

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW PROCESS**

**REGISTER OF PANEL PROJECTS  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW OFFICE**

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**ENVIRONMENT CANADA**

**OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Register's purpose is to provide public and private agencies, interest groups, and members of the general public with current information on projects submitted under the Environmental Assessment and Review Process to the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office. At the same time the register will give information on related items.

It is our intention to publish the Register quarterly. Once a year, it will contain the complete data for each project. The other volumes may contain only new or additional information available at the time of printing.

The contents are arranged as follows:

### 1. Information on Panel Projects

(that is, those projects submitted for a formal, in-depth environmental assessment and review for which guidelines are issued for the preparation of an environmental impact statement and the statement is produced by the proponent or initiator or their consultants for review by a Panel.)

This section is subdivided as follows:

- project title
- project location
- identification of proponent and/or initiator
- project description
- possible environmental impacts
- present status under the Environmental Assessment and Review Process
- future Panel events

### 2. General Information on the Environmental Assessment and Review Process

This section provides information on administration of the EAR Process, staff of the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office, and contacts for general information.

### 3. List of Reviewed Projects

This section lists those projects that have been reviewed under the Environmental Assessment and Review Process and on which an Environmental Assessment Panel has submitted its report to the Minister of the Environment.

**I trust that the Register will provide enough data for all interested persons, agencies and groups to become informed of the Panel component of the federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process, to enable them to adequately participate in the review of these projects.**

**F. G. Hurtubise  
Executive Chairman  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office**

## EASTERN ARTIC OFFSHORE DRILLING PROJECT

### Location

**Waters of the eastern coast of Baffin Island and the eastern part of Hudson Strait including Ungava Bay**

### Initiator

**Department of Indian and Northern Affairs**

### Description

**Exploratory drilling for hydrocarbon in the waters of the-Eastern Arctic.**

### Possible Environmental Impacts

**Environmental impacts of offshore drilling may be manifested in several ways, but the most severe situation would likely occur in the case of an uncontrolled wellhead blowout causing the release of oil.**

**The waters along the east coast of Baffin Island are characterized by some of the most adverse physical conditions for offshore drilling in Canada's coastal region, thereby increasing the concern for the environment. The eastern Arctic is rich in biological resources, many thousands of marine mammals and millions of seabirds reproduce in, and migrate through, the area each year.**

### Present Status Under EARP

**The project was referred for Panel review in July, 1977. A task force has been formed in order to develop guidelines for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Because of the scope of the project, the environmental work is expected to take several years to complete and two EIS are expected to be submitted - one for the area south of Cape Dyer and one for the area north of Cape Dyer.**

**A Panel is in the process of being formed.**

### Future Panel Events

**Upon completion of the guidelines and approval by the Panel, they will be distributed to the public for review and comment. The environmental impact statement for the area south of Cape Dyer is expected in 1979 at which time public hearings will take place.**

**LANCASTER SOUND OFFSHORE DRILLING PROJECT****Location**

**Lancaster Sound, Northwest Territories**

**Initiator**

**Department of Indian and Northern Affairs**

**Description**

**Offshore drilling in the waters of Lancaster Sound**

**Possible Environmental Impacts**

**The major environmental concerns are those related to the effects of a possible blowout in the Lancaster Sound area. In the case of a blowout not only could vast areas of shoreline be contaminated but also, effects would be evidenced in the sea birds of the area, marine mammals and fish and fish food organism**

**Present Status under EARP**

**The project was referred for Panel consideration in July 1977 along with the Eastern Arctic Offshore Drilling Project. An Environmental Impact Statement is presently being prepared and is expected to be submitted shortly. Because of the state of readiness of this EIS, a separate Panel for this project will be created rather than including it in the Eastern Offshore Drilling Project.**

**Future Panel Events**

**Upon review of the EIS, the Panel will make the EIS and its review public. The Panel will issue a statement of deficiency which will constitute guidelines for the completion of the assessment. Public and community hearings are expected to be held in 1978.**



## **LABRADOR/NEWFOUNDLAND ELECTRIC POWER TRANSMISSION LINE & TUNNEL**

### **Location**

**Lower Churchill River (Labrador), Strait of Belle Isle and Island of Newfoundland**

### **Proponent**

**Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro**

### **Initiator**

**Federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources**

### **Description**

**Construction of two 400 kv. transmission lines to supply power from the Churchill Falls site in Labrador via a tunnel under the Strait of Belle Isle to St. John's on the Island of Newfoundland. The proposed start of construction is unknown at present. The estimated cost is \$700 million (1976 dollars).**

### **Possible Environmental Impacts**

- 1. The transmission line will impact on moose, caribou and arctic hare populations.**
- 2. The line will impact on areas of wilderness quality.**
- 3. The construction of the line is potentially dangerous to certain fish species such as Atlantic salmon, brook trout, i.e. in the crossing of some 15 river systems significant for the production of these fish species.**
- 4. Construction of the proposed Belle Isle Strait tunnel could have an effect on both fish and marine animals, i.e. blasting could disrupt migration patterns of cod, Atlantic salmon and harp seal.**
- 5. Construction of the line could affect sensitive land types such as organic areas and unstable river crossings.**

### **Present Status Under EARP**

**This project was under consideration before the federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process became operational. In December 1974, a preliminary environmental impact statement was produced under a federal-provincial cost-shared agreement. This agreement made provision for a Panel review. Consequently, a Panel was formed January 1975. Panel members are:**

**J. S. Klenavic**  
**Director, Operations**  
**Federal Environmental Assessment**  
**Review Office, Ottawa**  
**(Chairman)**

**W.J. Carroll**  
**Director, Newfoundland Forest**  
**Research Centre**  
**Environment Canada**  
**St. John's, Newfoundland**

**A. W. May**  
**Director General**  
**Resource Services Directorate**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

