



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

Pacific and Yukon Region
757 West Hastings Street
Suite 201A
Vancouver BC V6C 3M2

Région du Pacifique et du Yukon
757 rue Hastings Ouest
bureau 210 A
Vancouver (C-B) V6C 3M2



Environmental
Assessment Office

PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9V1

October 14, 2021

Sent by Email Only

Mike Lambert
Director, Environmental and Regulatory Affairs
Rockies LNG Limited Partnership
mlambert@rockieslng.com

Agency File No: 005806
EAO File No: 30020-04/OGI-21

Dear Mike Lambert:

Subject: Joint Summary of Issues and Engagement for the Ksi Lisims LNG – Natural Gas Liquefaction and Marine Terminal Project

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) and British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) conducted a comment period on the Ksi Lisims LNG – Natural Gas Liquefaction and Marine Terminal Project (the Project) from August 10 to September 24, 2021. The public and Indigenous groups were invited to review the Initial Project Description and to provide feedback related to the proposed Project. The enclosed Joint Summary of Issues and Engagement (Joint Summary) reflects the issues raised through comments received from the public, Indigenous groups and technical advisors (federal authorities, provincial ministries, local governments, health authorities, and the United States' federal and state agencies). As a next step, the Agency and the EAO expect the Nisga'a Nation, Rockies LNG Limited Partnership and Western LNG LLC (collectively, the proponents) to produce a single Detailed Project Description that will meet both federal and provincial requirements.

.../2

Pursuant to subsection 15(1) of the federal *Impact Assessment Act*, the proponents must provide the Agency with a Detailed Project Description that sets out how it intends to address the issues in the Joint Summary and includes the information described in the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations* (the Regulations). The requirements for the Detailed Project Description are set out in Section 4 and Schedule 2 of the Regulations. Please consult the Agency's [Guide to Preparing an Initial Project Description and a Detailed Project Description](#) for further information.

The guidelines for completing a Detailed Project Description for the EAO are included in the [Early Engagement Policy](#). Under Section 39(a) of the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018), the proponents have up to one year to submit its Detailed Project Description from the issuance of the Joint Summary or the Chief Executive Assessment Officer may terminate the assessment of the Project.

The EAO notes that the Detailed Project Description is a foundational document for Process Planning, should the Project proceed to an environmental assessment. The EAO strongly encourages the proponents to submit additional documents along with the Detailed Project Description, including the proponents' proposed Application Information Requirements, based on the EAO's [Application Information Requirements Guidelines](#).

The EAO expects the proponents to engage with Indigenous groups and technical advisors during the development of the Detailed Project Description to ensure their interests are considered. This engagement will help avoid uncertainty and potential time delays later in the process. This engagement includes the sharing of drafts of the Detailed Project Description with these participants. The Detailed Project Description should include information provided in the Initial Project Description and updates, revisions and further details following engagement with Indigenous groups, technical advisors and other stakeholders. It is important that the Detailed Project Description describe how engagement activities and the Joint Summary were considered, and how they may have contributed to changes in the Project.

The proponents are asked to provide meaningful responses in the Detailed Project Description to the issues included in the Joint Summary. The Joint Summary and the proponents' responses will be used, among other things, to inform the Agency's decision on whether an impact assessment is required for the Project, and the EAO's decision on whether the Project should proceed to an environmental assessment under the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018).

In preparing the response, there may be some issues that, in the view of the proponents, are outside of its care and control. In this situation, the proponents may choose to identify the party or parties with the potential to address the issue(s).

For ease of reference, the Agency and the EAO request that the response to the Joint Summary be provided in a table with reference to other parts of the Detailed Project Description as warranted.

As part of the comment period, the Agency also invited comments from the public and Indigenous groups on the request from the Government of British Columbia that the conduct of the federal impact assessment, should one be required, be substituted to the province. Comments received in relation to the substitution request will be considered by the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change in making the substitution decision; they are not reflected in the Joint Summary and the proponents are not expected to provide a response to those comments.

The Agency generally estimates that it could take approximately 30 days—or until November 13, 2021 in this case—to provide the Detailed Project Description for the federal process, including the response to the Joint Summary. In consideration of efforts being made to coordinate the federal Planning Phase steps under the *Impact Assessment Act* and the provincial Early Engagement phase steps under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018), the Agency recognizes that the proponents may require additional time to produce the Detailed Project Description. You are encouraged to contact the Agency in the next few days to discuss how much time may be required.

The proponents are reminded that all records produced, collected, or received in relation to the assessment of the Project—unless prohibited under the federal *Access to Information Act* or the provincial *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*—will be considered public and posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site and/or the EAO's Project Information Centre (EPIC) website.

