Federal integrated assessment process for the Bruce C Nuclear Project

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Canada

Land Acknowledgement

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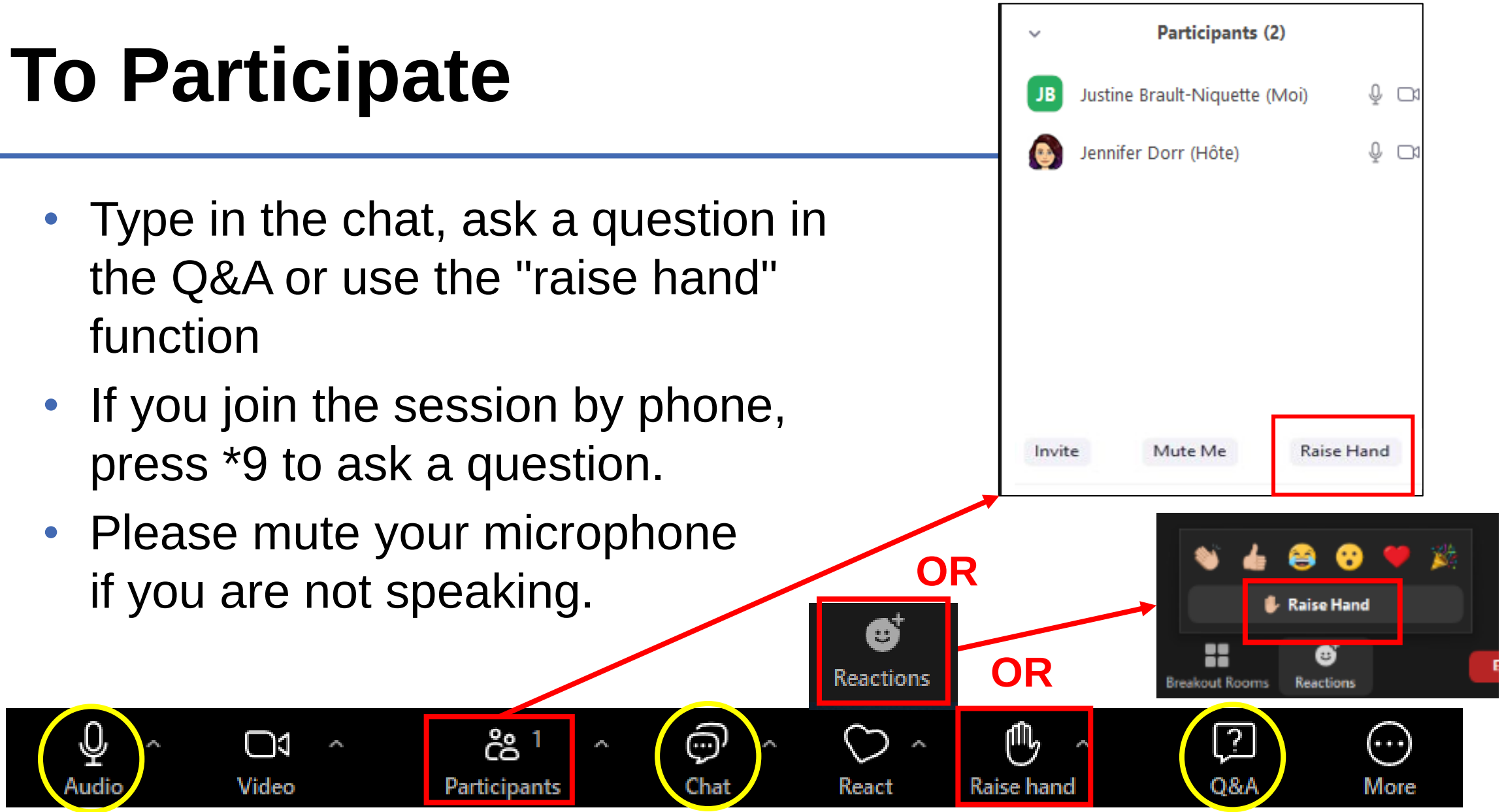
To Participate

- Type in the chat, ask a question in the Q&A or use the "raise hand" function
- If you join the session by phone, press *9 to ask a question.
- Please mute your microphone if you are not speaking.