**R. J. McCormack**  
**Director General**  
**Lands Directorate**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

**E. M. Warnes**  
**Chief, Generation and Transmission**  
**Energy, Mines & Resources Canada**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

**As an Environmental Impact Statement was in existence, the Panel did not produce guidelines but issued a deficiency statement, which will be the focus for the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement in accordance with Panel procedure**

#### **Future Panel Events**

**It is anticipated that the Environmental Impact Statement will be completed later this year, following the resolution of relocation questions in Labrador and on the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland. Upon receipt of the Impact Statement, the Panel will commence its review. The format for the public review program is presently in preparation.**

## GULL ISLAND HYDRO ELECTRIC GENERATION PROJECT

### Location

Gull Island **site on the Lower Churchill River, 140 miles downstream from the Churchill Falls Power Development, Labrador.**

### Proponent

**Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro**

### Initiator

**Federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources**

### Description

**The project will consist of a dam across the Churchill River, an artificial lake with an area of 77 square miles with a maximum depth of 300 feet near the dam intakes and penstocks, a powerhouse with six 300 MW generating units and a construction camp for 150 families. 1600 MW of Gull Island Power will be passed via a high tension DC transmission facility (Newfoundland/Labrador Electric power transmission line and tunnel) to the 320 KV AC insular Newfoundland grid. The project will also provide an extra high tension AC intertie with the Churchill Falls power development on the Upper Churchill River. The total capital cost (hydro facilities only) is estimated at \$500 million (1974 \$). The proposed start of construction is not known at present.**

### Possible Environmental Impacts

- 1. The dam will create a reservoir which will impact on wildlife, fish and other resources.**
- 2. The construction camps and borrow areas will impact on areas of wilderness quality and on the wildlife and aquatic resources.**
- 3. Construction activities, including reservoir preparation, will have short-term and long-term effects on fish rearing areas and fish habitat.**

### Present Status Under EARP

**The project was under consideration before the Federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process became operational. The project was the subject of a preliminary environmental overview study in 1974. In 1977, it was agreed that a Panel be formed for the Gull Island Hydro Project and that a different Panel be appointed for the Newfoundland/Labrador Transmission Line. The Gull Island Environmental Assessment Panel members are:**

**J.S. Klenavic**  
**Director, Operations**  
**Federal Environmental Assessment**  
**Review Office, Ottawa**  
**(Chairman)**

**J.H.C. Pippy**  
**Fisheries Biological Station**  
**Fisheries and Environment Canada**  
**St. John's, Nfld.**

**E.M. Warnes**  
**Chief, Generation and Transmission**  
**Energy, Mines & Resources Canada**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

**E. J. Norrena**  
**District Manager**  
**Environmental Protection Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**St. John's, Nfld.**

**F.C. Pollett**  
**Newfoundland Forest Research Center**  
**Environmental Management Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**St. John's, Nfld.**

**Irene Baird**  
**Director**  
**Executive Council**  
**Confederation Bldg.**  
**St. John's, Nfld.**

**Guidelines for the environmental impact statement are in the process of being approved. Environmental studies are scheduled for 1977-78.**

#### **Future Panel Events**

**On completion of the environmental impact statement a review will be undertaken by the Panel. This will include a review by the public. Public meetings will be arranged to obtain briefs and comments from that sector.**

BAY OF FUNDY TIDAL POWER GENERATION PROJECT

**Location**

**Chignecto Bay and Minas Basin sites, upper Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick/  
Nova Scotia.**

**Proponent**

**Bay of Fundy Tidal Power Review Board**

**Description**

**The project is at the feasibility planning stage (stage II of Phase I of the Board's program). At this stage, there are alternatives under study which propose the construction and operation of dams, generating plants and transmission lines at three locations in the Upper Bay of Fundy. The proposed construction costs and start of construction dates are not known at present.**

**Possible Environmental Impacts**

**Specific areas of impact are not yet known. Some general areas include:**

- 1. Limitations or restrictions on resource use by man.**
- 2. Impacts on ecosystem stability in terrestrial and marine environments.**
- 3. Large borrow pit, quarrying and hauling operations.**

**Present Status Under EARP**

**The project was referred for Panel review in April 1977. The Panel was formed October 1977. Panel members are:**

**F.G. Hurtubise  
Executive Chairman  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)**

**Arthur Collin  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Atmospheric Environment Service  
Environment Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario**

**Robert Bailey**  
**Executive Secretary**  
**Coastal Zone Management**  
**N.S. Dept. of the Environment**  
**P.O. Box 2107, Halifax**

**Owen Washburn**  
**Director**  
**Environmental Services Branch**  
**N.B. Dept. of the Environment**  
**Box 6000, Fredericton**

**Leo Brandon**  
**Director General**  
**Atlantic Region**  
**Environmental Management Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**P.O. Box 5111, Bedford, N.S.**

**A working group from federal and provincial agencies is producing draft guidelines for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.**

**Future Panel Events**

**A public information and participation program to enable the public to be informed of and become involved in the environmental impact assessment is currently in preparation. This will include discussion of the impact statement guidelines as well as public review of the impact statement.**

## SOLID WASTE ENERGY CONVERSION PLANT

### Location

**National Capital Region, Ontario-Quebec**

### Initiators

**Federal Department of Public Works and the National Capital Commission.**

### Description

**The project currently proposed is an energy conversion plant which would utilize solid waste from the National Capital Region as part of its fuel requirements, producing steam to supply heating and cooling services for existing and proposed federal government buildings in downtown Ottawa-Hull. A number of possible systems are currently being evaluated. The project was originally conceived as a combined incinerator and heating plant by the National Capital Commission, not connected with any other system**

