

May 2021

JWG Monthly Update

In May, the following topics were discussed:

- Environmental Assessment (EA) Methods
- Pathways for Indigenous Land and Resource Use
- Community Well-being



Rook I Project Exploration Camp

NexGen Energy is pleased to present this update to communities on the discussions that took place as part of the May 2021 Joint Working Groups.

WHAT WE DISCUSSED

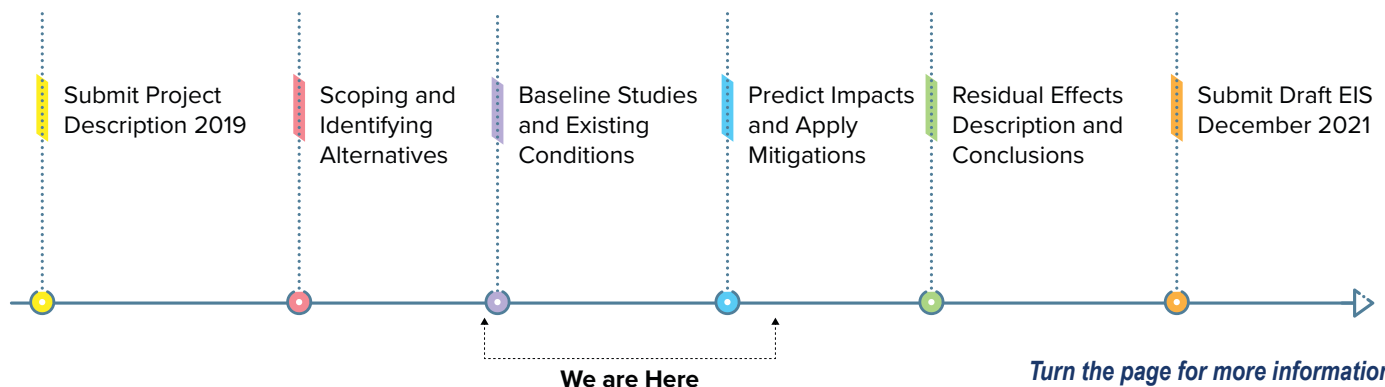
In the May 2021 Joint Working Group (JWG) meetings, we discussed three key topics:

- Environmental Assessment (EA) methods, focusing on the pathway analysis using examples such as air quality, water quality, fish, and wildlife.
- The pathways used to assess Indigenous Land and Resource Uses in the NexGen Rook I Project (Project) area and region. We had good conversations about how the Project could affect this Valued Component.
- Community Well-being in terms of what this means to communities and how it may be affected by the Project, including how it can be enhanced or improved.



Kayaks on Patterson Lake

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process



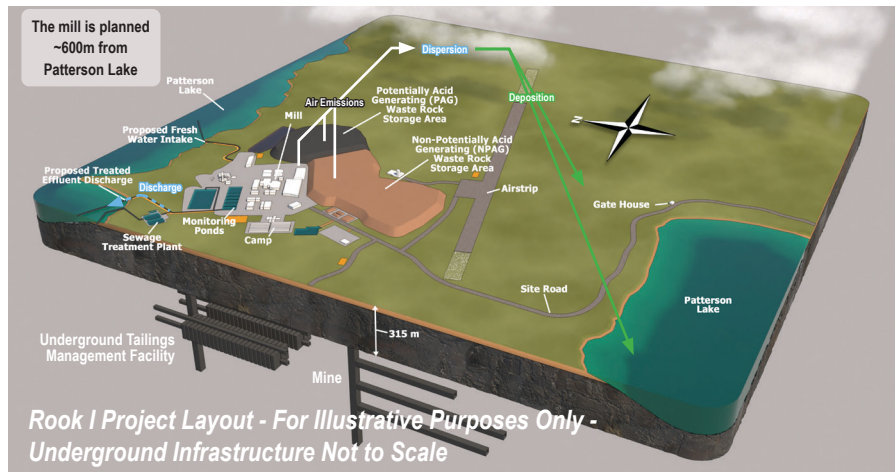
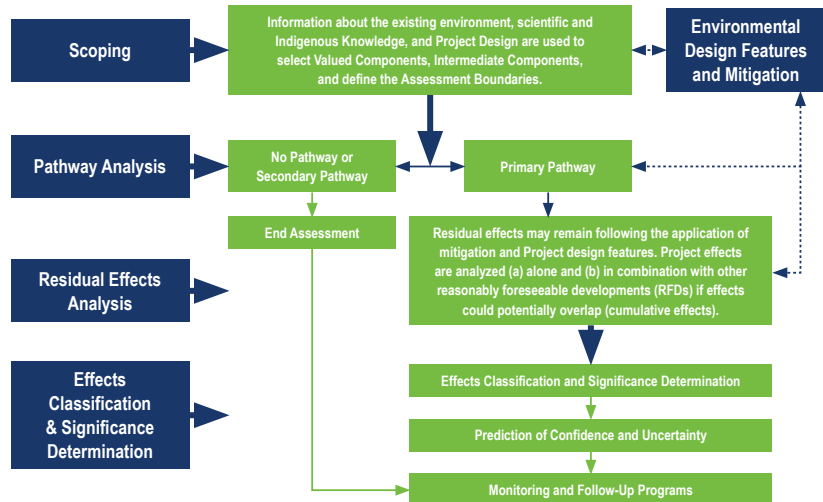
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Meeting Summary

