as a component of the Impact Statement process to confirm compliance with applicable noise regulations. The Proponent has not indicated how they will study vibration impacts. 	<p>Follow Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Impact Assessment: Noise (Health Canada, 2023). https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2024/sc-hc/H129-54-3-2023-eng.pdf</p> <p>Provide detailed information (e.g., location and duration of monitoring, baseline noise and vibration levels, location of sensitive receptors, etc.) from the ambient noise surveys. As well as Ontario MECP NPC-115, NPC-118, NPC-119, NPC –300, and Ontario Provincial Standard Specification (OPSS) 120 and 1066, as applicable the Canada Labour Code and the Federal Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, as well as any other relevant references based on industry best practices.</p> <p>Develop a comprehensive communication plan that describes how residents will be informed ahead of time of any Project-related activities that may lead to noise and vibration disturbances, as well as a complaints resolution</p>

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	<p>monitoring for any conditions the crown may require.</p>	<p>impacts to 4 CDTC receptors.</p> <p>IPD 3.4.2 It is expected that Project construction will generate noise and vibration from vehicle traffic, the operation of construction equipment (excavation, earth movement, drilling), as well as tunnelling and blasting activities.</p> <p>IPD 12.4.1 Effects to community well-being, including to residents and 4 CDTC personnel, in the form of nuisances (noise, dust, traffic, visual) are expected to occur during the construction phase but are expected to be negligible once operations begin</p> <p>IPD 13-1 Potential Effects of the Project on Human Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential effect from electromagnetic 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ unknown mitigation. 	<p>Common, proven, well-understood or standard mitigation measures to mitigate the effect or effect pathway(s);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The proponent indicates they will include reasonable measures to manage construction related noise and vibration plans, but this does not give DND any indication on the actual impacts or mitigation that will be implemented for the project. The proponent must study and identify the mitigation. <p>DNDs Range Standing Orders outline noise restrictions for 4 CDTC. TCE must assess their operations for noise generation and may be required to follow similar noise restrictions.</p> <p>4 CDTC Meaford Range Standing Orders 2024 Edition, Chapter 1 1.502. GENERAL TIMINGS FOR WEAPONS FIRING 197. The 4 CDTC has been a source of concern to some civilian groups</p>	<p>procedure that describes how noise complaints will be received and addressed.</p> <p>Consider or recommend a follow-up monitoring plan to confirm the effectiveness of mitigation measures.</p> <p>DND will require these assessments and the detailed construction management plan including strategies to avoid and reduce construction-related impacts to 4 CDTC. DND adopts the approach that Federal legislation must be followed as required by law for Federal Land as applicable and that where no Federal legislation exists, the provincial law must be applied as a best practice to cover the regulatory gap. DND expects that TCE will apply the same principles at 4 CDTC. The proponent must identify which regulations, guidance and industry standards they will apply to the portion of the project on 4 CDTC. The proponent must identify how they plan to assess noise and vibration impacts at 4 CDTC and the community on non-federal land adjacent to 4 CDTC that may be impacted by the project.</p>

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		<p>field from the transmission connection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential effect from noise as a result of project activity ○ Potential effect to social well-being <p>IPD 13.3.1 Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment. The Project has the potential to affect the health of nearby residents and communities, including the 4CDTC Garrison, both during construction and operation phases.</p>				<p>regarding the noise levels generated by training activities. To mitigate the disruption to our neighbors range timings 3/19 for live-fire exercises using any demolitions or weapons other than small arms were established in 1987 and published to interested parties by the Minister of National Defence. Published firing timings are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 0800—1700 hrs—all weapons firing permitted; b. 1700 – 2000 hrs—small arms firing only; c. 2000 – 2200 hrs—all weapon firing permitted; and d. 2200—0800 hrs—small arms firing only. <p>DND also has a maximum NEQ for explosives for 4 CDTC that TCE will need to consider for its blasting activities. DND can provide this information to TCE.</p> <p>DND requests Health Canada and Ontario MECP to be involved in the review of human health impacts related to noise and vibration and EMF. In addition, Employment and</p>	