### Possible Environmental Impacts

- 1. Effect of plant emissions and odours on adjacent areas including residential.**
- 2. Visual impact on the surrounding area.**
- 3. Increase in traffic flow, noise and density due to increase in fuel delivery shipments.**
- 4. Impact on adjacent existing or proposed land uses or zoning.**
- 5. Effect of plant noise and vibration on adjacent areas.**

### Present Status Under EARP

**The original NCC project submitted in 1974 to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process had reached the finalization of impact statement guidelines stage prior to its incorporation into the above project. Due to a change in the nature of the project, the Panel for the original project was dissolved and a new one formed in May 1976.**

**The new panel members are:**

**J.S. Klenavic  
Director, Operations  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)**

**G. Lamoureux  
Chief, Federal Activities  
Environmental Protection Service  
Environment Canada  
Montreal, P.Q.**

**K. C. Stanley**  
**Director, Environmental Design**  
**Department of Public Works**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

**K. Shikaze**  
**Chief, Environmental Control Division**  
**Environmental Protection Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Toronto, Ontario**

**E. G. Daly**  
**Director, Solid Waste Management**  
**National Capital Commission**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

**The new Panel is presently preparing EIS guidelines on the basis of those issued for the former project.**

**Future Panel Events**

**Upon completion of NCC/DPW's preliminary site selection study, forecast for 1977, the Panel will finalize guidelines for the preparation of an environmental impact statement. These will be made available to the public. Upon presentation of the EIS (projected date as yet unknown) public meeting(s) will be held to enable the public to review and comment on the proposal.**



## HAMILTON AIRPORT PROJECT

### Location

**Hamilton (Munt Hope), Ontario and five alternate sites south and southwest of the city of Hamilton.**

### Initiator

**Federal Department of Transport (Canadian Air Transportation Administration).**

### Description

**The selection, from among several options, of an airport for the future development of air transportation facilities and services for the Hamilton area. Options include retention and expansion of the existing airport, and the development of a new airport at one of several new sites. Projected cost and development schedule details are dependent upon the alternative selected.**

### Possible Environmental Impacts

**The environmental effects will vary according to the site being considered. Some of the possible environmental effects determined from initial studies conducted are:**

- 1. Loss of agricultural land (all alternative sites except the existing Hamilton (Mt. Hope) site).**
- 2. Increased runoff to feeder streams causing increased susceptibility to erosion, reduced rates of ground water recharge and stream siltation.**
- 3. Increased ground traffic and its associated noise.**
- 4. For all sites a certain segment of the population would be affected by aircraft noise.**
- 5. Stream siltation and effects on fish spawning due to construction activity.**

### Present Status Under EARP

**The project was officially referred for Panel review, July 1976. The Panel was formed October 1976. Panel members are:**

**J.S. Klenavic  
Director, Operations  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)**

**R. T. Moffatt  
A/General Manager  
Toronto Area Airports Projects  
Transport Canada  
Toronto, Ontario**

**R. C. Ellis**  
**Director, Ontario Region**  
**Environmental Management Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Burlington, Ontario**

**K. Shikaze**  
**Chief, Environmental Control Division**  
**Environmental Protection Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Toronto, Ontario**

**Future Panel Events**

**The Panel's first actions will be: to define the scope of the project for the purposes of the preparation and review of the impact statement, finalize guidelines for issue to the initiator for preparation of the impact statement, and to determine the nature of the public information and participation program for the project. The guidelines will be made available to the public.**

ELDORADO NUCLEAR LIMITED - EXPANSION OF URANIUM REFINING CAPACITY

**Location**

The potential sites for the proposed refineries are in the provinces of Ontario and Saskatchewan (one refinery per province). The decision to proceed and the exact locations will depend upon environmental and other approvals, engineering and market feasibility studies.

**Initiator**

Eldorado Nuclear Ltd.

**Description**

- a) **Ontario:** the proposed project is to construct a uranium refinery with a capacity of 9,000 metric tons natural uranium in the form of uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>). The refinery will process ore concentrates (yellowcake) primarily from mines located in Ontario to produce uranium hexafluoride for United States and overseas market. Uranium hexafluoride is the feedstock for uranium enrichment plants which do not currently exist in Canada since the Candu reactor does not require enriched uranium
- b) **Saskatchewan:** the proposed refinery would process yellow cake primarily from Saskatchewan mines to produce: 5,000 tons of uranium oxide by 1981; 5,000 tons of uranium hexafluoride by 1985; and 10,000 tons of the latter by 1990. The only other difference between (a) and (b) is that the uranium oxide produced in (b) would be used for conversion to uranium hexafluoride at the Port Hope refinery.

The total estimated cost of both refineries is \$150 million (1975 \$) and the projected production start-up date is 1980-81.

**Environmental Impacts**

For the Ontario project, these are detailed in the 3 volume Environmental Impact Statement, produced by James McLaren for Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. These documents were released to the public in July 1977. Copies may be obtained by writing to the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office.

### Present Status Under EARP

For a variety of reasons, there have been several changes in Panel composition. Present members are:

**J.S. Klenavic**  
**Director, Operations**  
**Federal Environmental Assessment**  
**Review Office, Ottawa**  
**(Chairman)**

**P.M. Bird**  
**(Director-General, Liaison 81**  
**Coordination Directorate**  
**Planning and Finance Service**  
**Environment Canada, Ottawa**

**C. Cheng**  
**(Canada Centre for Inland Waters**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Burlington, Ontario)**

**R.S. Lang**  
**(Associate Professor, York University**  
**Faculty of Environmental Studies**  
**Downsview, Ontario)**

**D.P. Scott**  
**(Freshwater Institute Coordination**  
**Fisheries and Marine Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Winnipeg, Manitoba)**

**K. Shikaze**  
**(Chief, Environmental Control Division**  
**Environmental Protection Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Toronto, Ontario)**

**Ellan Derow**  
**(Instructor, McMaster University**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**Hamilton, Ontario)**

A federal-provincial working group was formed by the Panel in September 1975 to produce draft guidelines for the preparation of the impact statement. The finalized guidelines were issued by the Panel to the proponent in June 1976 and are available to the public. With regard to the Ontario site, as noted previously, the 3 volume Environmental Impact Statement was submitted to the Panel in July 1977. The three volumes were titled as follows:

1. **Appendix I - Evaluation of potential sites for a new uranium refinery in Ontario**
2. **Appendix II - Comparison of 4 potential sites for a new uranium refinery in Ontario**
3. **Environmental Impact Assessment - The Port Granby Project**

Immediately subsequent to this date the Impact Statement documentation was made available to both local and regional publics and notices were issued regarding their availability and upcoming public review. Phase I of the public review was held Sept. 27 - Oct. 5 in Bowmanville and Newcastle, Ontario.