Session overview

- Introduce the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
  - Who we are: IAAC & CNSC
  - What is a federal integrated assessment process?
- How to participate in the integrated assessment process
- Overview of the Bruce C Nuclear Project
- Next Steps
- Discussion and Question Period

Who we are and the integrated assessment process

INTRODUCTION

What is the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)?

- Federal agency reporting to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change
- Conducts federal impact assessments under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) on major development projects in Canada with the support of other federal departments
- Responsible for conducting public engagement and Indigenous consultation on the projects it assesses

What is the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)?

- The CNSC regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment
- Ensures the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA) and its regulations are followed
- Implements Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and disseminates objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public

What is an impact assessment?

- A planning and decision-making tool for designated projects in Canada that:
  - assesses the potential positive and negative effects within federal jurisdiction
  - looks at mitigating projects adverse effects and enhancing their positive effects

Project Examples

Projects within the following sectors or groups can be found in the *Physical Activities Regulations* (Project List)

- Oil and gas
- Linear and transportation-related
- Marine and freshwater
- Mining
- Nuclear
- Hazardous waste
- Defense projects
- National Parks and Protected Areas
- Federal lands and protected areas

Designated Nuclear Activities

The Project List (s.26-29) identifies the following types of nuclear projects:

- Nuclear facilities and reactors

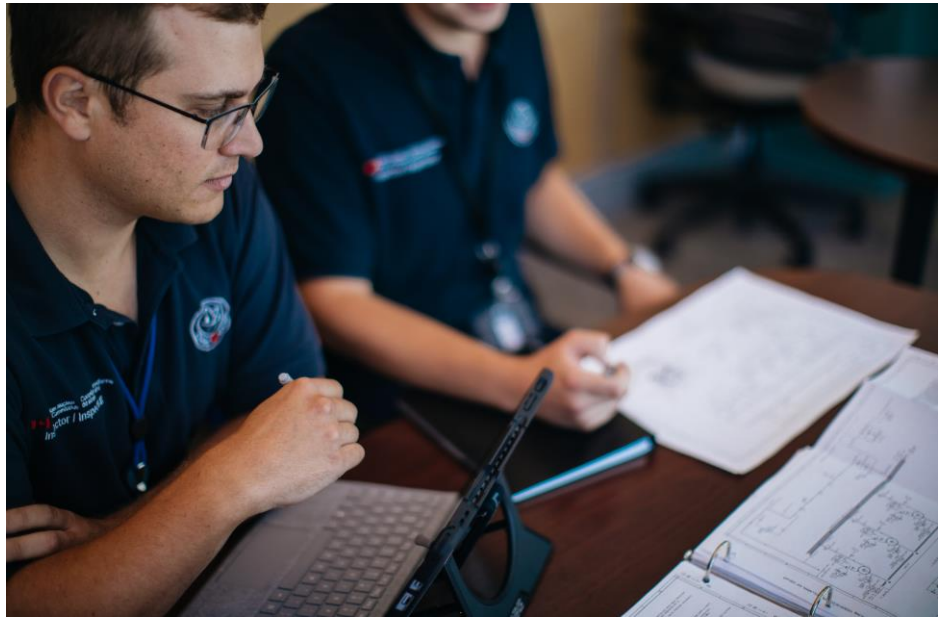
  (a) located within the licensed boundaries of an existing Class IA nuclear facility and the new reactors have a combined thermal capacity of more than 900 MWth; or

  (b) not located within the licensed boundaries of an existing Class IA nuclear facility and the new reactors have a combined thermal capacity of more than 200 MWth.

- Facilities for the storage and disposal of nuclear waste
- New uranium mines and mills
- Expansion of existing uranium mines and mills

What is an integrated assessment?