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						Social Development Canada should be involved with respect to requirements of the Canada Labour Code and Canada Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.	
DND-03	Effects to people from activities on federal lands, such impacts to drinking water quality interactions with base personnel, to help DND understand impacts for the Ministerial Determination if the project can be accommodated at 4 CDTC and identify suitable mitigation and monitoring for any conditions the crown may require.	All phases but primarily construction. All Project components on federal land primarily during construction activities (blasting, crushing, heavy equipment use, shipping, construction of in-water structures, water conveyance structure, that may impact 4 CDTC drinking water quality. There is insufficient detail around project activities that may potentially release pollutants to assess potential impacts of the Project on human health impacts to 4 CDTCs drinking water source which is	Human Health Drinking Water Quality There are concerns about sediment and potential pollution sources from marine shipping, in-water construction works, having impacts on 4 CDTC drinking water source and intake pipe which is located adjacent to the in-water works in Nottawasaga Bay.	See comment ID “DND-01, DND-02, DND-03, DND-04” 4 CDTCs drinking water source is the Nottawasaga Bay and the intake is in close proximity to the proposed intakes and dock. 4 CDTC as a Federal Department treating and providing drinking water to personnel at 4 CDTC needs to ensure the quality of the drinking water meets the Guidance Providing Safe Drinking water in Areas of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ presence of human receptors. ○ novel or complex project activities, components or technologies; ○ high uncertainties in effects or in the effectiveness of mitigation measures; ○ unknown mitigation 	<p><i>Commitments made by the proponent (e.g., in the Initial Project Description).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proponent indicated in the IPD that drinking water will be considered as part of the IA process. The proponent has also indicated to DND through request for information that they will assess this during the IA process. However, they haven’t explicitly indicated how they will study or mitigate impacts to 4 CDTCs drinking water source. <p><i>Common, proven, well-understood or standard mitigation measures to mitigate the effect or effect pathway(s);</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proponent will need to identify the potential impact and detail the mitigation 	<p>Follow Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Impact Assessment: Drinking and Recreational Water Quality (Health Canada 2023)</p> <p>Describe any potential Project-related changes to drinking water and water used for DND operational purposes and associated effects on human health.</p> <p>https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2024/sc-hc/H129-54-2-2023-eng.pdf</p>

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		<p>adjacent to the in-water structures.</p> <p>IPD 9.6.4.1 Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment. There will be interactions with surface water during the construction and operation of the Project. Interactions are expected to include in-water or near-water construction activities (such as the Lower Inlet/Outlet Structure, the transmission connection option and potential Marine Access)</p> <p>IPD Table 9-15 Change in surface water quality Increased sediment concentrations and transport in surface water due to in-water construction, vegetation clearing, increased erosion on the Project footprint, or release</p>		<p>Federal Jurisdiction. It is not clear how the project will protect the drinking water source and drinking water quality at 4 CDTC.</p>		<p>measures. Currently, the IPD does not provide adequate information to assess impacts and mitigation.</p> <p>DND requests that Health Canada be involved in reviewing human health impacts to drinking water quality. In addition, Employment and Social Development Canada should be involved with respect to requirements of the Canada Labour Code and the Canada Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.</p>	

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		of water from the project.					
DND-04	Accidents or Malfunctions and their potential impact to Federal Land and effects to people from accidents and malfunctions and interactions with base personnel, to help DND understand impacts for the Ministerial Determination if the project can be accommodated at 4 CDTC and identify suitable mitigation and monitoring for any conditions the crown may require.	Reservoir and conveyance structures There is insufficient detail about accidents and malfunctions that may occur.	Human Health Impacts and Infrastructure/Land Damage from Accidents and Malfunctions	See comment ID “DND-01, DND-02, DND-03, DND-04”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including;: ○ presence of sensitive species, habitats or human receptors; ○ novel or complex project activities, components or technologies; ○ unknown mitigation 	<p>It is DNDs understanding that CIRNAC through the DWPA will be conducting a technical review for the Interim water power licence application which will involve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluating the technical designs and reports for compliance with the Canadian Dam Association Dam Safety Guidelines and Best Practices ● Evaluating the Operations, Maintenance, and Monitoring Plans and determining their adequacy at detecting potential structural or operational issues. ● Assessment of dam safety manuals and emergency preparedness plans to determine their adequacy at responding to potential structural or operational issues. <p>TCE has stated in the IPD that they have committed</p>	<p>DND needs to understand from CIRNAC and the proponent how DND will be engaged to ensure DND is considered in the safety assessment and emergency preparedness and planning. DND will need to be part of this process. DND will need to be included in the review.</p> <p>Given that 4 CDTC is directly adjacent to the PSP and could be significantly impacted, DND will need additional information on the potential impacts of potential accidents and malfunctions including catastrophic failure of the reservoir and conveyance structures and what mitigation measures and emergency response measures would be. The proponent should conduct a dam break inundation mapping study to identify the severity and extent of flooding from a potential dam failure and incorporate these into emergency management and planning. DND will need to review this information to assess potential impacts to 4 CDTC.</p>