If you have any questions or if the Agency or the EAO can assist in facilitating engagement with Indigenous groups and technical advisors during the development of the proponents' Detailed Project Description, please do not hesitate to contact Quincy Leung from the Agency at Quincy.Leung@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or Fern Stockman from the EAO at Fern.Stockman@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Regina Wright', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Regina Wright
Regional Director, Pacific and Yukon
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elenore Arend', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Elenore Arend
Chief Executive Assessment Officer and
Associate Deputy Minister
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office

Enclosure: Ksi Lisims LNG - Natural Gas Liquefaction and Marine Terminal Project –
Joint Summary of Issues and Engagement

Cc:

Quincy Leung, Project Manager, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Fern Stockman, A/Executive Project Director, Environmental Assessment Office

Joint Summary of Issues and Engagement

1.0 Introduction

The Nisga'a Nation, Rockies LNG Limited Partnership and Western LNG LLC (collectively, the proponents) are proposing to develop a floating natural gas liquefaction facility and marine terminal, located at Wil Milit on Pearse Island, in British Columbia (B.C). As proposed, the Ksi Lisims LNG - Natural Gas Liquefaction Facility and Marine Terminal Project (Project) would produce up to 12 million tonnes per year of liquefied natural gas and be in operation for at least 30 years. Natural gas would be transported to the site via a natural gas transmission pipeline originating in northeastern B.C.

The Nisga'a Nation, as represented by Nisga'a Lisims Government, is a party to the *Nisga'a Final Agreement*, along with her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada and Her Majesty the Queen in right of British Columbia. The *Nisga'a Final Agreement* is a treaty and land claims agreement within the meaning of Sections 25 and 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* and represents the first modern treaty in B.C. The *Nisga'a Final Agreement* sets out the Nisga'a Nation's rights under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (Agency) and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) are working cooperatively in a coordinated process for the initial phase of the Project's review in accordance with the [Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia \(2019\) \(the Cooperation Agreement\)](#), and in support of the principle of "one project, one assessment." The Agency and the EAO are working in accordance with Chapter 10 – Environmental Assessment and Protection of the *Nisga'a Final Agreement* (Chapter 10), which sets out the obligations of the Parties to the *Nisga'a Final Agreement* in respect of, among other things, 'environmental assessments' conducted for 'projects', as these terms are defined in the *Nisga'a Final Agreement*. Paragraph 1 of Chapter 10 sets out that, upon request of one or more of the Parties, the Parties will negotiate and attempt to reach agreement to "coordinate any Nisga'a, federal and provincial environmental assessment requirements that will meet the Parties' legal requirements concerning environmental assessments" and "avoid duplication of environmental assessment requirements."

The Agency and the EAO have both accepted an Initial Project Description for the Project, which is subject to the federal *Impact Assessment Act* and the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018).

This Joint Summary of Issues and Engagement (Joint Summary) document has been prepared and issued by the Agency and the EAO as part of the federal Planning and provincial Early Engagement phases in the assessment of projects that are captured by both the federal *Impact Assessment Act* and the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018). In accordance with the Cooperation Agreement, this Joint Summary is issued to the proponents in place of separate federal Summary of Issues and provincial Summary of Engagement documents.

As required by subsection 14(1) of the federal *Impact Assessment Act* and paragraph 13(5)(a) of the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018), this Joint Summary provides a summary of:

- The issues raised to the Agency or the EAO by the public during the joint public comment period;
- Comments from Indigenous groups related to their interests in the project area;
- Key issues or concerns identified by Indigenous groups regarding the Project; and,
- Comments provided by technical advisors¹ after reviewing the proponents' Initial Project Description.

The Joint Summary also provides a list of participating Indigenous nations as per paragraph 13(5)(b) of the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018). The proponents are required to consider the issues raised in the Joint Summary and respond to them in its Detailed Project Description and accompanying response to the Joint Summary. This Joint Summary, the proponents' response to the Joint Summary, and the proponents' Detailed Project Description will be used, among other things, by the Agency to determine whether a federal impact assessment is required, and by the EAO to determine if the Project is ready to proceed to a provincial environmental assessment.

Further details on the Project can be accessed in the Initial Project Description, Engagement Plan, and other documents on the Agency's [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry](#) or the EAO's [Electronic Project Information Centre website](#) (EPIC).

For the purpose of this Joint Summary, editorial comments are not included in the summary tables below; however, they have been provided to the proponents for consideration in the development of the Detailed Project Description.

2.0 Early Engagement Overview

During the coordinated process, the Agency and the EAO have sought to understand how the public, Indigenous groups and technical advisors want to be engaged, and have gathered their initial interests, concerns, questions, feedback and knowledge regarding the Project. The Agency and the EAO hosted two information sessions and held meetings and teleconferences with technical advisors and potentially affected Indigenous groups.