When a project includes activities regulated under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, the Minister must refer the impact assessment to an integrated review panel



IAAC and the CNSC

- cooperate with the common objective that all their requirements are achieved in a single integrated assessment as "one project, one assessment"
- assess potential effects over the lifecycle of the project and considers the first licensing phase of a nuclear facility (e.g. site preparation).

Integrated Assessment outcome: IA decision, potential issuance of applicable licence under the NSCA

What is a review panel?

A review panel is a group of independent experts appointed by the Agency to conduct an impact assessment.

Members must:

- have knowledge or experience relevant to the project's anticipated effects or have knowledge of the interests and concerns of the Indigenous peoples of Canada that are relevant to the assessment; and
- must be unbiased and free from any conflict of interest relative to the Project.

The Integrated Assessment Process for Nuclear Projects

IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA

1-866-582-1884

information@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

THE KEY PARTICIPANTS IN THE IMPACT ASSESSMENT SYSTEM ARE

- PROPONENT
- INDIGENOUS GROUPS
- IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA
- OTHER JURISDICTIONS
- REVIEW PANEL
- FEDERAL AUTHORITIES
- MINISTER
- GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL
- PUBLIC

*The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, Canada's nuclear lifecycle regulator, is involved throughout the integrated assessment process and, in the post-decision phase, is responsible for licensing and regulatory oversight.

Phase 1: Planning phase

Key Steps and Timelines

IAAC posts Initial Project Description

Summary of Issues from IAAC

Proponent submits response to the summary of issues

IAAC determines if impact assessment is required

IAAC drafts Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (TISG) and Plans

IAAC issues Notice of Commencement and posts final TISG & Plans

DAY 1 — **DAY 80** — **DAY 180**

Public comment period on the Initial Project Description

We are here

Public comment period on draft TISG and Plans

Key documents

- COOPERATION PLAN
- INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN
- INITIAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION
- PERMITTING PLAN
- SUMMARY OF ISSUES
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
- RESPONSE TO SUMMARY OF ISSUES
- TAILORED IMPACT STATEMENT GUIDELINES

Public participation in the integrated assessment process

WHY AND HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT?

Your participation matters

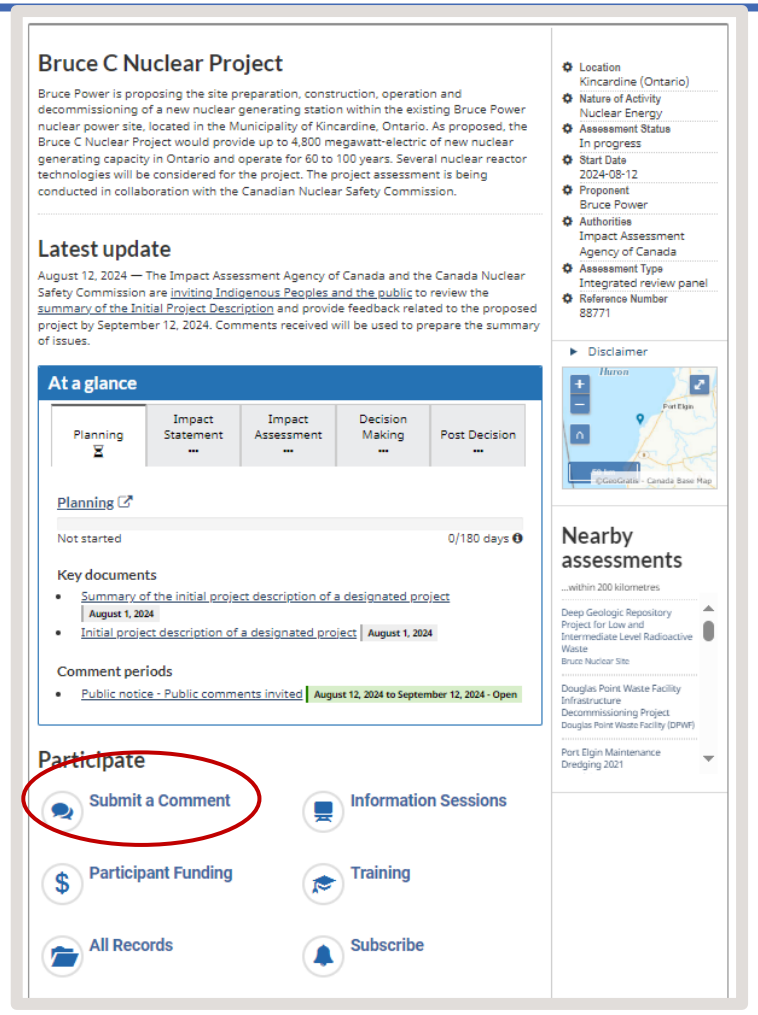
- Your comments and concerns can guide and influence the integrated assessment process and inform the proponent and decision-makers.
- You can:
  - identify issues that are important to you and your community
  - help us understand the regional context where the proposed project would take place
  - provide important local knowledge about the project's possible impacts
  - influence the project design early in the process
  - influence the conduct of the process by letting us know how you wish to be involved