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						<p>to having an Independent Reservoir Safety Board.</p> <p>Accidents and malfunctions are a concern, especially catastrophic failure that could result in significant flooding of 4 CDTC. TCE provided DND a copy of their Public Safety Assessment (PSA) and is being reviewed by DND. If TCE follows the recommendations in the PSA and CIRNAC completes their technical review and follow-up monitoring that those are means of addressing the concerns. DND must be involved in emergency planning as a key stakeholder.</p>	
DND-01, DND-02, DND-03, DND-04	Common across comment ID c)(ii) Concern unique to the project or a priority within your mandat	<p>May cause direct or indirect impact to CAF operations and readiness. In addition, may cause direct impact as to Federal Public Servants at 4 CDTC who’s health and safety is governed under the Canada Labour Code and its associated regulations.</p> <p>This project is on Federal land and will be constructed and operated within an active military base where personnel train and sleep both day and night in indoor and outdoor environments and facilities around the base. The ability for CAF to conduct training and continue ongoing operation of 4 CDTC is critical to DNDs mandate. “Supporting our people” is one part of the themes of DND mandate “by placing focus on recruitment, retention and personal management, as well as investments into the quality of life for military members in form of support for health, housing and childcare. For all that CAF members give up for Canadians they all deserve to feel safe and valued in their workplace, it is our priority progress culture change.” Mandate of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces - Canada.ca The “National Defence Act gives the Minister of National Defence authority to manage and direct all matters relating to national defence and the Canadian Forces.” Therefore, the MND must understand the implications of a project on Defence lands. Legislation and National Defence - Canada.ca</p>					
DND-05	Effects to Indigenous people who have traditional territory within the PSP footprint	IPD 10.1.4.1 Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment The construction of	DND has identified indigenous communities who have identified this area as traditional land. Furthermore,	DND, as with the rest of the government of Canada, has made a commitment to	<i>adverse effects within federal jurisdiction</i> means, with respect to a physical activity or a designated project, with	TCE has taken steps to ensure that the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) is included within the project, as the SON have identified this area within	To date, the proponent has been forthcoming and cooperative in sharing engagement activities and initiatives with the 39 Groups DND has identified; subsequently, DND has ensured any information gaps are filled when communicating with all Groups

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	<p>potentially impacting traditional rights and harvesting, to help DND ascertain the impacts to these Indigenous rights and potential mitigation.</p>	<p>Project components has the potential to result in changes to fish and their habitat. Specifically, the construction of the Lower Inlet Outlet Structure, potential Marine Access, and the portion of the Stayner transmission connection op</p> <p>IPD 10.2.4.1 Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment The construction and operation of the Project has the potential to result in effects to vegetation and vegetation communities</p> <p>There is insufficient details to determine how the project will affect Indigenous communities traditional rights within the project footprint.</p>	<p>traditional knowledge from local communities have identified plant and animal species that are directly located within the project footprint, that may be disturbed by the project.</p>	<p>ensure indigenous communities Traditional Rights are respected to any extent possible on federal lands.</p> <p>By allowing land to be utilized by a third party for a large-scale industrial project, it is possible DND may not be able to continue to meet these rights for Indigenous Communities in and around the Meaford area.</p>	<p>respect to the Indigenous peoples of Canada, a non-negligible adverse impact — occurring in Canada and resulting from any change to the environment — on</p> <p>(i) physical and cultural heritage,</p> <p>(ii) the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or</p> <p>(iii) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance;</p> <p>(f) a non-negligible adverse change occurring in Canada to the health, social or economic conditions of the Indigenous peoples of Canada</p>	<p>their traditional lands. This includes having the SON as partners in the project decision making, and completing field studies with the SON, such as archaeology work.</p> <p>DND has committed to ensuring Indigenous communities are included in the project work being undertaken as well. DND has identified 39 communities that may be affected by the project work, and have undertaken outreach and sent information along to the identified affected communities.</p>	
DND-06	Effects to the environment on	All Project components on	Species at Risk – Impacts to habitat	This project is on Federal Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an adverse effect within federal 	DND can share information with Federal	ECCC and DFO are the lead authorities on Species at Risk Act, the Federal Wetland Policy and the Fisheries Act.

