

Register of Panel Projects

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN
FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW OFFICE
HULL, QUEBEC K1A 0H3

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW PROCESS: BRIEF SUMMARY	2
INFORMATION ON PANEL PROJECTS	
Beaufort Sea Hydrocarbon Development..	3
CN Rail Twin Track Program, British Columbia	4
Fraser River Shipping Channel	5
Grand Banks — Possible Oil Production	6
Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station..	6
Quebec Port Expansion Project	7
CP Rail Rogers Pass Development.....	7
Shoal Lake Cottage Lot Development..	9
Slave River Hydro Project..	9
Vancouver International Airport — Expansion of Air Traffic Capacity..	10
Venture Development Project — Production of Gas and Gas Condensates	11
LIST OF DORMANT PROJECTS	
Bay of Fundy Tidal Power Generation Project..	12
Eastern Arctic Offshore Drilling — North Davis Strait Project..	12
Polar Gas Project..	12
LIST OF REVIEWED PANEL PROJECTS.....	13

INTRODUCTION

This publication provides public and private agencies, interest groups, and members of the general public with information on the projects submitted to the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office for formal review, under the Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP).

The contents are arranged as follows:

1. **The Federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process: Brief Summary**

2. **Information on Panel Projects**

This section contains either the project title, the identification of the proponent and/or initiator, the project description, its status under EARP, the Panel Members and the future events, or, when the review is completed, the project title, the identification of the proponent and/or initiator and the summary of the Panel Report to the Minister of the Environment.

3. **List of Dormant Projects**

This section contains the project title, the identification of the proponent and/or the initiator, the project description and the name of the person to contact for further information.

4. **List of Reviewed Projects**

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

FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW PROCESS: BRIEF SUMMARY

The decision to institute a federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process for federal projects, programs and activities was made by Cabinet on December 20, 1973 and further amended on February 15, 1977.

By the 1973 Decision, the Minister of the Environment was directed to establish, in cooperation with other ministers, a process to ensure that federal departments and agencies:

- take environmental matters into account throughout the planning and implementation of new projects, programs and activities;
- carry out an environmental assessment for all projects which may have adverse effect on the environment before commitments or irrevocable decisions are made; projects which may have significant effects have to be submitted to the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office for formal review;
- use the results of these assessments in planning, decision-making and implementation.

Further the role of the Minister of the Environment in this area is also cited in the Government Organization Act, 1979. The Act states that the Minister "... shall initiate, recommend and undertake programs and coordinate programs of the Government of Canada, that are designed. ... to ensure that new federal projects, programs and activities are assessed early in the planning process for potential adverse effects on the quality of the natural environment and that a further review is carried out of those projects, programs and activities that are found to have probable significant adverse effects, and results thereof taken into account..."

The Process established by the Minister of the Environment, through the Interdepartmental Committee on the Environment, is based essentially on the self-assessment approach. Departments and agencies are responsible for assessing the environmental consequences of their own projects and activities or those for which they assume the role of initiator, and deciding on the environmental significance of the anticipated effects.

As early in the planning phase as possible, the initiating department screens all projects for potential adverse environmental effects. One of the following four decisions is possible from this procedure:

- (a) No adverse environmental effects, no action needed;

- (b) Environmental effects are known and are not considered significant. Effects identified can be mitigated through environmental design and conformance to legislation/regulations. The initiator is responsible for taking the appropriate action but no further reference to the procedures of the Environmental Assessment and Review Process is required.
- (c) The nature and scope of potential adverse environmental effects are not fully known. A more detailed assessment is required to identify environmental consequences and to assess their significance. The initiator therefore prepares or procures an *Initial* Environmental Evaluation (IEE). A review of the IEE will indicate to the Initiator whether alternative (b) above or (d) below should be followed.
- (d) The initiator recognizes that significant environmental effects are involved and requests the Executive Chairman, Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office, to establish a Panel to review the project.

If the Initiator decides to submit a project for Panel review, that project may not proceed until this review is completed and recommendations are made to the Minister of the Environment.