2.1 Joint Public Comment Period

The Agency and the EAO held a 45-day joint public comment period from August 10 to September 24, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated physical distancing measures, information sessions were held via MS Teams Live Event on September 8 and 9, 2021. The information sessions included presentations on the federal and provincial assessment processes, a presentation by the proponents on the project, and opportunities to ask questions online. The two information sessions had approximately 37 and 21 views, respectively.² 71 individual public comments were received by the

¹ Federal authorities, provincial ministries, local governments, health authorities, and the United States' federal and state agencies.

² Views are counted based on the number of participants entering the information sessions.

Agency and the EAO during the joint public comment period. Comments received are summarized below in section 4.0.

3.0 Indigenous Groups

The Agency and/or the EAO notified and requested input from the following Indigenous groups whose interests could reasonably be expected to be affected by the Project:

- Gitxaala Nation*
- Haida Nation
- Kitselas First Nation*
- Kitsumkalum First Nation*
- Lax Kw'alaams Band*
- Métis Nation British Columbia
- Metlakatla First Nation*
- Nisga'a Nation

*indicates confirmed participating Indigenous Nation under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018)

The Agency and the EAO made funding available to support participation by Indigenous groups in this phase of the assessment.

Under the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018), Indigenous groups can self-identify as a participating Indigenous nation for the assessment of a project. Participating Indigenous nations are afforded specific procedural rights under the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018), including capacity funding, consensus seeking processes, a procedure to communicate consent or withhold consent at key decision points, and access to facilitated dispute resolution.

Participating Indigenous nations under the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018) are identified in Table 1. The notices the EAO received from Indigenous groups self-identifying as participating Indigenous nations can be found on the EAO's [EPIC website](#).

Table 1 also identifies the Agency and the EAO's preliminary understanding of Indigenous groups' interests in the Project area based on responses received from Indigenous groups. Specific issues identified by Indigenous groups are identified in Table 1. Some issues identified by Indigenous groups will be reflected in Table 2 where those issues are common issues with other parties. Additional information from Indigenous groups, including specific requests of the proponents, is available in the notices received from Indigenous groups posted on the EAO's EPIC website.

Table 1: Preliminary Understanding of Indigenous Interests

Indigenous Group	Participating Indigenous Nation under the provincial <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> (2018)	Summarized Understanding of Interests, Impacts, and Requests to the proponents
Gitxaala Nation	Yes	<p>Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project lifecycle effects on the marine environment • Route options for electrical and natural gas transmission lines to the site and associated impacts • Plan to reach the Net Zero emissions target • Local direct and indirect economic benefits, engagement, training, and employment opportunities related to the construction of the Project • Protection of Aboriginal rights in the vicinity of the Project • How the three assessment processes (Nisga'a, provincial and federal) will interrelate, and which authorities have ultimate jurisdiction for the oversight and management of Project should it be approved i.e., during construction, operation, and decommissioning • Plans for effluent, liquid, or hazardous discharges into the marine environment <p>Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to Gitxaala food security • Impacts of marine shipping, including noise effects on marine mammals and impediments to traditional harvesting • Impacts to eulachon and salmon spawning routes and habitat • Impacts of dredging and construction in the marine environment • Cumulative effects of increased vessel traffic in Gitxaala territorial waters <p>Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a Gitxaala-specific approach to assess potential Project effects on the Nation • Capacity funding for Gitxaala participation in ongoing adaptive monitoring and management throughout the full lifecycle of the Project, including the collaborative development of mitigation measures and management plans • Development of engagement material in Sm'algyax • An environmental fund/bond from the proponents to finance clean-up measures in the event of a spill or accident

Indigenous Group	Participating Indigenous Nation under the provincial <i>Environmental Assessment Act (2018)</i>	Summarized Understanding of Interests, Impacts, and Requests to the proponents
Kitselas First Nation	Yes	<p>Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and self-determination rights, including rights to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect Kitselas' rights in the Project area • The right to implement Kitselas laws, customs, and protocols • Stewardship rights and responsibilities • Rights to clean air, water, lands and resources within Kitselas territory, and the right to peacefully enjoy them • Rights to access the lands and resources that Kitselas has traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired • Rights to determine and develop strategies for the development or use of Kitselas territory, and the water, lands and resources therein • Harvesting rights, including the right to make decisions on harvesting timing, locations and limits • Cultural and spiritual rights, including Kitselas' rights to protect and access areas of cultural and spiritual importance • Rights to revitalize, develop, and transmit to future generations Kitselas' traditional knowledge, histories, oral traditions, and place names relating to the Project area • Economic development and socio-economic rights, including Kitselas' rights to improve their social and economic conditions <p>Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The opportunity to review and comment on management plans during the assessment
Kitsumkalum First Nation	Yes	<p>Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to governance and self-determination • Cultural and spiritual rights • Right to practice traditional activities • Right to transmit traditional knowledge • Stewardship of Kitsumkalum lands • Clean air and water • Sense of place • Recognition of specific <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</i> articles <p>Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socio-economic impacts, including impacts on housing, community well-being, crime,