For the Saskatchewan site, after study of 14 potential locations, Warman, near Saskatoon, has been selected for detailed environmental assessment.

**Future Panel Events**

**Panel will shortly be issuing a list of deficiencies to the proponent and the public and an estimated time for the commencement of the next phase of the hearings for the Port Granby Project.**

**The environmental studies for the Saskatchewan site commenced this spring. It is expected that the impact statement will be submitted to the Panel in the first half of 1978.**

## POLAR GAS PROJECT

### Location

High Arctic Islands via Northwest Territories to markets in southern Canada.

### Proponents

Polar gas Consortium and Panarctic Gas Ltd.

### Co-Initiators

Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (for Northwest Territories portion). Department of Energy, Mines and Resources (for area south of 60th parallel).

### Description

Extraction and purification of gas from fields in the High Arctic, and construction of a large diameter pipeline for natural gas transmission through the Northwest Territories and one or more provinces to a junction with an existing pipeline in southern Canada. The projected total cost for the pipeline component, south from Spence Bay ranges from \$4.5 billion to \$6.2 billion, the variation being a function of the route taken. The proposed start of pipeline construction is 1979-80.

### Possible Environmental Impacts

Specific impacts not known prior to basic EIS studies. General impact could be similar to related Arctic pipeline projects in Canada and the U.S.

### Present Status Under EARP

Official request for Panel received November 1975. Federal government Task Force set up February 1975 to produce draft EIS guidelines for Panel. Panel formed March 1976. Members are:

J. S. Klenavic  
Director, Operations  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)

R. G. Skinner  
Department of Energy, Mines  
and Resources  
Ottawa, Ontario

G. H. Lawler  
Regional Board Chairman  
Northwest Region  
Fisheries and Marine Service  
Environment Canada  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

A. H. Macpherson  
Regional Director-General  
Environmental Management Service  
Northwest Region  
Environment Canada  
Edmonton, Alberta

**F. A. Doe**  
**Chief, Environmental Assessment**  
**& Review Support**  
**Manitoba Department of Mines,**  
**Resources and Environmental Management**  
**Winnipeg, Manitoba**

**M. J. Ruel**  
**Director Northern Environmental**  
**Protection & Renewables Resources Br.**  
**Indian & Northern Affairs**  
**Ottawa**

**A. R. Milne**  
**Ocean and Aquatic Services**  
**Pacific Region**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Victoria, B.C.**

**The guidelines for the preparation of an environmental impact statement are presently being finalized by the Panel for issue to the initiators and proponents.**

#### **Future Panel Events**

**The finalization of the guidelines for the impact statement is expected in the near future. These will be available to the public for their use and information. The impact statement is to be prepared by the proponents and the initiator in concert. The projected date of submission of the statement to the Panel is not known at present. A public participation and information program is currently being designed to ensure public involvement in the review of the impact statement.**

**CN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM - WOOD BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK****Location**

Northern section of Wood Buffalo National Park, Alberta and Northwest Territories.

**Proponent**

Canadian National Telecommunications

**Initiator**

Parks Canada, Department of Indian and Northern Affairs

**Description**

The proposed system consists of the construction of two 500 foot microwave towers and support systems in the northern section of Wood Buffalo National Park. The purpose of this system is to improve communications between Hay River (NWT), Fort Smith (NWT), and Fort Chipewyan (Alberta). The estimated cost is \$0.75 to \$1.25 million and the start of construction is proposed for 1973.

**Possible Environmental Impacts**

1. Disruption of the breeding grounds of the Whooping Crane.
2. Obstruction and interference to Whooping Cranes moving around their breeding grounds, and to the cranes migration routes.
3. Landscape aesthetics of the National Park.

**Present Status Under EARP**

The project was referred for Panel review in April, 1977. The Panel is currently in the process of being formed.

**Future Panel Events**

The Panel's first tasks will be to prepare and issue guidelines for the preparation of an environmental impact statement to the initiator and determine the nature of the public information and participation program. The impact statement guidelines will be made available for public comment.



## MACKENZIE DELTA GAS GATHERING SYSTEM

### Location

Mackenzie River Delta Region, Northwest Territories

### Proponents

Imperial Oil, Gulf Oil and Shell Oil

### Initiator

Department of Indian and Northern Affairs

### Description

Construction and operation of gas processing plants and transportation facilities by the above oil companies to supply a pipeline moving gas south to market in southern Canada. The proposed start of construction varies as there are three separate plant facilities proposed, and schedules for construction have not been confirmed. The estimated cost of the Taglu development (Imperial Oil) is \$500 million (1975 dollars).

### Possible Environmental Impacts

1. Removal and/or disturbance of vegetation during construction resulting in permafrost degradation and/or soil erosion.
2. Temporary disturbance or displacement of wildlife and harassment causing seasonal or permanent abandonment of habitats.
3. Reduction of productivity caused by disturbing nesting populations in adjacent migrating bird sanctuaries and at other nesting sites.
4. Permafrost degradation under and around pads and dykes used for site developments - thaw settlement could be extensive on ice rich soils and dyke failure could release toxic substances which could affect terrestrial and aquatic habitats.
5. Extraction of certain construction materials and timber could have an important bearing on terrain and vegetation disturbance, wildlife and aquatic resources.
6. Large volumes of fuels and chemicals stored at these sites and associated transfer operations present potentials for spills into adjacent river channels.