The Panel established by the Executive Chairman, Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office, issues guidelines for the preparation of an Environmental *Impact Statement* (EIS), by the Initiator or associated proponent, reviews the EIS, obtains the public response to the EIS and acquires additional information deemed necessary. It then advises the Minister of the Environment on the acceptability (or otherwise) of the residual environmental effects identified.

The Minister of the Environment and the Minister of the initiating department decide on the action to be taken on the report submitted by the Panel. These are implemented by the appropriate Ministers and associated proponents.

Further information may be obtained from:

Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office
13th Floor, Fontaine Bldg., Hull, Quebec K1A 0H3

and

Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office
700 - 789 West Pender Street
Vancouver, British Columbia V6C 1 H2

BEAUFORT SEA HYDROCARBON DEVELOPMENT

Proponents: Dome Petroleum Limited, ESSO Resources Canada Ltd., Gulf Canada Resources Ltd.

Initiator: Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND).

Contact: Mr. J.N.C. Wilford (DIAND), Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere, Hull, Quebec. Mailing address: DINA, Ottawa, K1A 0H4

Description

Possible oil and gas production from the **Beaufort Sea** and subsequent transportation to southern markets via ice-breaker tanker through the Northwest Passage and/or an overland pipeline route. The proposal under review is still at the preliminary design stage with a number of alternate design scenarios being considered.

Status under EARP

The project was referred for a Panel review on July 22, 1980. Panel members are:

J.S. Tener, Chairman
Ottawa, Ontario

T. Alooooloo
Pond Inlet, N.W.T.

D.R. Craig
Carbon, Alberta

K. Hansen
Aklavik, N. W.T.

A. Lueck
Whitehorse, Y.T.

J.R. Mackay
Vancouver, B.C.

M. Stutter
Dawson, Y.T.

Executive Secretary to the Panel:

D.W.I. Marshall, 700-789 West Pender St.
Vancouver, B.C., V6C 1 H2 (604) 666-243 1

The Minister issued the Panel with Terms of Reference in June, 1981 and the Panel issued Operational Procedures in October, 1981.

The Panel completed a public review of draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines which included a series of public meetings held in northern communities during November and December, 1981. The Panel issued its finalized EIS Guidelines in February, 1982.

The Panel submitted an Interim Report to the Minister in April, 1982. This report detailed the Panel's progress to date and outlined its future plans. It also contained the Panel's thoughts on a number of issues related to the process being followed by the Panel.

The proponents submitted their complete EIS to the Panel in November 1982 and all seven volumes were distributed to participants. Following a 90 day review period the Panel issued a deficiency statement to the Proponents in February 1983.

Seventeen government position statements were received by the Panel and publicly released.

The Panel received the Proponents deficiency response in June and, in August, announced that public meetings would be scheduled for the fall. Community and general meetings were held throughout the north and were completed in Hull in mid-December 1983.

Future Events

The Panel is in the process of preparing its final report for submission to the Minister of Environment in the late Spring of 1984.

CN RAIL TWIN TRACKING PROGRAM, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Proponent: CN Rail

Initiator: Department of Transport

Contact: L.O. Hostland, Engineer Plant Expansion Program, CN Rail, 10004 - 104 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T5J 0K2

Description

The CN Rail Twin Tracking Program involves the construction of double track along the 700 km main line from Valemount to Vancouver. The second track would be located adjacent to the existing track and within CN Rails' right-of-way for most of the line. The main exceptions would be in areas where tunnelling is involved for the second track. The Panel will also examine the long-term environmental implications of other transportation related activities along the Fraser and Thompson river corridors and will prepare a report on this activity.

Status under EARP

The project was referred to the Minister of the Environment in December 1982. The Panel, which has formed in April 1983 consists of:

R.G. Connelly, Chairman
FEARO
Hull, Quebec

Fraser A. MacLean
Victoria, British Columbia

Norman L. McLeod
Whiterock, British Columbia

G. Ross Peterson
Howard Paish and Associates
North Vancouver, British Columbia

S.O. (Denis) Russell
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia

Robert Pasco
Ashcroft, British Columbia

The Executive Secretary to the Panel is:
Paul Scott, FEARO, 700-789 West Pender Street,
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1H2 (604) 666-2431.