Indigenous Group	Participating Indigenous Nation under the provincial <i>Environmental Assessment Act (2018)</i>	Summarized Understanding of Interests, Impacts, and Requests to the proponents
		<p>emergency and leisure services, infrastructure, and financial disparity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts of changes to transportation, including land transportation, and associated accidents and malfunctions in Kitsumkalum territory • Impacts of marine shipping, including impacts on seaweed harvesting, fishing, and bivalve collection • Impacts on the ability to access and harvest resources due to changes in population densities • Impacts to sense of place and wildlife from increased marine and vehicular traffic
Lax Kw'alaams Band	Yes	<p>Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition and assessment of impacts on Aboriginal rights and title in the Project area • Thorough assessment of impacts of the project on the environment, including cumulative effects • Ability to carry out traditional and cultural practices • Deep connection to the ocean, land, and its resources • Access to wealth generated from the Project and preferential access to jobs, training and business opportunities <p>Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of environmental pressures and a changing economy on Lax Kw'alaams mode of life and continued existence as distinct Indigenous peoples • Impacts and cumulative effects on the environment, species that utilize the region, and the overall health of the ocean and its resources • Impacts at the Project site on Lax Kw'alaams Aboriginal rights, including resource harvesting and trade and barter rights • Impacts of marine shipping, accidents, and malfunctions on water quality, fish, shellfish, marine mammals, aquatic plants, wildlife, birds, Lax Kw'alaams culture and heritage sites, the physical and mental health of Lax Kw'alaams people, Lax Kw'alaams lands, safety in Lax Kw'alaams waters, and Lax Kw'alaams economic interests

Indigenous Group	Participating Indigenous Nation under the provincial <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> (2018)	Summarized Understanding of Interests, Impacts, and Requests to the proponents
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of invasive species in Lax Kw'alaams traditional territories from ballast water, the hull of the ships, or shipping cargo • Impacts of the LNG facility on an adjacent trapline • Impacts to Lax Kw'alaams traditional practices, and traditional use values including salmon fishing, crab harvesting, ground fish harvesting, seal and sea lion hunting, shellfish harvesting, deer hunting, trapping, and other land-based use values <p>Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency preparedness and response structure with clear lines of authority and sufficient capacity to respond to an accident or malfunction at the Project site or involving a ship from the Project • Emergency compensation from any impacts stemming from an accident or malfunction at the Project site or involving a ship from the Project including compensation for cultural interference, disconnection or loss • Funding that enables Lax Kw'alaams to lead studies and write sections of the Application/Impact Statement, including baseline studies, draft VC's, draft study and modeling plans, an Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use Study, Culture and Rights Impact Assessment Study, Cumulative Impacts Study, Socio-economic Impact Assessment Study, and assessment of impacts to Lax Kw'alaams rights and interests • The development of an Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreement and an Engagement Protocol with Lax Kw'alaams that protects Lax Kw'alaams Indigenous Knowledge and ensures appropriate funding and methods for engagement
Metlakatla First Nation	Yes	<p>Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition and assessment of impacts on Aboriginal rights and title • Cultural identity and the right to maintain cultural distinctiveness and integrity • Right to hunt, fish, trap, gather, and harvest terrestrial and marine resources • Right to access lands and waters • Right to maintain cultural and physical heritage

Indigenous Group	Participating Indigenous Nation under the provincial <i>Environmental Assessment Act (2018)</i>	Summarized Understanding of Interests, Impacts, and Requests to the proponents
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to make decisions about land and marine use in accordance with governance and decision-making rights, • Sense of place, the right to maintain emotional and spiritual attachment to special places, and the right to peaceful enjoyment of the lands and waters • Health and safety, and the right to the highest attainable standard of physical, mental, and social health • Right to derive economic benefit from land and waters <p>Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to species of concern to Metlakatla First Nation, including King Crab and Nass River eulachon • Impacts to mental health, wellbeing, and the real and perceived safety of traditional resources should an accident or malfunction occur • Loss of income/livelihood (including trade) and loss of economic development opportunities • Metlakatla views lands and marine waters to be seamless; adverse impacts to the land will also impact the marine environment and vice versa • Impacts to the ability to transmit knowledge between older and younger generations and loss of place-based knowledge • Alteration of marine and intertidal harvesting sites, reduced opportunity to harvest, reduced harvesting success, and avoidance of harvestable areas due to industrial disturbance • Reduced quiet enjoyment of place-based activities and disturbance of cultural and spiritual sites • Restricted physical access to Project Area and interference with marine transportation routes • Reduced ability to exercise land and marine management functions • Permanent removal of archaeology features – both pre- and post- 1846 • Disturbances to unmarked gravesites, petroglyphs, CMTs and other cultural and spiritual sites within and around the proposed Project footprint <p>Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Metlakatla Stewardship Society cultural heritage policies to guide the proponents’

Indigenous Group	Participating Indigenous Nation under the provincial <i>Environmental Assessment Act (2018)</i>	Summarized Understanding of Interests, Impacts, and Requests to the proponents
		assessment of impacts to archaeology and heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of full extent of shipping through Metlakatla Territory • Clarity on the peak construction workforce, number of years of construction and the operation workforce • Shapefiles of project location, off-site components, and the shipping route

The Agency and the EAO expect the proponents to engage with each of the Indigenous groups listed in section 3.0 to ensure their interests and concerns are reflected in the Detailed Project Description.