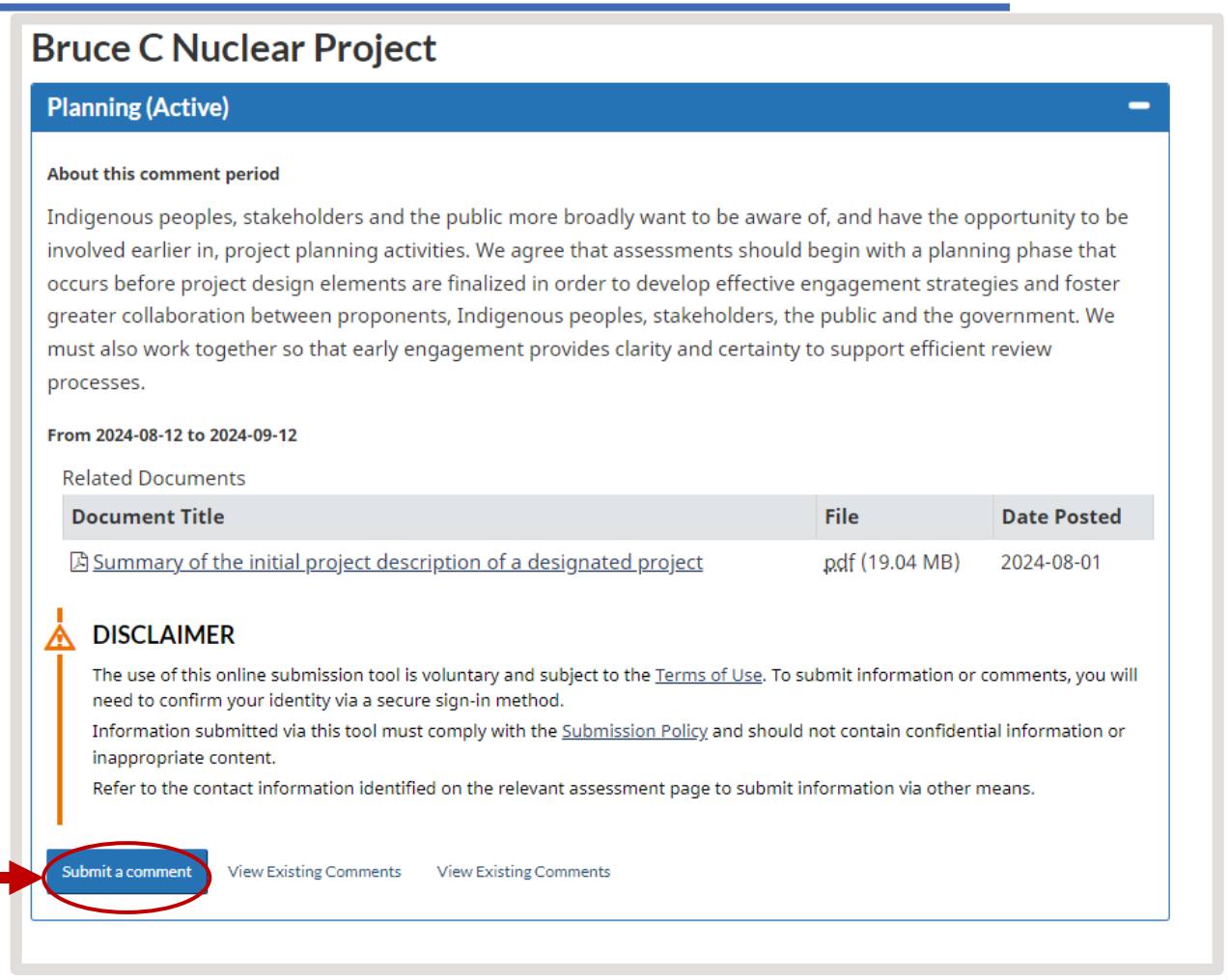
How to participate

- Attending information sessions
- Visit the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website
  - Use the “Submit a comment” feature on the project page: Bruce C Nuclear Project (iaac-aeic.gc.ca)
- Write to IAAC at bruce@iaac-aeic.gc.ca with comments and questions.
- The Registry and our inbox accept comments and questions at any time, but we seek input particularly during defined public comment periods

To stay informed, you can subscribe to the project distribution list by sending an email to bruce@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or sign up for Registry notifications

The Canadian Impact Assessment Registry





Participant Funding Program

Who is eligible?

Participants who want to provide relevant knowledge or expertise to the integrated assessment.

Participants must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Direct and local interest in the project
- Knowledge of communities, vulnerable groups or Indigenous knowledge
- Relevant information
- Interest in the potential impacts of a project on treaty lands, settlement lands, Indigenous territories or related claims and rights

Participant Funding Program

Deadline for submitting an application for the planning phase: **September 13, 2024**

For more information, visit the Participant Funding Program web site.

For any questions or to request help with your application, contact:

Funding Program team

Phone: 1-866-582-1884