The Panel held information meetings in Clearwater, Kamloops, Lytton, Chilliwack and Surrey from June 20-24, 1983. Following the meetings, the Panel decided to issue an interim report to the Minister. The report, issued in September, outlined information which the Panel requires from CN Rail to complete its review and outlined the Panel's plans for examination of the long-term environmental implications of transportation related activities in the river corridors.

Future Events

After an adequate response to the Panel's request for information has been received from CN Rail, final public meetings will be scheduled to discuss the main issues associated with the program in more detail. The Panel is proceeding to have a document prepared which will identify the main transportation related corridor users and their potential for expansion. This document will serve as a basis for public discussion on the possible long-term implications.

FRASER RIVER SHIPPING CHANNEL

Initiator: Public Works Canada

Contact: E.O. Isfeld, Marine and Civil Engineering,
Public Works Canada, 1166 Alberni St.,
Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3Z5

Description

Public Works Canada's original proposal for improvements to the shipping channel in the Lower Fraser River, from New Westminster to the Strait of Georgia, involved the installation of river training walls at five separate locations. These structures were designed to enable the river to become primarily self-scouring and provide for a 12.2 m shipping channel. Cost-benefit studies indicated that this proposal was not economically attractive. Public Works planning for this project then shifted to a revised scheme involving structures at only two locations and providing for a 10.7m shipping channel.

Status under EARP

Panel formed July 1976. Members are:

D. W. I. Marshall, Chairman
FEARO
Vancouver, B.C.

F.C. Boyd
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Vancouver, B.C.

K. Kupka
Environment Canada
West Vancouver, B.C.

S. O. Russell
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C.

J. P. Sexter, Manager
British Columbia Ministry of
Environment
Victoria, B.C.

J. W. Wilson
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C.

Executive Secretary to the Panel:
P.F. Scott, FEARO, 700-789 West Pender St.,
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1H2
(604) 666-243 1

Guidelines for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the original proposal were issued by the Panel. Public Works Canada, through a consultant, completed the EIS for the full scheme and it was submitted to the Panel. The full scheme EIS along with a description of the partial scheme proposal were made available to the public in May, 1982.

The Panel released a new set of draft EIS guidelines for the partial scheme in January, 1983. Shortly thereafter, the Canadian Coast Guard (Transport Canada), which recently assumed program responsibility for the shipping channel project from Public Works Canada, advised that in view of the current economic climate, they will not be proceeding with planning for the project at this time.

Future Events

All work on the Panel review will be suspended until such time as Transport Canada decides to reactivate planning for the project. There are no plans to disband the Panel at this time.

POSSIBLE OIL PRODUCTION ON THE NORTHEAST GRAND BANKS

Proponent: Mobil Oil of Canada Ltd.

Contact: Phil Tsui, Mobil Oil, Halifax

Initiator: Federal Department of Energy, Mines & Resources

Description

Possible oil production on the northeast Grand Banks, east of Newfoundland. (Mobil Oil of Canada Ltd. is currently carrying out exploration drilling for hydrocarbons in the "Hibernia" field).

Status under EARP

Panel members appointed in 1980 are:

Philip J. Paradine, Chairman
FEARO
Hull, Quebec

Raoul Andersen
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, Newfoundland

Alfred W.H. Needler
Former Deputy Minister of Fisheries
St. Andrews, New Brunswick

G. Ross Peters
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, Newfoundland

Executive Secretary to the Panel:
Guy Riverin, FEARO, Hull, Quebec
K1A OH3 (819) 997-1000

The Panel has issued guidelines to Mobil Oil for its use in the preparation of an EIS.

Future Events

Upon receipt of the EIS public and technical agency comments will be sought on the project and the EIS itself, prior to public meetings.