4.0 Summary of Issues

This section provides a high-level summary of the issues raised in comments received by the Agency and the EAO from the public, Indigenous groups, and technical advisors on the proponents’ Initial Project Description (see Table 2). The proponents are directed to review the original submissions posted on the Agency’s [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry](#) and the EAO’s [EPIC website](#). Note that this document provides a summary of comments received; it does not evaluate those concerns, nor does it define what is to be addressed in the assessment.

The Joint Summary does not include comments received on B.C.’s request to substitute the conduct of the federal impact assessment, should one be required, to the province. Should a federal impact assessment be required, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change will consider any comments received in deciding whether to approve the request for substitution. The Agency will post a notice of the Minister’s decision with respect to the request for substitution along with the reasons for the decision on the Agency’s [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry](#).

Table 2: Summary of Issues Raised

<p>Accidents, Malfunctions, and Public Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for adverse environmental and human health effects from accidents and malfunctions, including those caused by weather-related events and seismic events. This includes spills of hazardous substances, marine incidents, pipeline leakages, road failures, on-site problems, and domino-effect accidents • Concern regarding unreliable or incomplete coverage for remote monitoring of maritime traffic and distance to, and availability of Canadian Coast Guard support • Concern regarding the monitoring and enforcement of “exclusion zones” around the marine terminal during Front-End Engineering and Design • Details on the existing emergency response mechanisms and arrangements with Response Organizations within the spatial extent of marine shipping associated with the Project • Concern regarding the proponents’ role for executing and/or financing of clean-up measures in the event of a spill or other accidents/malfunctions • Information on emergency management and response should be available in local Indigenous languages • Consideration of seasonal and lunar/tidal windows, critical life cycle windows, and harvesting windows when planning for accidents and malfunctions • Accidents or malfunctions related to shipping should be assessed specifically for relevant valued components, such as terrestrial wildlife, marine birds, human health, marine habitat, and marine fish • Protection of tributaries from accidents on route to the Project • Concern regarding extreme winds in the Portland Canal, how this impacts the safety of transporting LNG via this route, and potential anchoring and refuge options
<p>Acoustic Environment (Terrestrial)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of a noise assessment in accordance with Health Canada's guidance which identifies and describes sensitive human receptors, and considers effects of noise disturbance, including the potential for sleep disturbance to local residents
<p>Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of GHG emissions as a criterion in the evaluation and selection of Project design alternatives and/or proposed mitigation • Additional information on alternative approved LNG project site locations
<p>Atmospheric Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of the most stringent Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards to undertake an assessment of existing baseline, project-only, and future (baseline + project), and cumulative effects • Effects on air quality from construction and operation, including activities associated with combustion (e.g. LNG carriers, marine vessels, truck, rail and compression stations), and from accidents and malfunctions • Consideration of NO_x, SO_x, CO, VOCs, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) in air quality assessment, as well as the carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic health impacts from diesel particulate matters • Recommend that emission estimates assume the maximum anticipated number of LNG carriers and support vessels per year, including during construction • Effects on air quality from the Project, resulting in impacts to sensitive aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem receptors, contamination of nearby land and waterbodies, and effects on plants, wildlife, fish and fish habitat, and human health • Consideration of best available technologies, best environmental practices, and robust mitigation measures to reduce air emissions related to construction, storage tanks, terminal operations, and marine shipping components of the Project