**Present Status Under EARP**

The official request for Panel review was received in January 1975, and the Panel was formed in the same month. Panel members are:

**J. S. Klenavic**  
Director, Operations  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)

**M. R. Ruel**  
A/Director Northern Natural  
Resources & Environmental 3r.  
Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs  
Ottawa, Ontario

**A. W. Mansfield**  
Director, Arctic Biological Station  
Fisheries and Marine Service  
Environment Canada  
Ste-Anne de Bellevue, P. Q.

**D. Surrendi**  
Chief, Migratory Bird Management Div.  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment Canada  
Edmonton, Alberta

**J. R. Marsh**  
(Chief, Environmental Control Branch  
Environmental Protection Service  
Environment Canada  
Edmonton, Alberta

Guidelines for the production of the environmental impact statement(s) were issued to the initiator May, 1975. They are available to the public. The impact statement(s) are currently in preparation.

**Future Panel Events**

For each component, an individual impact statement will be prepared for Panel review. In addition, an overview impact statement will be submitted to consolidate the total package. This will address the interrelationships of the three plants and their cumulative impacts. Upon receipt of the impact statements, these will be reviewed by the Panel and arrangements for their public and professional review will be made.

## MACKENZIE RIVER DREDGING PROGRAM

### Location

Mackenzie River, between Hay River and the Mackenzie River Delta, N.W.T.

### Initiator

Arctic Transportation Agency, Federal Department of Transport. (Project Agency, Federal Department of Public Works)

### Description

Improvement of the navigation channel in the specified section of waterway, to provide for a minimum 8 foot grade depth and 350 foot width allowing 6 foot draft vessel loadings. This would include channel realignments at rapids areas to eliminate barge relay operations. This program could be undertaken either in support of construction logistics for a Mackenzie Valley natural gas pipeline or as a permanent piece of transportation infrastructure to meet long term traffic growth. For pipeline construction support, a three year program may be the most desirable; total estimated cost \$45 million (1975 \$). For long term traffic growth, a five year program would be more suitable; estimated cost \$40 million (1975 \$).

### Possible Environmental Impacts

1. Change in water levels and related environmental effects.
2. Effect of dredging on fisheries.
3. Disturbance of bird populations.
4. Change in river regime and effects on ecology of banks - fauna, flora, and other effects, i.e. changes to historical, archaeological sites.

### Present Status Under EARP

Request for Panel made in April 1976. Panel formed May 1976. Panel members are:

J.S. Klenavic  
Director, Operations  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)

K. Davies  
Water Survey of Canada  
Environment Canada  
Calgary, Alberta

M.G. Hagglund  
Administrator  
Arctic Transportation Agency  
Transport Canada,  
Ottawa, Ontario

R.J. Paterson  
Director, Environmental Secretariat  
Fisheries and Marine Service  
Environment Canada  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

**V. D. Hawley  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment Canada  
Edmonton, Alberta**

**Guidelines for the production of the Environmental Impact Statement were issued by the Panel to the initiator, July 1976. These are available to the public.**

**Future Panel Events**

**Field studies related to the production of the Environmental Impact Statement are now in progress. The earliest presentation date for the statement is fall, 1977. Upon receipt of the impact statement, the Panel will commence public and technical reviews. A public participation program is currently in preparation to involve the public in the review of the impact statement.**

## YUKON RAILWAY STUDY

### Location

The study includes consideration of alternatives within the Yukon Territory with possible links to British Columbia, Alaska or the Northwest Territories.

### Initiator

Federal Department of Transport

### Description

Improvement of transportation systems in the Yukon involving the study of several alternate railway and one road development strategies. The ultimate purpose of the project is to aid in the development of the natural resource potential of the Yukon. The alternates range in capital costs from \$35 million to \$370 million (1974 \$).

### Possible Areas of Environmental Impact

Not known at present

### Present Status Under EARP

The project was referred for Panel review in October 1976. The Panel was formed in December 1976. Panel members are:

F. G. Hurtubise  
Executive Chairman  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Process, Ottawa  
(Chairman)

G. Jones  
Manager, Northern B. C.  
and Yukon Branch  
Fisheries Management  
Environment Canada  
Vancouver, B. C.

C. Wykes  
Director, Yukon Branch  
Environmental Protection Service  
Environment Canada  
Whitehorse, Y. T.

M. Dennington  
Wildlife Advisor  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
Yukon Territory  
Environment Canada  
Whitehorse, U. T.

J. Hawryszko  
Senior Policy and Economic Advisor  
Arctic Transportation Agency  
Transport Canada, Ottawa

Guidelines for the preparation of an environmental impact statement are currently in preparation.

### Future Panel Events

A public participation and information program will be prepared in the near future. The guidelines will be made available to the public.