POINT LEPREAU NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Initiator: Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Contact: Dr. H.C. Rothschild, Science and Technology, Energy, Mines and Resources, 580 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0E4

Proponent: Maritime Nuclear (a consortium of New Brunswick Electric Power Commission and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited)

Description

The proposed project consists of a 630 megawatt CANDU nuclear reactor to be built adjacent to the existing Lepreau I unit which is already in operation. The new unit would occupy approximately 11 hectares (27 acres) of the total of 525 hectares (1295 acres) owned by New Brunswick Power at Point Lepreau. The proposed nuclear plant is initially expected to produce electricity for export rather than for domestic purposes.

Status under EARP:

The project was referred for Panel review on July 22, 1983. Because of New Brunswick's interest in this project, a joint federal/provincial review process has been initiated. The Panel's terms of reference were issued jointly by the federal and provincial Ministers of the Environment on September 28, 1983. The Panel formed in November 1983 includes:

R.G. Connelly, Co-chairman
FEARO
Hull, Quebec

Léandre Desjardins, Co-chairman
University of Moncton
Moncton, New Brunswick

John Foster
Huntsman Marine Laboratory
St. Andrews, New Brunswick

Adrian Booth
Ottawa, Ontario

Executive Secretary to the Panel:
Carol Martin, FEARO, Hull, Quebec
K1A OH3 (819) 997-1000

The secretariat held open house sessions in Dipper Harbour, Maces Bay and Saint John on November 28, 29, 30 respectively to explain the project, the review process and to hear any initial concerns and issues. The Panel conducted a scoping workshop from 9-10 December in Saint John to identify issues and concerns considered by the public and government agencies to be important for further examination in the course of the review.

Future Events

Guidelines for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement are expected to be issued to Maritime Nuclear in January 1984. Once the EIS is prepared by Maritime Nuclear it will be publicly available for review prior to the convening of final public meetings to discuss the proposed project.

PORT OF QUEBEC EXPANSION

Proponent: Port of Quebec

Initiator: National Harbours Board

Contact: Mr. Yvon Bureau, Director of Operations.
Port of Quebec, 10 Quercy Street, Quebec
(Quebec) G 1 K 7P7

Description

The Port of Quebec would like to extend its facilities in order to be able to accommodate increased demands for space from its clients. The expansion proposed consists of 40 hectares and is to be built in the prolongation of the port area known as the **Beauport** flats. The dimension of the peninsula has been considerably reduced since the submission of the Environmental Impact Statement for the project in 1981. It consisted at that time of 2 10 hectares. The proposed extension would serve to accommodate a number of new docks.

Status under EARP

The Panel formed to review the project consists of the following people:

Mr. Marcel Lortie, Chairman
Département de foresterie et de géodésie
Université Laval
Quebec (Quebec)

Mr. Gabriel Filteau
Département de biologie
Université Laval
Quebec (Quebec)

Mr. Vincent Lemieux
Département de science politique

Université Laval
Quebec (Quebec)

Mr. Fernand Tremblay
Architect
St-Gelais, Tremblay, Bélanger
Quebec (Quebec)

Two new members were appointed on December 21, 1983; they are:

Mr. Frederic De Vos
Ottawa, Ontario

Mr. Georges A. Tremblay
Office de planification et de développement du Québec, Quebec, Quebec.

The Panel Secretary is:

Mr. Carol Martin, FEARO, Hull (Quebec) K1A 0H3
(819) 997-1000

The Port Administration has reduced the proposed expansion to 40 hectares and has asked the Panel to review the environmental impacts of this limited project. Studies have been undertaken on this new project by the Port Administration. These studies were submitted to the Panel in early December, 1983 in accordance with the January 1979 Guidelines and the May 1982 list of deficiencies.

Future events

The Panel will hold public meetings in March 1984. Those who wish to present a brief at the public meetings should submit it on or before February 14, 1984. Following the meetings, the Panel will prepare its report to the Minister of the Environment.

CP RAIL ROGERS PASS DEVELOPMENT

Proponent: CP Rail

Contact: Mr. John Fox, Vice President, Special Projects, CP Rail, Calgary.

Initiator: Parks Canada, Department of the Environment

Description

In Summer 1982, CP Rail commenced construction of a second main track. Access roads along the proposed surface route were constructed and portal structures started for the tunnel at Rogers Pass. The ventilation shaft site was cleared and an access road installed.

