

# THE INDIVIDUAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

## What is it?

In Ontario, the *Environmental Assessment Act (EA Act)* and its regulations ensure environmental effects are taken into consideration for all phases of a project, from planning to decommissioning.

An individual EA includes consultation with Indigenous communities, government agencies, stakeholders and the public, consideration and evaluation

of alternatives, and the mitigation of potential environmental effects. The EA process is designed to assess the existing environment and mitigate potential effects before decisions are made about proceeding with a proposed project.

Individual EA's require approval from the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT DEFINES ENVIRONMENT TO MEAN:

- Air, land or water;
- Plant and animal life, including human life;
- The social, economic and cultural conditions that influence the life of humans or a community;
- Any building, structure, machine or other device or thing made by humans;
- Any solid, liquid, gas, odour, heat, sound, vibration or radiation resulting directly or indirectly from human activities; or,
- Any part or combination of the foregoing and the interrelationships between any two or more of them.



# Consultation

Consultation with Indigenous communities, government agencies, stakeholders and the public occurs throughout the EA process.

The milestones involved in an Individual EA are:

STEP 1	Develop and submit a Terms of Reference
STEP 2	Prepare an Environmental Assessment based on the approved Terms of Reference
STEP 3	Submit an Environmental Assessment
STEP 4	Public and government review
STEP 5	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks review
STEP 6	Public consultation on the Ministry Review
STEP 7	Minister's decision
STEP 8	Implement the project and monitor compliance

Proponents must comply with the commitments made in the Environmental Assessment and with the conditions of approval.



## Approval

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks may conclude any of the following upon review of the final EA:

- Refer all or part of the matter to the Environmental Review Tribunal for a hearing, or to another tribunal for a decision
- Refer the EA Application or a particular issue to mediation
- Approve the proposed undertaking with conditions
- Decide against granting approval to proceed with the proposed undertaking

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the proposed Lake Superior Link Project and Environmental Assessment visit

[www.HydroOne.com/LakeSuperiorLink](http://www.HydroOne.com/LakeSuperiorLink)