SHAKWAK PROJECT (HAINES ROAD/ALASKA HIGHWAY)

**Location**

**Northwestern British Columbia and the Yukon**

**Proponent**

**U. S. Highways Administration**

**Initiator**

**Canadian Federal Department of Public Works**

**Description**

**Reconstruction and paving of the portion of the Alaska Highway from the Alaska/Yukon border to Haines Junction in Canada, and the Haines cut-off road from Haines Junction to the B.C./Alaska border. Existing alignments will be used for the major portion of the project. The proposed start of the project is 1977 and the estimated cost may exceed \$150 million (1975 U.S. dollars). The capital financing will be supplied by the U.S.**

**Possible Environmental Impacts**

- 1. Removal of vegetative cover and its effect on plant communities, wildlife habitat and areas underlain with perma-frost.**
- 2. Interference with traditional wildlife movement routes.**
- 3. Impairment of fish habitats through sedimentation of spawning beds or actual removal of stream bed gravels.**
- 4. Further reduction of wilderness values due to induced recreational use of the road and region.**
- 5. Reduction of game populations and fish stocks by increased hunting and fishing.**

**Present Status Under EARP**

**The request for a Panel was received July 1974 and the Panel was formed March 1975. Members are:**

**F. G. Hurtubise  
Executive Chairman  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)**

**W Koropatnick  
Director General  
Pacific Region  
Department of Public Works  
Vancouver, B. C.**

J.P. Sector  
**Co-Ordinator of Environmental Services**  
**Land Management Branch**  
**British Columbia Ministry of**  
**the Environment**  
**Victoria, B.C.**

H. Beaubier  
**Regional Manager, Lands,**  
**Department of Indian and Northern Affairs**  
**Whitehorse, Y.T.**

D. S. Lacate  
**Regional Director**  
**Lands Directorate**  
**Pacific Region**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Vancouver, B.C.**

C. Wykes  
**Director, Yukon Branch**  
**Environmental Protection Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Whitehorse, Y.T.**

**Guidelines for the preparation of the environmental impact statement were finalized and approved May, 1976, after discussions with the U.S., Province of British Columbia and the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.**

**The guidelines as constituted will serve the needs of all governments involved in the project, and have been issued to the initiator and proponent and are available to the public.**

#### **Future Panel Events**

**The projected date of presentation of the impact statement to Canadian and American authorities is likely to be early 1978, at which time the environmental review process would be different in each country. The format for public involvement in the environmental assessment of the project is presently in preparation.**

## ALASKA HIGHWAY GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

### Location

**Southern sector of the Yukon Territory.**

### Proponent

**Foothills Pipelines (Yukon) Ltd.**

### Initiator

**Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.**

### Description

**Construction and operation of a 48 inch diameter buried gas transmission line to initially transport Alaska gas to U.S. markets in the lower 48 states. The proposed Yukon section of the line runs from Beaver Lake in the western corner of the Yukon, along the existing Alaska Highway for 512 miles to Watson Lake in the southeast Yukon. At its northern end the pipeline is proposed to connect to 732 miles of pipeline in Alaska, and at its southern end to 1500 miles of proposed line in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The system will tie in at the 49th parallel with the U.S. system. The Panel is also examining future possible lateral lines to the Mackenzie Delta reserves via the Dempster Highway and other possible routes. This linkage would transport Canadian gas to Canadian Markets. The projected cost of the Beaver Lake to Watson Lake line is \$1.24 billion (1976 \$) and construction is projected to start in 1979.**

### Possible Environmental Impacts

- 1. Degradation of permafrost subsidence and possible rupture of pipeline.**
- 2. Siltation of streams interruption of migratory fish runs, destruction of spawning and rearing areas.**
- 3. Displacement of wildlife species such as Dall sheep from their traditional range.**
- 4. Specific adverse effects on Porcupine Caribou herd, e.g. Dempster Highway lateral.**
- 5. Scarring of landscape in National Park areas.**

### Present Status Under EARP

**The project was referred for formal Panel review in March 1977, and the Panel was formed in May, 1977. Panel members are:**



**F. G. Hurtubise**  
**Executive Chairman**  
**Federal Environmental Assessment**  
**Review Office**  
**Environment Canada, Ottawa**  
**(Chairman)**

**C. Wykes**  
**District Manager**  
**Environmental Protection Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Whitehorse, Yukon**

**D. S. Lacate**  
**Director, Pacific Region**  
**Lands Directorate**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Vancouver, B. C.**

**O. Hughes**  
**Geological Survey of Canada**  
**Dept. of Energy, Mines and Resources**  
**Calgary, Alberta**

**B.J. Trevor**  
**Director of Operations**  
**Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs**  
**200 Range Road**  
**Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3V1**

**L. Chambers**  
**Yukon Territorial Government**  
**Yukon Territorial Building**  
**Whitehorse, Yukon**

The normal procedure for environmental impact assessment is the establishment of an Assessment Panel which issues formal guidelines for the preparation of an environmental impact statement, conducts technical and public reviews of the statement and makes recommendations to the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment concerning project implementation. In this case, however, the federal government faced major decisions on competing pipeline proposals in the fall of this year. The short lead time available to the Panel made a full environmental assessment and review of the project impossible at the time. Instead, the Minister instructed the Panel to review existing data, seek public and professional opinion and prepare an interim report by August 1, 1977 on the understanding that, if the project was a contender after decisions on competing proposals had been made, the normal panel procedure involving a full and complete review of the project would apply. Submission of an interim report by August 1, enabled the government to consider environmental factors associated with this project in its decision-making process. The report outlined the major environmental issues known at the time and identified the major data deficiencies.

The Panel held a preliminary meeting in May in Whitehorse to inform the public of the project and to obtain public feedback on the procedures for the substantive hearings. The first part of the hearings were held June 13 to 17 in Whitehorse and dealt with the identification of environmental concerns. Community meetings along the proposed pipeline route were also held in May and June. The Panel conducted the second phase of the hearings, commencing July 5 in Whitehorse. This phase concentrated on obtaining further information from the public and from technical experts assigned to assist the Panel, on the concerns raised in the June meetings.