Using additional information obtained from the 1982 surface route access roads, track alignment was selected by CP Rail. For the 13 km from Rogers to

Stoney Creek, this involved extensive cuts and fills as well as 2.8 km of retaining walls. West of Stoney Creek, the railway would be placed on a 2.2 km trestle before entering the 1.8 km (short) tunnel. After exiting from the short tunnel under the Trans Canada Highway, the route would continue for 1.5 km, crossing Connaught Creek, to the base of Mount MacDonald. It would then enter the 14.5 km Rogers Pass tunnel. At the western end of the tunnel it would use the portal built in 1982 to cross under the Trans Canada Highway. The remaining 4.7 km to the Park boundary will be double-tracked within the existing right-of-way (ROW). While the alignment selected by CP Rail still generally follows that approved by the Canadian Transport Commission (CTC) in 1981, the ROW width now requested by CP Rail averages over 95 m as opposed to the approximately 60 m approved by the CTC.

The size of the work camps now proposed by CP Rail within the Park has increased from two 250 person camps in 1982, to 420 and 460 at Flat Creek and Beaver respectively. Other facilities include a 34 500 volt power line from Revelstoke, a standby power supply, fan houses, bridges, concrete plants, and storage areas. Total cost of construction is estimated at approximately \$600 million with project completion scheduled for 1988 based upon a 1984 start.

Status under EARP

Panel members appointed in March 1982 are:

Philip J. Paradine, Chairman
FEARO
Hull, Quebec

William A. Ross
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta

George D. Tench
Vancouver, British Columbia

Executive Secretary to the Panel:

Guy Riverin, FEARO
Hull, Quebec K1A 0H3
(8 19) 997- 1000

On February 24, 1982, the Minister of the Environment requested the Executive Chairman of the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office (FEARO) to form an Environmental Assessment Panel to review the environmental and related social impacts of the proposed Rogers Pass Development Project. The terms of reference for the review were issued in March 1982.

During April 1982, the Panel held public meetings in Vancouver, Revelstoke, Golden and Calgary and submitted a preliminary report to the Minister of the Environment in May 1982. The Panel advised that certain activities could proceed in 1982, but required CP Rail to conduct further studies in order to address several identified issues of major concern. These included the noise and visual effects of the proposed tunnel ventilation shaft, terrain and visual impacts along the surface route, reclamation of the proposed right-of-way, work camps and social issues.

These additional studies were submitted by CP Rail to the Panel in April, 1983 and were immediately made available to the public.

After having reviewed the material provided by CP Rail, the Panel noted a number of issues for which CP Rail had failed to provide information requested in the Panel's preliminary report. On request from the Panel, this information was provided in early June in the form of a Submittal from CP Rail. The public meetings were held in Revelstoke (June 8, 1983), Golden (June 9) and Calgary (June 10 and 11).

The Panel has submitted its final report to the Minister of the Environment. The Panel's major recommendations are:

1. The ventilation structure would be acceptable in the location proposed by CP Rail provided the design is sensitive to the National Park setting.
2. The noise level from the ventilation shaft will be acceptable provided the design criteria proposed by CP Rail are met.
3. It would be desirable that Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers be located in the Park during construction.
4. CP Rail and Parks Canada should work together to try to improve the surface route design before construction proceeds.
5. Parks Canada should seek an undertaking from CP Rail to ensure revegetation to agreed standards along the surface route.
6. The installation of proposed CP Rail work camps in the Park could be permitted provided operational experience at a trial camp at Beaver is satisfactory to Parks Canada, and all designs are approved by Parks Canada.
7. A Project Manager be appointed with authority to represent Parks Canada on all aspects of the project. The Project Manager should work with existing committees to ensure that the recommendations of this report and those of the Panel's preliminary report are implemented.

The Minister of the Environment released the Panel's final report of August 19, 1983.

CP Rail and Parks Canada are now concluding an agreement concerning the details for construction of the project scheduled to start in 1984.