<p>Archaeological Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to Indigenous sacred sites and other cultural and heritage-sensitive areas • Effects to historic, heritage and fossil resources, and mitigation measures established to avoid or reduce potential impacts, including the development of a chance find protocol
<p>Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity on the anticipated direct and indirect GHG emissions, the scope of activities included in GHG estimates (including incidental physical activities), and descriptions of the methodologies and assumptions used for the quantification of GHG emissions from each activity • Consideration of best available technologies, best environmental practices, and mitigation and offset measures to reduce GHG emissions, including the effectiveness and costs of potential carbon capture and sequestration • Clarity of the type of activities that would result in impacts on carbon sinks by ecosystem type, including GHG emissions caused by wildfires • Clarity on how the goals set out by the First Nations Climate Initiative and the Net Zero goal will be met • Consideration of upstream and downstream climate impacts related to the Project's lifecycle emission, including carbon leakage from overseas construction and fugitive emissions from processing, transport and final combustion of gas • Concern regarding climate change effects from the combustion of LNG, as opposed to other fossil fuels and renewable and sustainable energy, over the lifespan of the Project • Inclusion of climate modeling in the operational design • Contribution of the Project's emissions on Canada's environmental commitments on climate change (including consideration of the Paris Accords and the latest United Nations International Panel on Climate Change report), and how this could impact provincial and federal targets
<p>Cultural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on Indigenous knowledge transmission, cultural continuity, sense of place, and psychosocial impacts • Impacts on human cultural heritage off the north coast
<p>Cumulative Effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumulative effects to Indigenous communities and the exercise of section 35 rights due to significant oil, gas, forestry and mining development activities over the past several decades • Cumulative effects from increased vessel traffic, pipeline construction and operation, and the ongoing development at the Port of Prince Rupert • Inclusion of cultural considerations in cumulative effects assessments • Cumulative effects on climate change from various LNG development projects in the province
<p>Current and Future Generations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project impacts on future generations due to climate change and environmental degradation
<p>Differential Impacts upon Diverse Persons and Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of a Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) approach throughout the assessment to understand the differential impacts and experiences of risk, benefits and impacts of the Project on men, women, gender diverse persons and people from a range of groups and communities • Use of disaggregated baseline information (at a minimum, by sex, gender, age and ethnicity, and where possible, by other factors such as Indigeneity or education and income levels) and inclusion of descriptions of data gaps, where applicable • Ensure inclusiveness in consultation by engaging diverse subgroups to identify different needs, providing language and information materials that are accessible to all, considering the decision-making abilities of individuals or groups, and mitigating barriers to participation • Inclusion of gender-based violence (e.g. sexual harassment, violence against women, and human trafficking) in scoping, assessment and mitigation measures and identification of vulnerable groups among women (e.g. Indigenous and younger women) • Inclusion of qualitative insights from studies, consultations, and other sources to complement quantitative information • Project hiring resulting in increased potential violence to women and girls

<p>Economic Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of the Project on the local and regional economy (including tourism, fishing, responsible logging and small business) • Effects of the Project on local job creation, recruitment, retention, welfare and long-term job opportunities • Information on whether the Project employs or introduces any innovative technologies or processes which would add to Canada’s knowledge capital • Consideration of the global market for LNG and LNG prices • Consideration of how this Project can promote an efficient and inclusive labour market • Information on the overall costs and benefits of the Project to the province and Canada
<p>Ecosystems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of the Project on aquatic (e.g., Kispiox, Nass, and Skeena Rivers) and forest ecosystems • Effects on keystone species such as Chinook and Coho salmon, Black and Brown (and Kermodei) bears, and sea otters • Impacts to sensitive environmental areas along the proposed LNG carrier route, and the associated mitigations and commitments that would be required during specific times of the year
<p>Effects of the Environment on the Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of the environment on the Project such as earthquakes, climate change, extreme weather events and sea-level rise • Recommend incorporating adaptive design components to adapt to anticipated changes in the Project area due to climate change
<p>Environmental and Impact Assessment Processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity on the scope of impact assessment, including effects from marine shipping, ferry service, power transmission system, workforce accommodations and backup onsite power generation • Concern regarding the use of stand-alone assessment areas, including the Marine Shipping Assessment Area and Construction Support Shipping Corridor, and their potential to diminish the assessed impacts of the Project as a whole • Consideration of how this Project compare to other proposed LNG projects in Northwest BC
<p>Fish and Fish Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on fish mortality, quality, resilience and productivity (including salmon, eulachon, herring, anadromous species, shellfish and crustaceans) • Effects on fish habitat and spawning routes through harmful alteration, disruption and destruction during construction and operation
<p>General – Project Description</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity and additional information on the following Project components and activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exclusion zones; ○ Potential of having contaminated sediments in and around the Water Lot during construction; ○ Potential sewage treatment facilities (location, components, potential barging effects, and options for emission offset); ○ Power supply by BC Hydro; ○ Size of the natural gas-fired power plant; ○ Portion of onshore facility that would be constructed at an offsite location; ○ Use of landfill during construction; ○ Design and purpose of the refrigerant cooling systems; ○ Decommissioning plan for sub-sea floor pipelines; ○ Purging process involved in the removal of residual gas; ○ Freshwater needs of the Project and supply options; ○ Condensate loading and export (size and frequency); ○ The handling and management of waste streams such as condensates, biomass waste, excavated overburden, hazardous waste and organic material; and

- o The peak construction workforce, number of years of construction, and the operation workforce.
- Clarity on whether the Water Lot lease will change jurisdictional oversight in the marine environment and the implications it may have on the ongoing monitoring and management of the Project.
- Clarity on anticipated baseline sampling sites, including the justification for their selection and the level of sampling effort.
- Baseline Field Program should include Indigenous knowledge-based indicators of health or quality, and anticipated sampling sites should be shared in advance.

