

Milton Logistics Hub Project | REVIEW PANEL

Joint process established under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012, and the Canada Transportation Act

January 6, 2017

Catherine Blewett
Deputy Minister
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
<email address removed>

Subject: Participation of Fisheries and Oceans Canada in the Milton Logistics Hub Project Review Panel Process

Dear Ms. Blewett,

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change and the Chair of the Canadian Transportation Agency have established the Review Panel to conduct the joint process for the review of the proposed Milton Logistics Hub Project (the Project). In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Review Panel will conduct an environmental assessment of the proposed Project, as well as gather information to assist the Canadian Transportation Agency in its assessment of the reasonableness of the location of a new railway line.

On December 20, 2016 the Review Panel announced the start of a comment period on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submitted by the Canadian National Railway Company. The EIS, its supporting documents and all other records for the joint process for the review of the Project are available on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry at www.ceaa.gc.ca, reference number [80100](#).

The Review Panel requires the participation of Fisheries and Oceans Canada in the joint process in order that your Department's knowledge and expertise will be available to assist the Panel's deliberations. The Review Panel requests that you provide the information below, in writing, no later than February 2, 2017.

Further, the Review Panel is planning to schedule an orientation session for February or March 2017. This session will allow representatives of government bodies that have a mandate relevant to the environmental assessment to present information to the Review Panel. The Review Panel may have questions for representatives. This session will be open to the public.

In preparation for this session, please provide the Review Panel with the following:

1. The details of the legislative, policy or other directives under the responsibility of your Department that may relate to the Project or the environmental assessment;

c/o Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency 160 Elgin St. Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

MiltonHubPanel@ceaa.gc.ca

CEAR registry 80100

2. A description of the interest or expertise of your Department as it relates to the Project or the environmental assessment; and,
3. The details of when and how your Department interacts with other organizations in the course of fulfilling its legislative, policy or other directives as mentioned above.

The Review Panel also requires Fisheries and Oceans Canada to provide advice to ensure that sufficient information is available before proceeding to a public hearing for the Project. The Review Panel requests that your Department evaluate the EIS and associated records related to its mandate and areas of expertise. As early as practicable, the Review Panel asks Fisheries and Oceans Canada to determine whether there is sufficient valid information for the Department to provide advice to the Review Panel on:

- The likelihood that the Project would cause significant adverse environmental effects;
- The predicted effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures; and,
- The appropriateness of the proposed follow-up programs.

The Review Panel acknowledges the contribution of Fisheries and Oceans Canada in the pre-panel phase of the Milton Logistics Hub Project environmental assessment and looks forward to the ongoing participation of the Department in the process.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Lesley Griffiths
Panel Chair

c.c. Dale Nicholson, Regional Director, Ecosystems Management, Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

William McMurray, Review Panel Member

Isobel Heathcote, Review Panel Member