SHOAL LAKE COTTAGE LOT DEVELOPMENT

Initiator: Department of Indian & Northern Affairs
Contact: E. Harrigan, Director General, Ontario Region, Indian & Northern Affairs, 25 St Clair Ave E., Toronto, Ont. M4T 1M2
Proponent: Shoal Lake Band No. 40

Description

The proposed project is located at the northwest corner of Shoal Lake on the Manitoba-Ontario border (Shoal Lake Indian Reserve 40). The proponent has proposed construction of approximately 350 cottage lots on the peninsula between Snowshoe Bay and Indian Bay. Shoal Lake is the source of water for the city of Winnipeg.

Status under EARP

The project was referred for Panel review on March 31, 1980.

The Panel formed in January 1981 includes:

R.G. Connelly, Chairman
FEARO
Hull, Quebec

Lance Roberts
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba

William Ward
Winnipeg, Manitoba

David Witty
Hilderman, Feir, Witty and Associates
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Executive Secretary to the Panel:
Carol Martin, FEARO, Hull, Quebec
K1A OH3 (819) 997-1000

In February 1983, The Minister of Environment issued the Panel with new terms of reference which focus on the water quality and socio-economic aspects of the project. The March 1981 Guidelines for the preparation of an EIS were amended by the Panel in March 1983 and issued to the proponent. An EIS is under preparation.

Future Events

Sufficient copies of an EIS for public and government agency review are expected early in 1984. Upon receipt of the EIS, the Panel will distribute it for review. Following receipt of comments and on the basis of its own review, the Panel will determine whether the EIS contains sufficient information to proceed to the public meetings stage of the review process.

SLAVE RIVER HYDRO PROJECT

Initiator: Parks Canada, Department of the Environment
Contact: Mr. W. Douglas Harper, Director, Prairie Region, Parks Canada, 114 Garry Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3C1G 1

Description

The project area is near the border of Alberta and Northwest Territories, near Fort Smith, N.W.T. and adjacent to Wood Buffalo National Park.

The proposed project would involve construction of a hydro-electric installation at or near Fort Smith, N.W.T. to develop the potential of the Slave River and a transmission line from the Fort Smith area to Fort McMurray, Alberta.

Status under EARP

This project was referred by Parks Canada for Panel review in January, 1980. Panel members announced in December 1981 consist of:

P. J. B. Duffy, Chairman
FEARO
Hull, Quebec

Alistair Crerar
Environment Council of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta

William Fuller
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta

Alan Loutitt
Fort Smith, N.W.T.

Martin Paetz
Edmonton, Alberta.

Executive Secretary to the Panel:
R.L. Greyell, FEARO, Hull, Quebec
K1A OH3 (819) 997-1000

The Panel issued Draft Guidelines in August 1982 and held public meetings to receive comments on them in October and November.

Future Events

FEARO and the Government of Alberta are jointly examining means by which review activities of both Alberta and the Slave River Hydro Panel may be co-ordinated.

EXPANSION OF AIR TRAFFIC CAPACITY OF VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Initiator: Federal Department of Transport (Canadian Air Transportation Administration)

Contact: Mr. C. Heed, Pacific Regional Manager, Airport Branch, Transport Canada, 739 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1A2

Description

Construction and operation of a third runway at Vancouver International Airport to improve the aircraft handling capability. The third runway is to be parallel to the main East-West runway and constructed entirely within the Sea Island dykes.

Status under EARP:

The Panel was formed in 1976. The Panel held public meetings to discuss draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines in September 1977 with final EIS Guidelines issued in July, 1978. Soon afterwards the proposal was removed from active consideration. Transport Canada, in late 1981, indicated that they would like to reactivate the review and initiate work on the preparation of the EIS. The Panel was reconstituted in early 1982. A public meeting was held by the Panel in June, 1982 at which Transport Canada described their plans for the future of the airport, with particular attention to the third runway proposal. The Panel also conducted a public walking of the site of the third runway on August 22, 1982.

The Panel released new draft EIS guidelines, reflecting current issues and concern, in March, 1983. Following public meetings held in June, 1983, the Panel finalized the new EIS guidelines and issued them to Transport Canada. Panel members are:

R. M. Robinson, Chairman
FEARO
Hull, Quebec

V.C. Brink
Vancouver, B.C.