Geology, Geochemistry, and Geological Hazards

- Inclusion of a seismic hazard assessment and effects related to seismic activity
- Inclusion of a Tsunami hazard assessment, including from both seismic and landslide generated sources
- Effects of Project activities (such as geotechnical investigations, pile driving and dredging) on tidal and coastal geomorphic environments, including increased sedimentation on the foreshore and wake effects

Human Health and Well-Being

- Inclusion of the locations of all potential human receptors (including closest permanent public structures, known recreational trails, workforce accommodations, sites used for hunting, fishing, trapping, berry picking, and ceremonial or other uses) and the distance between them and the Project
- Inclusion of a detailed Health Impact Assessment that considers physical, mental, and social well-being, differential impacts on subgroups, public health consequences, broader social determinants of health for all potentially impacted Indigenous groups, and other community concerns
- Inclusion of a screening level Human Health Risk Assessment in which no potential contaminants of concern, pathways or receptors are eliminated, and all potential emissions are considered The assessment should be conducted when elevated levels of contaminants of potential concern are identified in environmental media, and when there are possible exposure pathways to humans
- Positive and negative impacts on human health from upstream and downstream activities, including marine shipping, and proposed ancillary infrastructure such as the electric transmission line and natural gas pipeline)
- Potential changes to the quality of water sources used by residents in the area and the need to confirm adherence to applicable water quality standards or guidelines (e.g., Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality)
- Effects on traditional foods consumed by residents in the area from the release of contaminants of potential concern into the environment (air and water)
- Effects on surface and ground water quality from sedimentation or spills, which may impact human health through dermal contact

Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Interests

- Impacts on the Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights of Indigenous peoples and their traditional land uses, including hunting, gathering, and marine harvesting
- Opportunities for the continued growth and vitality of Indigenous groups and economic reconciliation through job creation, training opportunities and equitable participation in the Project
- Direct and cumulative impacts of pipeline routes and increased vehicular and marine traffic
- Clarity on how the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples will be applied to the assessment
- Impacts to culture and places of spiritual importance
- Impacts to governance and stewardship
- Opportunities for Indigenous groups to draft their own impacts on rights assessment
- Impacts of accidents or malfunctions on mental health, wellbeing, and the real and perceived safety of traditional resources
- Restricted access and travel to harvesting sites as a result of Project activities
- Effects to valued components identified by Indigenous groups

Infrastructure and Services

- Effects on regional infrastructure, including access to portable water, hospitals, emergency management, law enforcement, solid and liquid waste management facilities, roads, bridges, ferries, recreational resources, leisure services, traffic, commutes, and safety

Land and Resource Use

- Clarity on whether ancillary works, such as power transmission line and natural gas receiving facility, will occur on federal, provincial or Indigenous lands, and its intersection with any reserve boundaries
- Clarity on the jurisdiction of the full Project area and if Category A Lands extend into the marine waters

Marine Shipping

- Clarity on the operational marine shipping scenario that will be considered in the assessment, including the basis of annual shipment estimates, ranges of potential scenarios and phases, and the feasibility and confidence in the scenarios
- Clarity on the operational marine shipping scenario that will be considered in the assessment, including the basis of annual shipment estimates, ranges of potential scenarios and phases, and the feasibility and confidence in the scenarios
- Risks to the coast from tankers and other ocean transport vessels
- Vessel traffic impacts to salmon, marine mammals, sense of place, and traditional harvesting by Indigenous peoples
- Clarity on whether a fulsome shipping safety study would serve as a mitigation measure for the Project
- Clarity on whether the assessment would capture any shipping activity related to Project construction that would travel from Prince Rupert to the Project site

Marine Mammals

- Effects of shipping on marine mammals (e.g., Humpback whales and Northern Resident Killer Whales), including those related to acoustic masking, potential vessel strikes, and avoidance behaviors
- Effects to marine mammals and their habitat through harmful alteration, disruption and destruction during Project construction and operation

Migratory Birds

- Additional clarity required regarding effects pathways to migratory birds, including habitat degradation due to terminal exploration, construction, operation, and decommissioning; contamination from unintentional spills or releases of hazardous substances; pollution associated with new or increased train, truck and marine traffic
- Effects of noise, vibration and artificial lighting on migratory birds and their habitats