Email: fp-paf@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Bruce C Nuclear Project: Overview

BASED ON THE INITIAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION (BRUCE POWER, AUGUST 2024)

Proposed Project: Bruce C Nuclear Project

- Bruce Power is proposing the site preparation, construction, operation and decommissioning of a new nuclear generating station within the existing Bruce Power nuclear power site, located in the Municipality of Kincardine, Ontario (the Project)

- As proposed, the Project would provide up to 4,800 megawatt-electric of new nuclear generating capacity in Ontario and operate for 60 to 100 years

- Bruce Power plans to consider several nuclear reactor technologies for the Project

Project Location

- On the eastern shore of Lake Huron, approximately 18 km north of the town of Kincardine in Bruce County, Ontario.
- Three proposed sites are being considered, adjacent to the existing nuclear generating stations within the boundaries of the 932 ha Bruce Power site.

(Images source: Bruce C – Initial Project Description – August 2024)

Project Schedule

Key Project Phase	Anticipated timeline (Start – Finish)
Impact Assessment	3-4 years (2024 - 2027/28)
Site preparation	3 years (2028 – 2031)
Construction & Commissioning	14 years (2031 – 2045)
Active Operation	60 – 100 years (2045 – 2145)
Safe Storage Operation	30 years
Decommissioning	10 years
Abandonment	Thereafter

Potential Effects

Fish and Fish Habitat (including fish species at risk)