M.G. Hagglund
Ottawa, Ontario

J. P. Secter
B.C. Ministry of Environment
Victoria, B.C.

J. W. Wilson
West Vancouver, B.C.

The Executive Secretary to the Panel is:

P. Scott, FEARO, 700-789 West Pender St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1H2 (604) 666-2431

Future Events

Transport Canada will prepare its EIS based on the new guidelines. This could take up to two years or more to complete.

VENTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT — PRODUCTION OF GAS AND GAS CONDENSATES

Proponent: Mobil Oil Canada Ltd.

Contact: Phil Tsui, Mobil Oil, Halifax.

Project Description

The Venture Development Project is a proposal to develop the Venture gas field off the coast of Nova Scotia and produce natural gas and condensate at a rate of approximately 11 million m³ per day. It includes transportation of the gas and condensate to a gas plant at Melford Point through a subsea pipeline, a land fall terminal in the Country Harbour area and an overland pipeline.

The Venture field is located on the Scotia Shelf approximately 210 km off the east coast of Nova Scotia and 16 km east of the northeast tip of Sable Island. Natural gas reserves in the Venture field are estimated in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) at 72 billion m³.

Status under EARP

The Panel members appointed by the federal and Nova Scotia ministers of the Environment in November 1982 were:

Philip J. Paradine, Co-chairman
FEAR0
Hull, Quebec

Leo Peddle, Co-chairman
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Robert H. Burgess
Truro, Nova Scotia

Lewis L. Day
St. Andrews, New Brunswick

Panel Secretariat
Guy Riverin, FEAR0
Hull, Quebec K1A 0H3
(819) 997-1000

The matter of production of gas and condensate in the Sable Island area was referred for cooperative review under EARP and the requirement for environmental assessment of the Province of Nova Scotia in September 1982, in accordance with section 8 of the Canada-Nova Scotia Agreement on Offshore Oil and Gas Resource Management.

The mandate given to the Panel was to determine the means by which the project may proceed in an environmentally safe manner.

Mobil Oil submitted its EIS to the Panel on March 28, 1983 and it was immediately made available to the public and government agencies. Information Sessions were held in 6 communities in Nova Scotia from April 30 to May 5, 1983. After reviewing comments received from participants as well as information gathered during the information sessions the Panel requested further information from the proponent on June 28, 1983. Mobil responded to this request for additional information on August 19, 1983.

The Panel held public meetings in Guysborough, September 25, Port Hawkesbury, September 26 and Halifax, October 11 to 14, 1983.

The Panel has submitted its report to the federal and provincial Ministers of the Environment. The Panel recommended that the development and production of the Venture field be allowed to proceed in accordance with thirty specific measures to protect the environment and fisheries and ensure safe construction and operation.

A major recommendation is the development of comprehensive monitoring programs and contingency plans for all stages of the project. Further recommendations include: compensation for fishermen, burial of the offshore pipeline where practicable, coordination of search and rescue services, safety measures and pipeline routing.

The Panel also addressed concerns with respect to seismicity, ice, drilling muds, hydrostatic testing, shipping conflicts and effects on Sable Island and marine birds.

The report includes recommendations for continued public consultation, reporting on the implementation of Panel recommendations and proponent commitments, and review of associated projects such as pipe coating and fabrication yards. Other recommendations also address concerns related to the review process.

The Ministers of the Environment released the report on December 15.

Mobil is now preparing a development plan to be submitted to COGLA. The National Energy Board will also be holding public hearings following Mobil's application for a permit to export gas to markets outside Nova Scotia.

BAY OF FUNDY TIDAL POWER GENERATION PROJECT

Dormant

Initiator: Bay of Fundy Tidal Power Review Board, Mr. R.H. Clark 997-2108

Description

A study entitled "Reassessment of Fundy Tidal Power" dated November 1977 has been released by the initiator and provides a detailed description of the proposed project Chignecto Bay and Minas Basin sites, (upper Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick/Nova Scotia) which

would involve a tidal barrier, generating plant and transmission lines. In early 1982, the Tidal Power Corporation released a study entitled "Fundy Tidal Power-Update 82". The goal of this study was to update the economic status of tidal power in accordance with present perceptions of the energy future.