### **Future Panel Events**

**The Panel delivered its report to the Minister in early August, 1977. The Governments of Canada and of the U.S.A. agreed in September to use the Alaska tiighway route for the southern transport of Alaska gas. Guidelines for a detailed environmental impact statement are in preparation and will be issued to the proponent and the initiating department in the near future.**

EXPANSION OF AIR TRAFFIC CAPACITY OF VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

**Location**

**Vancouver International Airport, Richmond, British Columbia.**

**Initiator**

**Federal Department of Transport (Canadian Air Transportation Administration)**

**Description**

**Improvement to the aircraft handling capability of Vancouver International Airport, Sea Island, south of Vancouver, to provide for the demand projected by the initiator. The initiator's preferred alternative is the proposed construction of a parallel runway and related facilities inside the dyke at Vancouver International.**

**Possible Environmental Impacts**

- 1. Removal of land from agricultural use.**
- 2. Reduction in the availability of the Sea Island area as habitat for migrating birds, resident birds and other wildlife.**
- 3. Increase in aircraft noise and the resultant effect on wildlife and the surrounding residential areas of Vancouver and Richmond.**

**Present Status Under EARP**

**Project submitted for Panel review in August 1976. Panel formed November 1976. Members are:**

**F.G. Hurtubise  
Executive Chairman  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)**

**K.A. Johnson  
Pacific Regional Manager  
Airports, Transport Canada  
Vancouver, B.C.**

**R.W. Stewart  
Director General  
Ocean and Aquatic Sciences  
Pacific Region  
Sidney, B.C.**

**B.A. Heskin  
Regional Director General  
Environmental Protection Service  
Environment Canada  
West Vancouver, B.C.**

**J.P. Sector  
Co-Ordinator of Environmental Services  
Land Management Branch  
British Columbia Ministry of the Environment  
Victoria, B.C.**

**Future Panel Events**

The public information and participation program will include the issuing of the draft guidelines to the public for their comments and review. The guidelines will be finalized by the Panel following a public meeting in September 1977. The guidelines will then be issued to Transport Canada by the Panel. Transport Canada will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, based on the guidelines and will submit that to the Panel for public review.

## FRASER RIVER TRAINING WORKS PROGRAM

(Deepening of Fraser River Shipping Channel)

### Location

Fraser River Estuary, New Westminster to Georgia Strait, Vancouver, British Columbia.

### Initiator

Federal Department of Public Works

### Description

Upgrading of the channel to a standard enabling safe passage on a year round basis for the current types of vessels in common usage. Proposed method of achieving this objective is by installation of training works to enable the river to become primarily self-scouring in specific areas of the main shipping channel to a depth sufficient to provide a maximum 40' draft.

Construction is projected over a 5 year period. Estimated cost (1976 dollars) is \$31 million.

### Possible Environmental Impacts

1. Changes in water quality - sedimentation, salinity, effects of training walls.
2. Changes in aquatic and marsh flora and also invertebrates including variation in area of productive habitat in backwaters and mudflats.
3. Fish populations - fluctuations in area of available productive habitat, deterrents to migratory adult salmon, premature exposure of juvenile salmon to salt water.
4. Alteration of some bar fishing areas.
5. Effect of any increased velocity on commercial fishing vessels and on efficiency of gillnet fishing boats and other marine traffic.

### Present Status Under EARP

Panel formed July 1976. Members are:

J.S. Klenavic  
 Director, Operations  
 Federal Environmental Assessment  
 Review Office, Ottawa  
 (Chairman)

E. D. Johnson  
 Environmental Co-Ordinator  
 Public Works Canada  
 Vancouver, B.C.

**F. C. Boyd**  
**A/Director**  
**Habitat Protection Directorate**  
**Department of Fisheries**  
**Vancouver, B. C.**

**E.M. Clark**  
**Regional Director**  
**Pacific Region**  
**Inland Waters Directorate**  
**Environment Canada**  
**Vancouver, B. C.**

**K. Kupka**  
**Chief, Federal Activities**  
**Abatement Group**  
**Environmental Protection Service**  
**Environment Canada**  
**West Vancouver, B. C.**

**J.P. Selter**  
**Co-Ordinator of Environmental Services**  
**Land Management Branch**  
**British Columbia Ministry of**  
**the Environment**  
**Victoria, B. C.**

**Guidelines for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) have been issued by the Panel and are available to the public. A public participation program for the Panel review of the project is in preparation.**

#### **Future Panel Events**

**The draft Environmental Impact Statement to be prepared by DPW's consultant, will not be available before April, 1978.**

## ROBERTS BANK BULK LOADING FACILITY EXPANSION

### Location

Roberts Bank, British Columbia. The port is located close to the U.S./Canada border, some 20 miles south of Vancouver.

### Initiator

National Harbours Board, Department of Transport.

### Description

Proposed expansion of the existing Roberts Bank bulk loading facility into the offshore estuary area. The proposed (second phase) of construction - expansion would add approximately 200 acres to the existing facility which is used to export coal. This would include four new integrated, receiving, storing and automatic ship loading bays capable of handling coal, and other bulk commodities. The proposed facility would cost \$24 million (1975\$).

### Possible Environmental Impacts

1. Removal of land from existing and potential uses.
2. Conflict with commercial and recreational use of adjacent waters.
3. Impairment of marine and intertidal environments.
4. Effects on vegetation, benthic and littoral organisms including utilization of areas by fish species.
5. Impairment of the atmospheric environment by airborne pollution resulting from the storage and handling of non-containerized bulk commodities.

### Present Status Under EARP

The project was referred for a Panel review, May 1975. The Panel was formed at the same time. Panel members are:

J.S. Klenavic  
Director, Operations  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review, Office, Ottawa

F.J.N. Spoke  
General Manager, Port of Vancouver,  
National Harbours Board  
Vancouver, B. C.

D.S. Lacate  
Regional Director  
Lands Directorate  
Pacific Region  
Environment Canada  
Vancouver, B. C.

M. Waldichuk  
Program Head  
Pacific Environment Institute  
West Vancouver, B. C.

J.P. Selter  
Co-ordinator of Environmental Services  
Land Management Branch  
British Columbia Ministry of the Environment  
Victoria, B.C.