Phase	Effects
Site preparation	• Potential changes to water quality and physical changes to aquatic habitat due to site-preparation activities (removal of vegetation, potential demolition, excavation)
Construction	• Wastewater discharge affecting water quality, and causing temporary sensory disturbance • Construction of cooling water intake tunnel and discharge (physical changes, temporary sensory disturbance and changes to lake water quality)
Operations	• Cooling water intake tunnel and discharge channel may result in changes to lake water circulation, quality and temperature and in fish impingement and entrainment of fish species • Increase in contaminant concentrations in Lake Huron
Decommissioning	• Changes in quantity and quality of water run-off from the site during dismantling and demolition activities • Infilling of intake tunnel and discharge channel

Potential Effects

Migratory Birds (including avian species at risk)

Phase	Effects
Site preparation	• Changes to vegetation communities, wildlife communities, wildlife habitat, or natural heritage systems (e.g., removal of vegetation during grubbing and clearing, sensory disturbance, individual mortality)
Construction	• Changes to migration abilities and bird calls due to temporary increase in ambient noise and light • Temporary changes in air quality (dust/fumes) from construction that could affect avian health
Operations	• Avian health may be affected by decreases in air quality due to chemical and radiological emissions • Artificial light at night may affect bird migration patterns and increase in collisions with infrastructure • Increase in noise could affect some bird species by interrupting mating calls
Decommissioning	• Temporary effects due to noise and dust from dismantling and demolition phase of decommissioning (at least a 10-year period per reactor unit) • Decreases in air quality due to release of chemical or radiological contaminants during dismantling and demolition phase could affect avian health

Potential Effects

Transboundary Effects	• Transboundary effects on another province not anticipated. • Potential effects on Lake Huron (transboundary basin)
Indigenous Peoples: Physical and cultural heritage, traditional land use, historical, archaeological and paleontological and architectural resources	• Impacts to Lake Huron and fish of concern to Indigenous Peoples • Impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights and Indigenous way of life • Impacts to ability of SON members to access SON Spirit Site/ Burial Ground – Chiibegmegoong
Indigenous Peoples: Social, Economic and Health Conditions	• Changes to perception of risk and feelings of personal security and wellbeing related to the presence of the nuclear facility • Effects of influx of nuclear workers and suppliers on demand for services and to availability and affordability of local housing. • Increased availability of training, employment, and procurement opportunities and related impacts to health and well-being

More Project Information

Additional information on the Bruce C Nuclear Project can be found on:

- The Canadian Impact Assessment Registry: Bruce C Nuclear Project (iaac-aeic.gc.ca)
  - Initial Project Description and Summary available under “key documents”

- Bruce Power’s website: The Bruce C Project (brucepower.com)

Next Steps

CONCLUSION

Next steps

1. IAAC prepares a Summary of Issues: summary of concerns and comments relevant to the assessment received during the public comment period
2. Proponent prepares a Response to the Summary of Issues and – if required – a Detailed Project Description
3. IAAC determines whether an impact assessment is required

If an impact assessment is required:

4. The Minister refers the assessment to an integrated review panel
5. IAAC prepares the draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines and plans:
    - Next public comment period (November 2024)

Reminders

Reminders:

Submit your comments on the summary of the IPD on the project before September 12, 2024 at 11:59 pm

Submit an application for participant funding for the Planning Phase before September 13, 2024

Contact information :

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Bruce C Nuclear Project
160 Elgin, 22nd Floor, Ottawa, ON
K1A 0H3
1-613-222-3507
bruce@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Media relations :

Media@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Discussion and Question Period