<p>Natural Gas Extraction using Hydraulic Fracturing (Fracking) Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts of increased fracking in producing the gas to be provided to the LNG facility on Indigenous territories, fresh water, aquifer pollution, human health, geological hazards, wildlife, and GHG emissions (e.g., fugitive emissions from fracking) • Information on financing clean-up measures for the Project's by-products, including from fracking
<p>Navigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the construction methodology for both the Project and any associated temporary works to determine the Project's impacts to navigation • Details of the existing infrastructure (location, project date, project methodology, Navigation Protection Program file number for existing infrastructure) proposed for use according to the Initial Project Description • Information on the potential cumulative impacts to navigation in conjunction with surrounding works (e.g. water intakes, bridges, diversions, transmission lines, pipelines) in the regional study area
<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity on if the proponents has investigated the option to repurpose LNG infrastructure to hydrogen export infrastructure • Concern regarding industrial disturbance resulting from construction (site clearing, lighting, noise, infrastructure development), operations (shipping, lighting, noise, loading activities, etc.)
<p>Public and Stakeholder Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity on the approach to engagement throughout the development and implementation of mitigation measures • Clarity on who will be responsible for leading engagement
<p>Purpose of and Need for the Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of how this Project meets local and provincial energy needs • Contribution of the Project to displace emissions from coal and other energy sources in countries that would be expected to purchase the LNG exports, and the likely impact on global GHG emissions
<p>Social Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details on workforce characteristics during construction and operations, accommodation plans, food services, and camp infrastructure, including sewage disposal and drinking water source • Effects on local and regional social conditions such as: housing availability and affordability, homelessness, increased transient workers, shortage of local supplies, pressure on outdated local services, crime rates and types, community well-being, food security, and financial disparity • Effects of temporary construction camps, shipping activities, and potential accidents or malfunctions on community well-being, health, and Indigenous Peoples • Concern regarding potential socio-economic impacts related to boom-bust cycles • Baseline Field Program should include socio-community data on all Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities who use the area or may be employed by the Project
<p>Species at Risk, Wildlife and their Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects to wildlife, bird (including Marbled Murrelet and Northern Goshawk), species at risk, and their habitat in the Project area, including as a result of habitat loss, alteration or fragmentation, habitat avoidance, direct and indirect mortality, changes in predator/prey relationships, changes to migration or movement patterns, destruction or disturbance to residences, and sensory disturbance (noise, vibration, lighting, visual changes) • Impacts to location-based bird, fish, and wildlife spawning and migratory seasonality • Concern about road or rail infrastructure, increased capacity to existing linear transportation corridors, and increases in road or rail traffic that could result in increased wildlife injury and mortality • Effects on federally and provincially listed aquatic species at risk and their habitats (e.g., Harbor Porpoise, Northern Resident Killer Whale and Northern Transient Killer Whales) from Project construction and operation.

<p>Transboundary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of the transboundary nature of carbon dioxide and methane emissions and climate change • Implementation of air monitoring to determine the potential for transboundary air effects, mitigation mechanisms, and adherence to notification requirements as per the Canada-US Air Quality Agreement prior to Project decision • Consistent coordination of response planning between Canada, the United States Coast Guard and State and Tribal governments with jurisdiction over potentially affected waterbodies
<p>Visual Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to visual environment from the operating facility (including light emissions) and from the natural gas transmission pipeline, thereby affecting local tourism revenue
<p>Transportation (Land)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity on whether the Project has any rail related components • Request that a traffic impact assessment be completed in consultation with government agencies and other interested parties
<p>Water Quality and Processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts on water quality from in-stream, upland and onsite activities during construction, closure and decommissioning, such as disturbances associated with construction of the initial temporary pioneer dock and discharge of storm water • Long-term impacts associated with Project operation from deposition of airborne particulate matter generated, discharges related to natural gas pre-treatment, maintenance dredging, storm water, management, and domestic and sanitary waste discharges • Effects on water quality from accidents or malfunctions, particularly those associated with spills during natural gas transport and storage and/or condensate loading activities • Effects of dredging on the marine environment, including the settling of sediments and its effects on habitats for marine species • Effects on water consumption by salmon, bears, birds and other wildlife • Impacts of water use, including water used for cooling and for upstream hydraulic fracturing • Impacts from potential effluent discharges, brine from desalination units, hazardous discharges, and heated water into the marine environment
<p>Wetlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects to estuarine and critical staging and foraging habitat for wildlife, such as marsh, mud flats and sand flats • Changes in local geomorphological processes which may initiate erosional processes and a further loss of habitat • Effects on Indigenous peoples from the loss of culturally important wetland plants, including medicines

5.0 Next Steps

The next steps in this initial phase of the coordinated process include:

- The proponents are required to submit a Detailed Project Description to the Agency and the EAO that includes responses to the issues raised in the Joint Summary.
- The proponents are expected to engage with technical advisors and each of the Indigenous groups listed in section 3.0 to ensure their interests and concerns are reflected in the Detailed Project Description.
- The proponents are encouraged to submit additional documents along with the Detailed Project Description, including the proponents' proposed Application Information Requirements.

The Agency will use, among other things, the Detailed Project Description, to determine whether a federal impact assessment is required and the EAO will use it to determine if the Project is ready to proceed to a provincial environmental assessment.