Environmental Assessment Process

- The steps of an EA process include scoping, pathways analysis, residual effects analysis, the classification of effects, and the determination of significance.
- The effects are classified and significance is determined, along with a discussion about confidence and monitoring programs.
- Both effects from the Project and cumulative effects will be assessed.

Environmental Assessment Process Flowchart



Examples of Pathways

- Examples of pathways include the air emissions or discharge of treated water into Patterson Lake.
- The emissions and discharge would enter the environment where they could be taken up by plants, animals, and people.
- Project effects that remain after mitigations are applied are called residual effects.

Residual Effects

- Residual effects will be described in the EA to provide a full understanding of the effects of the Project on the environment.
- Residual effects will be classified as either significant or not significant.
- The level of confidence in effects predictions (including any uncertainty) will be described in the EA.
- Monitoring and follow-up programs will be implemented to meet regulatory requirements, evaluate mitigations, and assess predictions about Project effects.

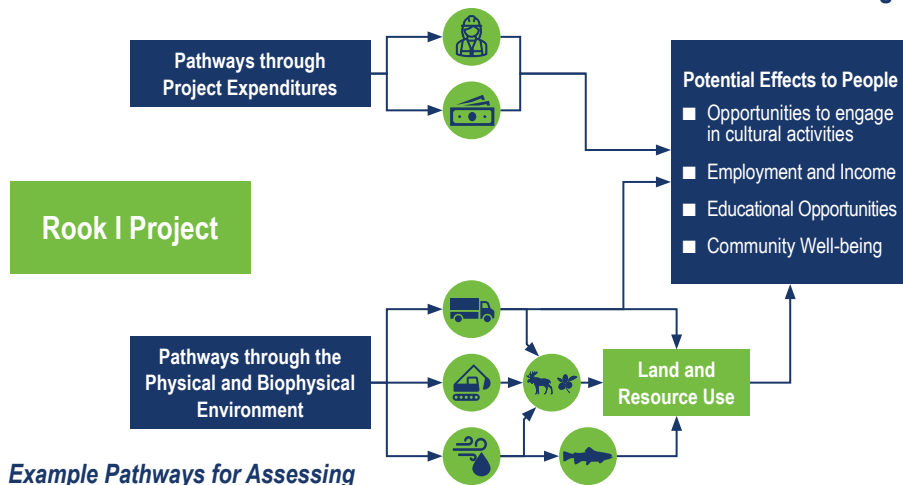
The Main Effects Criteria Used in the Residual Effects Classification

Criteria	Description
Direction	Adverse (negative), neutral (no change), or positive (improvement) effect.
Magnitude	The intensity of the effect, or the size, degree, or level of change.
Geographic extent	The area (or distance covered or range) of the effect.
Duration	The amount of time from the beginning of an effect to when the effect is reversed.
Reversibility	Whether the effect will stop or be reversed, or is permanent.
Frequency	How often an effect occurs during the assessment.