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	<p>federal lands including federally listed species at risk, wetlands, and riparian environments that provide special habitat or functions, from construction activities and footprint location, some of which could require offsetting and special attention in ongoing project design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o DND has knowledge of a large population of butternut trees in the reservoir footprint as well as western chorus frog breeding habitat and overwintering residences. There are also wetlands in the area. 	<p>federal land but mainly in the reservoir footprint area.</p>	<p>and harm to individuals</p> <p>Wetlands – impacts to wetlands</p>	<p>and DND is the land custodian. DND has an environmental program and has in-house knowledge and expertise on SAR, wetlands, watercourses, etc. at 4 CDTC including some studies that have been previously conducted at 4 CDTC that may be relevant to cumulative effects assessments or general understanding of the environmental setting and conditions at 4 CDTC.</p> <p>There is a MOU between DND and ECCC for the Cooperation on Terrestrial Species at Risk Matters Under the Responsibility of the Minister of Environment</p>	<p>jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o federal experts’ knowledge; o presence of sensitive species, habitats. 	<p>Authorities or IAAC as needed on studies DND has conducted as well as infrastructure relocation plans for DND. DND has been providing TCE information related to SARA from its studies for the DND S. 82 Impact Assessment Act (IAA) Relocated Infrastructure project for TCEs cumulative effects assessment. TCE should confirm it has the latest final reports from DND. DND has conducted surveys of Western Chorus Frog in the majority of the TCE OPS footprint. DND has some studies on butternut as well as other species at risk and wetlands and watercourses at 4 CDTC that were conducted as part of the S. 82 IAA Environmental Effects Determination for relocated infrastructure. However, these studies may not be directly within the TCE OPS footprint. DND also has historic reports related to SAR and watercourses throughout 4 CDTC.</p>	<p>DND will support with information requests where applicable.</p> <p>Due to the significant loss of land this project will remove from DNDs ability to use, DND will not be able to accommodate any additional land use for compensatory offsetting that may be required by permit or authorization conditions by ECCC or DFO outside the TCE project footprint. If offsetting is required TCE will need to explore alternative locations. DND needs to maintain the ability to effectively train at 4 CDTC and therefore no other restrictions can be imposed on the land outside the PSP project footprint that would limit the ability of the Canadian Armed Forces to train or develop infrastructure.</p>

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				and Present on Defence Establishments.			
DND-07	Effects to the environment on federal lands if soil contaminants are identified in overburden materials to be disturbed and/or relocated, potential changes to groundwater and surface runoff quality, to inform site specific stormwater management strategies Contaminates at 4CDTC include heavy metals, energetics and fuel related contamination from past historical activity at the base.	All Project components on federal land primarily during construction activities. 9.5.4.1 Potential Effects of the Project on the Environment Construction and operation of Project components, specifically those that are underground, will occur on and within groundwater-bearing soils and bedrock formations. Potential Effects of the Project on Groundwater: Disturbance of pre-existing contamination (if discovered)	Impacts to Human Health from the potential release of contaminants to the surrounding environment. By disturbing the soil and providing a pathway to groundwater via construction activities, it is possible that contaminants can be introduced into the surroundings unintentionally. This may lead to direct human health impacts such as ingestion of contaminated water or food, or indirect via activities such as swimming.	This project is on Federal Land and DND is the land custodian at present. DND has an environmental program and has in-house knowledge of soil and groundwater conditions and potential contaminants of concern at 4 CDTC. DND conducts annual groundwater and surface water monitoring at 4 CDTC and may be able to provide information of the environmental setting and conditions at 4 CDTC. In addition, DND is currently conducting an	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an adverse effect within federal jurisdiction, or a direct or incidental adverse effect, that may be significant based on available evidence including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ federal experts' knowledge; 	<p>DND can share information with Federal Authorities or IAAC as required. DND has shared some information from TCE previously. TCE must consider the uniqueness of a defence establishment and the types of potential contaminants when assessing soil, groundwater and surface water conditions for the IA.</p> <p>4 CDTC has been host to numerous live fire exercises and there are Unexploded Ordnance Hazards (UXO) throughout the Range and Training Area and potentially in the hazard area of the water. TCE is conducting UXO surveys and will need to manage</p>	

Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project

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				<p>Enhanced Phase I Environmental Site Assessment within the TCE OPS project footprint and can provide information once it is complete.</p> <p>Unexploded ordnance and its associated safety and environmental risks are unique to DND and may be present in the project site.</p>			

Please insert additional rows as necessary.