For information:

Phil Paradine, FEARO, Hull, Que. K1A OH3
(819) 997-1000

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EASTERN ARCTIC OFFSHORE DRILLING — NORTH DAVIS STRAIT PROJECT

Dormant

Proponent: Petro-Canada

Contact: Gerry Glazier, P.O. Box 2844, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M7

Initiator: Department of Indian and Northern Affairs

Contact: A. Jones, DINA, Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere, Hull, Quebec Mailing address: DINA, Ottawa, Ontario K 1 A OH4

For information

R.L. Greyell, FEARO, Hull, Quebec
K1A OH3 (819) 997-1000

Description

Exploratory drilling for hydrocarbons in the waters off the north-eastern coast of Baffin Island in the Eastern Arctic.

POLAR GAS PROJECT

Dormant

Proponents: Polar Gas Consortium and Panarctic Gas Ltd.

Contact: Ken Taylor, Polar Gas Project, P.O. Box 90, Commerce Court West, Toronto, Ontario. M5L 1H3

Co-Initiators: Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (N. W.T. portion)

Contact: A. Jones, DINA, Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere, Hull, Quebec

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources (area south of 60th parallel).

Contact: H.C. Rothschild, Science and Technology, EMR, 580 Booth St., Ottawa, Ontario. K1A OE4

Description

The project includes extraction and purification of gas from fields in the High Arctic islands, 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.

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**LIST OF REPORTS ISSUED BY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANELS UNDER
THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW PROCESS**

1. Point Lepreau, New Brunswick Nuclear Power Station
Report to the Minister, May 1975
2. Wreck Cove, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Hydro Electric Power Project
Report to the Minister, August 1977
3. Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline project, Yukon Territory
Interim report to the Minister, August 1, 1977
4. Eldorado Nuclear Limited, Uranium Refinery, Port Granby, Ontario
Report to the Minister, May 12, 1978
5. Shawkwak Highway Project, Northern B.C. and Yukon
Report to the Minister, June 1978
6. Eastern Arctic Offshore Drilling, South Davis Strait Project. N.W.T.
Report to the Minister, November 1, 1978
7. Lancaster Sound Offshore Drilling Project, Northwest Territories
Report to the Minister, February, 1979
8. Eldorado Uranium Hexafluoride Refinery, Ontario
Report to the Minister, February, 1979
9. Roberts Bank Port Expansion, Roberts Bank, B.C.
Report to the Minister, March 1979
10. Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline Project. Yukon Public Hearings (March-April 1979)
Report to the Minister, August 1979
11. Banff Highway Project (East Gate to km 13)
Report to the Minister, October 1979
12. Boundary Bay Airport Reactivation, B.C.
Report to the Minister, November 1979
13. Eldorado Uranium Refinery, R.M. of Corman Park, Saskatchewan
Report to the Minister, July 1980
14. Arctic Pilot Project, (Northern Component) N.W.T.
Report to the Minister, October 1980
15. Lower Churchill Hydroelectric Project
Report to the Minister, December 1980
16. Norman Wells Oil Field Development and Pipeline
Report to the Minister, January 1981
17. Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline project, Yukon Territory
Routing Alternatives, Whitehorse/Ibex Region
Report to the Minister, July 1981

18. Banff Highway Project (km 13 to km 27) Alberta (April, 1982)
19. Beaufort Sea Hydrocarbon Production Proposal (Interim Report) (April, 1982)
20. CP Rail Rogers Pass Development (Glacier National Park B.C.) (April, 1982)
21. Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline Project, Yukon Territory
 Technical Hearings (June 7-12, 1982)
 Final Report to the Minister, October 1982
22. CP Rail Rogers Pass Development (Final report) (August, 1983)
23. CN Rail Twin Tracking Program. British Columbia (Interim Report) (September, 1983)
24. Venture Development Project (Joint Report of the Sable Island E.A. Panel) (December, 1983)