The classification of residual effects is used to determine the significance for Valued Components

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Indigenous Land and Resource Use Assessment



Example Pathways for Assessing Indigenous Land and Resource Use

- This diagram shows the pathways we plan to use to evaluate Project effects on Indigenous Land and Resource Use.
- The pathways assessed for the socio-economic and biophysical environments will be an important part of the assessment of Indigenous Land and Resources Use.
- For example, the residual effects identified in the fish and wildlife assessments may become pathways in the assessment of Indigenous Land and Resource Use.

Resources, Access, and Quality of Experience

We will assess the Project effects on Indigenous Land and Resource Uses in three ways:

- **Resources:** Examples include changes in wildlife availability and water quality (real or perceived).
- **Access:** Examples include fencing that restricts access, new roads, and improved quality of roads, which can allow users in from farther away.
- **Quality of Experience:** Examples include the experience being affected by noise or because resource users know the Project is nearby.



We discussed how changes may affect Indigenous Land and Resource Use, including:

- Project footprint and activities may change the availability of plants, wildlife, and fish, which can reduce the opportunities for Indigenous land and resource use.
- Changes to air or water quality may result in actual or perceived contamination of plants, fish, and wildlife and discourage traditional uses in proximity to the Project.
- Changes to air or water quality may result in actual or perceived changes to human health, discouraging Indigenous land and resource use close to the Project.

Assessment Endpoints and Measurement Indicators for Community Well-being

Valued Component	Assessment Endpoint
Community Well-being	A continued sense of well-being in the local communities.
Measurement Indicators	
■ Community population/demographics. ■ Well-being (as defined by communities). ■ Determinants of health (including social determinants of health). ■ Cultural expression, including transmission of knowledge and language. ■ Public safety (including traffic). ■ Community infrastructure and services (policing and emergency services, health facilities and services, social services, educational institutions and housing).	

Community Well-being

- Community Well-being means different things to different people. We will consider a number of different indicators in assessing potential effects from the Project.
- In the May meeting, we explored changes in employment and income as well as worker rotations in more detail.
- These can have both positive and negative effects on Community Well-being.

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What do you think could happen if there is a new influx of money into the community?



To workers?



To families?



To communities?

Potential Effects of Increased Income

- Effects to Community Well-being from increased income can affect different parts of the community and in different ways.
- Quality of life can be enhanced through increased spending power and reduced debt.
- Increased income can also present unintended outcomes such as increased drug and alcohol use.

Increased Income May Affect Workers, Families, or Communities

Worker Rotations

Worker rotations can affect Community Well-being in a number of potential ways (positive and negative), for example:

- Changes in family dynamics.
- Changes in connection to the community.
- Changes in availability and time spent with family and friends.
- Changes in how people access the land.

Example Assessment from a Predicted Effect to Mitigation, and Questions that could be Considered for Residual Effects

Predicted Effect

- May impact family stability because of time spent away at the work site (e.g., rotational work).

Mitigation

- Develop and implement human resource policies (including employee and family assistance programs) to assist workers in finding information and referral services for family-related resources as required.

Residual Effect

- Do you know anyone who has worked a job that requires being away from their home community? Someone who lives with someone who is away from home for work?
- How did being away affect them? Their family? Their friends?
- What helped them with this situation?
- Is there anything else that they think would have helped?

WHAT WE HEARD FROM THE JOINT WORKING GROUPS

- The potential for increased income in communities is welcomed; however, all changes have positive and negative sides to consider. For example, increased drug and alcohol use.
- Helping community members with financial management will help to effectively manage increased income.
- Worker rotation cycles can affect community members in different ways. Family and community support networks are important to help make this successful.
- Consideration of resource use activities in developing the worker rotation schedule would be beneficial and help community members retain their connection to the land.
- Having an Elder on-site at the Project could help workers retain a connection to their communities, as well as provide mentorship and support.
- People are interested in environmental monitoring in their communities.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

- How would you best like to be kept up to date on the Project?
- What are the most important things you would like us to know about your community and the potential Project effects (both positive and negative)?
- When we describe the effects of the Project, what type of information would be most useful to help you understand the effect?
- What specific topics are important to you?

Please contact us by any of the means below if you wish to ask questions or discuss anything – we look forward to hearing from you!