Finalized, approved guidelines for the preparation of the environmental impact statement were issued by the Panel to the initiator, March 1976. These are available to the public. The initiator has selected a consultant to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement and this work is underway.

Future Panel Events

Preparation of a program to involve the public in the review of the impact statement has been initiated. The expected date of submission of the impact statement is October, 1973.



## REACTIVATION OF BOUNDARY BAY AERODROME

### Location

**Delta, British Columbia. The site is located some 25 miles south of Vancouver, near Boundary Bay.**

### Initiator

**Federal Department of Transport (Canadian Air Transportation Administration).**

### Description

**The project was proposed as a result of the Master Planning exercise conducted by the initiator for the Lower Mainland area of British Columbia. For the general aviation aircraft category, the Plan concluded that by 1980 all of the existing capacity of the region's airports would be required plus a new airport. Reactivation of Boundary Bay would serve this purpose and would also encourage the shift of light aircraft from Vancouver International. It is projected that only propeller driven planes would use Boundary Bay. Projected costs and start of construction dates are not yet known.**

### Possible Environmental Impacts

- 1. The site is a major congregation area for migratory birds on the Pacific flyway. Changes in use of the site such as a new airport could have international repercussions.**
- 2. Bird strike hazards.**
- 3. The site is near large areas of agricultural land that is a central feeding area for wintering waterfowl.**

### Present Status Under EARP

**The project was referred for Panel review in October 1976. The Panel was formed in March 1977. Panel members are:**

**F. G. Hurtubise,  
Executive Chairman  
Federal Environmental Assessment  
Review Office, Ottawa  
(Chairman)**

**P. Scott,  
Federal Activities Abatement Group  
Environmental Protection Service  
Environment Canada  
Vancouver, B. C.**

**L. Retfalvi,  
Habitat & Ecological Assessment  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment Canada  
Delta, B. C.**

**K. Johnson  
Pacific Regional Manager  
Airports, Transport Canada  
Vancouver, B. C.**

**J.P. Selter,  
Co-ordinator of Environmental Services  
Land Management Branch  
British Columbia Ministry of the Environment  
Victoria, B. C.**

**Future Panel Events**

**The Panel's first tasks will be to authorize and issue guidelines for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement to the initiator and determine the nature of the public information and participation program. The impact statement guidelines will be made available to the public.**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Administration and Staff**

Process procedures, particularly the operation of Panels are administered by a permanent Executive Chairman appointed by the Department of Environment Canada. The present Executive Chairman is Mr. F.G. Hurtubise. He (or his delegate) chairs all Panels established to review projects and he reports to the Minister of Environment on recommendations made by Panels. The office administered by the permanent chairman was previously known as the Environmental Assessment Panel Office. This title has since been changed to Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office and the title of the permanent chairman to Executive Chairman. This adjustment in designation does not in any way change the responsibilities of the permanent chairman (or his office) under the Process, but is designed to clarify the difference between the separate Environmental Assessment Panels established to review each project, and the permanent chairman's administrative obligations for the Federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process as a whole.

The staff of the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office in Ottawa are listed below:

<b><u>NAME &amp; TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>GENERAL DUTIES</u></b>
<b>Mr. J.S. Klenavic</b> <b>Director, Operations</b>	<b>Management of Office staff to Panels</b> <b>Chairman of Panels</b>
<b>Dr. Patrick J.B. Duffy</b>	<b>Panel advisor, N.W.T., Yukon projects</b> <b>Baseline Information program development</b>
<b>Dr. K.T. Brodersen</b>	<b>Panel advisor, Maritimes projects</b> <b>Development of environmental assessment methodology</b>
<b>Mr. Michael Warder</b>	<b>Panel advisor, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta projects</b> <b>Public information and participation systems development</b>
<b>Mr. Jean Thomas</b>	<b>Panel advisor, Quebec projects</b> <b>Transposition of EARP documents from English to French. Publications, Distribution.</b>
<b>Mr. W.S. Tait</b> <b>Director</b> <b>Policy, Coordination &amp; Evaluation</b>	<b>Policy formulation and development</b> <b>Process evaluation</b> <b>Liaison and coordination with federal departments and agencies</b> <b>General office administration</b>
<b>Mr. Paul G. Wolf</b>	<b>Policy, Process Analysis and Review; and;</b> <b>Liaison and coordination systems development</b> <b>Assistance in policy formulation and development</b>
<b>Mr. W.J. Couch</b>	<b>Special Projects Officer.</b>

**The first Regional Office has been opened in Vancouver. The growing number of federal Panel projects in British Columbia and the demonstrated public interest in environmental issues in the area necessitated this move. The Manager of the Office is Mr. John Herity. One of the principal functions of this office will be as point of contact with the public on panel projects.**

**For information concerning the Environmental Assessment and Review Process or specific Panel projects, contact:**

**Office of the Executive Chairman  
Federal Environmental Review Office  
Department of Environment Canada  
Ottawa K1A 0H3 Telephone: (819) 997-1000**

**or: Mr. J.F. Herity  
Manager, Pacific Region  
Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office  
1050 West Pender St., Room 1870  
Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3S7 Telephone: (604) 666-2431**

**For placement on the mailing list for the Register or for extra copies, contact:**

**Information Services  
Department of Environment Canada  
Ottawa K1A 0H3 Telephone: (819) 997-2940**

**LIST OF REVIEWED PROJECTS UNDER**  
**THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW PROCESS**

**Point Lepreau, New Brunswick**  
**Nuclear Power Station**  
**Report to the Minister, May 1975**

**Wreck Cove, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia**  
**Hydro Electric Power Project**  
**Report to the Minister, August 1976**  
**(Register No. 1, July 1977)**

**Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline project, Yukon Territory**  
**Interim report to the Minister, August 1, 1977**  
**(Register No. 2, December 1977)**