Reference questions

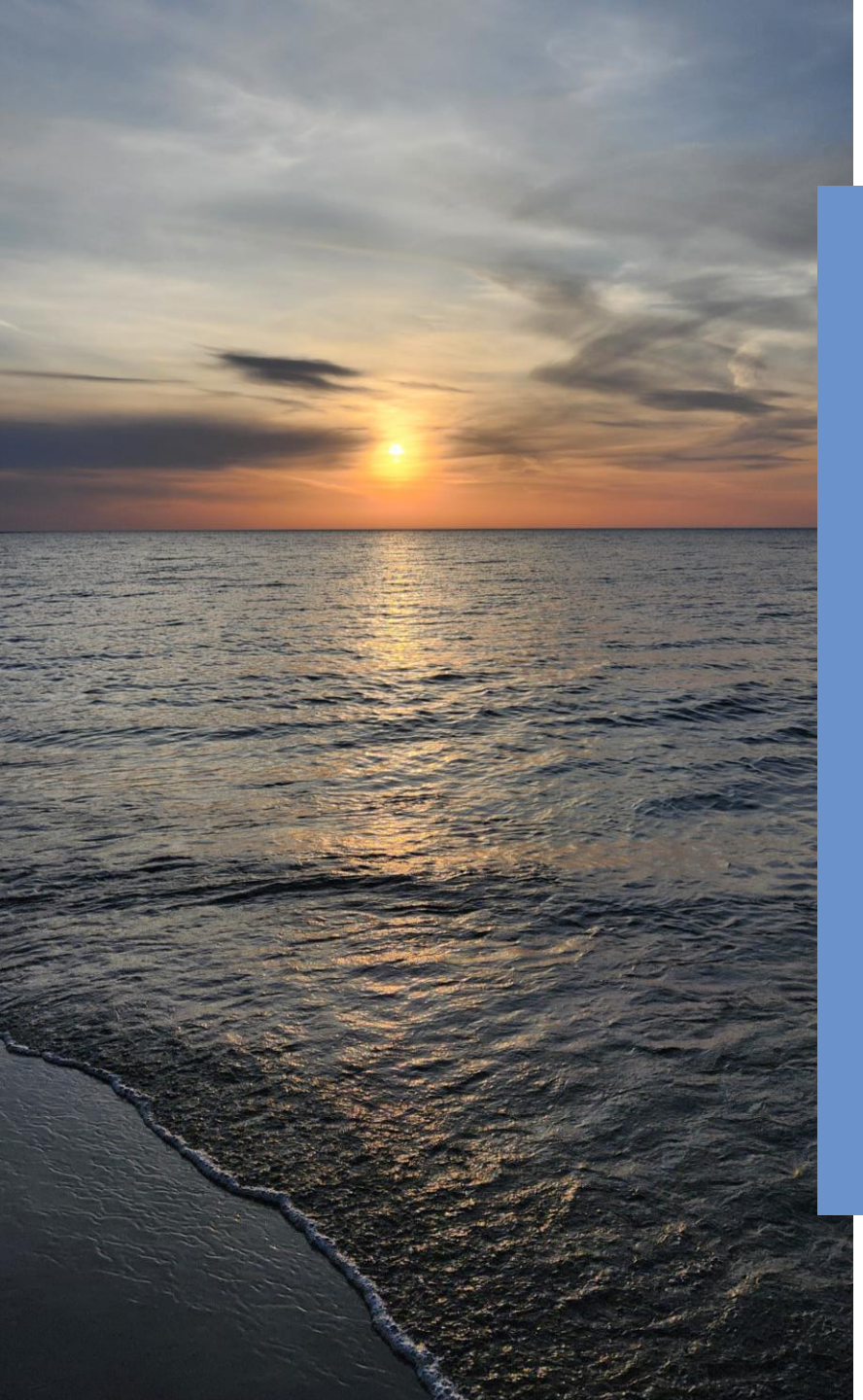
- What is your interest in the Project?
- Do you have any concerns about the Project?
- How could the Project affect you or your community, either positively or negatively?
- What is important to you or your community and why are they important?
- Do you have any specific knowledge relevant to the assessment of this Project?
- Are you aware of any other potential issues related to the assessment of this Project?
- Are there any economic, technical, linguistic or other challenges that might prevent you from participating?

Your Feedback Matters

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada wants to understand what works for you and what the Agency could improve when it comes to its public consultation initiatives like this one. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and your participation is voluntary and confidential.

Please scan this QR Code for the English survey

Veuillez scanner ce code QR pour l'enquête en français



Thank you!

For more information on the integrated assessment process, please visit the following web site:

Canada.ca/IAAC